

DRAFT MINUTES (To be approved at the February meeting)

WILLAMETTE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

January 14, 2015 Meeting

Officers in attendance:

Michael Selvaggio, Chair (acting as Secretary)

Julia Simpson, Vice President

Elizabeth Rocchia, Treasurer

Attendees:

Ann Chay, Jody Carson, Kathleen McDonald, Arnold Peterson, Reena Heijdeman, Kathie Halicki, Mary O'Malley, Senator Richard Devlin, Ellie Boggs, Kathy Selvaggio, and Councilor Brenda Perry

The meeting was called to order at 6:59pm.

1. Consent Agenda

Treasurer Elizabeth Rocchia gave the Treasurer's report. The balance of the Pacific West account is \$2,611.16 and the balance of the US Bank account is \$2,689.33, which is used primarily for the Yoga program.

A short discussion followed regarding why the WNA administers the account for the Yoga class. The Treasurer explained that the Yoga class needed to be under a neighborhood association umbrella for logistical purposes.

Because Secretary Beth Smolens was unable to attend the meeting, approval of the December minutes was deferred to the February meeting.

The Treasurer's report was approved without objection.

General introductions were made, as there were several new attendees.

2. Legislative Update from Senator Devlin

At Senator Devlin's request, the legislative update item was deferred until his staff arrived.

3. Discussion of possible goal-setting meeting

Vice-President Julia Simpson described a future goal-setting meeting. She discussed how to establish goals and discussed ways we could get more people interested. Past goals and examples were discussed. Jody Carson supports holding a goal-setting meeting and suggested referencing the WNA's old neighborhood plan. The group discussed ensuring that the current NA plan document is accessible. It is online.

4. Sign code and update on kiosks

Elizabeth Rocchia noted that the WNA sandwich-board sign has been moved from its usual place on the street because the West Linn sign code exemption for city signs is understood to apply only to traffic signs. Elizabeth noted that temporary signs must be on private property and never in the right of way. Elizabeth noted that a better solution might be to get a neighborhood kiosk, an idea which has been discussed for several meetings. It would be possible for the City to designate construction as an Eagle Scout project if the WNA approves a design and location.

Julia wondered whether the local Main Street organization may be interested in assisting. Jody suggested bringing the idea to Main Street. Elizabeth suggested involving the local businesses in identifying a location. Ann Chay suggested a location in front of the General Store. Kathy Selvaggio asked why the reliance on non-electronic communications. Jody and Reena noted an importance in reaching out to visitors that might not otherwise be connected to local electronic communications. Michael Selvaggio noted that the WNA has been expanding its online presence and the kiosk would be seen as adding to – not replacing – electronic communications.

2. Legislative Update with Senator Richard Devlin

Senator Devlin described his background and connection to the district and his role on the Legislature's Ways & Means Committee. He described the breadth of legislation being considered for the 2015 Session.

Jody expressed her support for various efforts to re-open the Willamette Falls locks; Senator Devlin expressed his agreement and noted that he is in fact sponsoring some related legislation.

Michael Selvaggio asked what the State could do to help mitigate I-205 impacts to local traffic congestion. Senator Devlin noted the importance of being involved in the planning process and the consideration of neighborhood impacts, in addition to some policy options. West Linn City Councilor Brenda Perry noted the importance of mitigating effects of highway development for nearby residents. A discussion followed detailing how highway development and financing decisions were made at the State level. Senator Devlin described the challenges involved with maintaining existing infrastructure.

Michael Selvaggio asked if there were any issues that the WNA and its members should particularly keep an eye on. Senator Devlin indicated that he expected the Legislature to work out a lot of details regarding implementation of the marijuana legalization measure [Measure 91, 2014]. Councilor Perry noted the challenges of identifying whether people were driving under the influence of marijuana.

Senator Devlin described the usefulness of contacting a legislative office on issues of importance.

5. Update on neighborhood signs

Jody Carson described the sign process with regard for highway signs for Historic Willamette. With regard to neighborhood signs, Michael Selvaggio noted that the WNA is waiting on him for a design revision based on comments made at a prior meeting. As such, the actual design approval will be carried over to the February meeting. After the WNA approves a design, we will discuss where to place the signs.

There was a discussion of neighborhood signage for events, especially with regard to over-the-road banners and why we haven't seen many lately. A discussion followed on sign criteria.

6. Discussion on the Farmers' Market

The City has recently come to some decision regarding the Farmers' Market, but the details are unknown. A discussion about the Farmers' Market was tabled until the WNA has more information. There was a short description of the Main Street association's involvement; they may be requesting a waiver for certain fees.

7. Announcements

Several public notices from the City of West Linn were listed, including the cancellation of the Historical Review Board and Planning Commission meetings. A pre-application conference meeting on January 15 was discussed.

Ann Chay noted the zoning challenges involved with regard to the General Store.

Jody Carson made an announcement from the floor regarding a February 2 hearing of the Oregon Heritage Commission. The Commission will be touring a state heritage area around Oregon City, Willamette, and Lake Oswego, and considering Willamette's application to be designated as Oregon's first state heritage area. The decision will be based in large part around both heritage and activities. Work on a federal heritage area designation is ongoing.

Kathie Halicki described the City Council meeting on January 12 regarding the proposed Tannler Drive re-zone. The City Council deferred the decision to January 20.

Michael Selvaggio adjourned the meeting at 8:47pm.