



## **BOLTON NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

MINUTES: Tuesday, September 17, 2024

Library /Zoom Hybrid Meeting

**Meeting Called to Order: Vince Miles:** 7:10 PM

**Welcome to Attendees:** 11 members +2 city council members visiting

**August 20, 2024 Minutes:** Approved

**Draft Agenda:** Added time to the Bolton discussion to include possible school closures.

**Treasurer's Report: Alfred Brown:** Bank Balance: \$2897.71 Expenses included live music, ice cream, and dry ice for the Ice Cream Social, and printing.

### **New Business:**

- **Bolton Jog-a-thon:** Bolton Grade School is doing a PTA fundraiser. It was proposed we donate a sum of \$250 to support their cause. A vote was held and unanimously passed in the amount of \$250.
- **WLWV Small Schools Task Force (SSTF):**

The WLWV school board appointed a long range planning committee (LRPC). FLO Analytics was contracted to give enrollment projections. Their data was presented in July, and after analysis, the district decided to look into the viability of the smaller schools in our community (i.e. possibility of closing a small school to save money). The LRPC had district staff establish a small schools task force made up of 12 people (3 from each of the proposed schools to be closed, and 1 from each of the remaining schools) to give recommendation back to the LRPC in December as to if/which school should be closed and how boundaries should be adjusted. The LRPC is scheduled to make a recommendation back to the school board in January.

General opinion of many in our community is the district spend too much money building new schools (which have current low numbers) and now are trying to save money by closing a small (high performing) neighborhood school that need upgrades. It is being put too lightly to say there are many concerns about the way the data is being presented, the timeline of the task force decisions, the transparency of meetings, and questions about why the district was out of compliance with their last audit.g.

Please visit WLWV website for the districts plan; make sure to view FAQ's section as well as the data presented by FLO Analytics. Members have noted that any information about all the families moving into the area with children and young families, or consideration about impacts on the community, or property values, does not appear to be present. Everyone is encouraged to go through these documents thoroughly on the WLWV website: <https://www.wlwg.k12.or.us/Page/17358.g>.

### Points made, possible Actions to be taken, and General Commentary from the meeting:

- The BNA needs to make a core list of questions that need to be answered brought by the BNA and our extended community.
  - Decided upon the 10/15/24 BNA meeting at a larger space to accommodate community.
  - Demand no decisions like this can be made without proper time for community involvement.
  - Demand transparency, pressing WLWV of the fact that closed door meetings are not allowed.
  - The question of tax payers demanding to see where our levy money (to keep classroom size small) is being spent.
  - Suggested possibility of rescinding the levy if it is not being used properly.
  - Need for public servants such as district administration who work behind closed doors making decisions without community input, or who egregiously mishandle district funds to be removed.
  - Reminder that 3 candidates on the school board are up for reelection.
  - Low confidence from the community that the district will listen to the SSTF recommendations.
  - Ideas needed about making the numbers work to keep our schools open, and adjust boundaries.
  - Comments from new neighbor that moved here specifically to go to this school feeling like the rug is being pulled out from beneath them.
  - Petition made to delay this process of possible school closure.
  - BNA postcard announcing our meeting w/a QR code to link to information and a petition.
  - Signage and Flyers needed to put around town.
  - Contact Holy Bartholomew from The West Linn Tiding to help promote the issues.
  - Go door to door with flyers to make sure everyone is aware of what is at stake.
  - Coordination with the other neighborhood groups and PTA/PTO's.
  - Letters to the WLWV School Board
  - Contact Jules Walters
  - Possible legal injunction filed against WLWV
- **Noisy recycling:** Glass recycling before 7am has a neighbor perturbed. It was suggested that they call code enforcement and ask about their problem with loud noises at 6:15 am, and also the serious dangers that needs to be addressed regarding speeding cars on Holly.

### Updates:

- **Last meeting:** Comments made on last months minutes and want for future discussion on the intersection of Burns St. and Cascade and about the parking on Burns Street.
- **Garden Plot:** Continuing work parties on Wednesdays as we are able at our overgrown park on the corner of highway 43 and West A. The City has been helpful picking up the debris we create.
- **Ice Cream Social:** Thanks to everyone who was able to come out on the 23rd! Rough estimate is well over a hundred people came out and we enjoyed a beautiful afternoon sun break between rain showers! There was live music by Knotty Sangria and pizza from our local Spectator Pizza and free ice cream courtesy of the BNA. It was great to mingle with neighbors!
- **Bolton Signs:** Vince Miles doing great work keeping the weeds at bay at our new Bolton entry sign on Pimlico and added some mulch. Also, two new meeting signs to be purchased at this time (one for

back up, another to replace Amanda's sign that was stolen the day after it went up). Tanner Woody suggested a bulk sign purchase. Will need more info and can be discussed further.

- **Fall Carved Pumpkin Contest:** Discussion included a very brief overview of plans, talk of goodie bags for pumpkin prizes and participation swag (will be procured by Amanda Brookshire). Budget of \$250 dollars approved last meeting will be used for coffee and treats and prizes for the pumpkin contest. Flyer needed, as well as posting on social media (BNA Facebook page, Bolton Parent page, and the city calendar), advertising in the tiding, and noted on the mailer. We decided on the afternoon of the 27th for this fun event!
- **Next Meeting:** October 15, 2024

#### **Future Agenda Items:**

- Possible school closures in West Linn, rushed decisions by WLWV, and how we plan to organize against the threat of losing the school at the heart of our community.
- Vision 43: Chris Meyers is coming back to talk to us so we can continue the conversation about the project and get involved. Visit <https://yourwestlinn.com/vision43>

#### **Announcements:**

- Keep up with West Linn Waterfront Project: Please Check out: [www.westlinnwaterfrontproject.com](http://www.westlinnwaterfrontproject.com) to see the maps and details. Watch for the cities dates for the project.
- Advocates for Willamette Falls Heritage put out their latest newsletter! Coming soon to their website.
- West Linn Garden Club meets the 1st Monday of each month at West Linn Lutheran Church. Become part of one of the oldest garden clubs in Oregon!
- **Work Party at Maddax Woods every 3rd Saturday 9-12am. [Make friends, keep the ivy at bay!]**  
<https://volunteer.solveoregon.org/opportunity/a0CVL0000D5RCF2A3/maddax-woods-monthly-cleanup>
- Get the West Linn Weekly Newsletter. <https://westlinnoregon.gov/e-news>

**Adjourn: 9:02 pm** Thank you, everyone, for participating.

**Reminder:** Stay up to date with your Bolton Neighborhood by visiting our community website at <https://westlinnoregon.gov/bolton> and on our BNA Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/BoltonNeighborhoodAssociation?mibextid=ZbWKwL>

**See BNA Hot Topics:** <https://westlinnoregon.gov/bolton/hot-topics-announcements> :

Patrick Hogan, President at: [BoltonNA@WestLinnOregon.gov](mailto:BoltonNA@WestLinnOregon.gov)

Bolton Neighborhood Association Board Members

Patrick Hogan, President; Vince Miles, Vice President; Alfred Brown, Treasurer;

Amanda Brookshire, Secretary; Lisa Wolff, Member at Large