

# 2022 Bolton Neighborhood Association Annual Report

January 2023

## Association Leadership -

- Robert McCarthy, President
- Erich Kunrath, Vice-President
- Janet McCarthy, Secretary
- Walter Swan, Treasurer

## Meeting Times, Dates and Location -

The third Tuesday of every month from 7 PM to 8:30 PM at the West Linn Library and via Zoom.

## 2022 Accomplishments -

1. Held a wide-ranging discussion with the new West Linn Chief Peter Mahuna to explore his philosophy of policing and his plans to gain the trust of staff and the community.
2. Developed our top 5 emergency preparedness/recovery concerns.
3. Discussed and approved a proposed City Council/NA policy to require the greater involvement and collaboration with NA's and City projects in neighborhoods.
4. Neighborhood Committee planned and held a Bolton Social to welcome new neighbors and bring the community together. An afternoon at Hammerle Park on September 24 provided information about the history and non-profit organizations in Bolton. Neighborhood businesses provided raffle prizes to be won by clever call outs and Bingo game winners. Music accompanied field games for kids and many searched for scavenger hunt items hidden around the park.
5. Created a hybrid meeting structure to incorporate in person and Zoom meeting simultaneously.
6. Fixed the BNA MailChimp email issue by transferring incoming email data to Google mail.
7. The Bolton Neighborhood Association voted to accept members of Skyline Drive and Skyline Circle into the neighborhood Association. The Sunset Neighborhood Association voted to approve the change in boundary, but lacked a quorum to make the vote official. We are still awaiting a valid vote from the members of the Sunset Neighborhood to finalize the boundary change.

8. Officers made new efforts to reach out to the community and encourage neighbors to share their perspectives with each other. The Association designed and distributed Neighborhood Association Business Cards, more resources were put into advertising for the Bolton Social to include printing posters to be displayed throughout the neighborhood and a postcard that went out to every household in Bolton. A new in-person meeting location was made possible by the library, which allowed neighbors to choose in-person or virtual meeting attendance.
9. ODOT representatives attended neighborhood meetings and provided information about the Abernathy Bridge Construction and I-205 Tolling. Neighbors were able to receive updated information and access to online resources to follow the project. Many neighbors had concerns and questions about the affect of construction and tolling on our community. These sessions were valuable to present accurate information, but lacked any feedback on whether ODOT took community concerns seriously or even intended to act on them.
10. Assisted the McLean House Board of Directors in their deliberations about its future.
11. Designed and mailed a post card to all Bolton residents and businesses seeking ideas and recommendations for how we can make the BNA more relevant and representative of our community.
12. Continued to explore with City Manager and staff possible uses for the Old Bolton Fire Station. One possibility is as a community center and base for emergency preparedness.
13. Bolton Neighbors raised concerns about the condition of Hwy 43. After a concerted two year effort with Rep. Rachel Prusak, ODOT, City Leaders and others, ODOT did some repaving projects between I-205 and the Hood St Traffic light. Other areas were patched improving some of the worst areas, but more work is needed.
14. The Tax Increment Finance Committee (TIC) gained a representative from the Bolton Neighborhood Association to share our perspective as the City looks for ways to fund future development. Currently the District provides improvements to access points into Bolton, considers development of the Old City Hall and an upgrade to the dock below the Willamette Falls Locks.
15. Continued our support for the restoration of Burnside Park, Maddax Woods and the McLean House.
16. Met with Public Works staff to review and give feedback on the 9 Safe Routes to School projects within Bolton.

17. Neighbors along the Willamette River raised a noise issue originating from a growing new jetski sport that resembles motocross on water. The aerial maneuvers from these 2-stroke jetskis cause repeated high noise levels above other similar 2 stroke engines because they are unmuffled during aerial maneuvers outside the water. The Oregon Marine Board lowered the 84 decibel limit to 75 for watercraft operating in public recreation areas to be consistent with other marine laws in neighboring states. Law enforcement continues to struggle enforcing the new noise regulation due to the operators' ability to stop actions when law enforcement shows up and resume when they leave. The regulation also requires noise meter readings from shore that are sensitive to background noise, so it's hard to isolate noise from a particular watercraft. Further steps still need to be taken, which may include law makers passing a new State law, ensuring law enforcement has resources and guidance to enforce laws on the water and holding individual violators accountable through legal action.
18. Continued to refine our meeting norms that encourage listening, collaboration and the involvement to improve our collaboration and problem solving effectiveness.

### **2023 Challenges -**

- Incorporating the data from our postcard survey, and adding and involving new members into our ongoing work.
- Continue to refine and codify BNA procedures to make it easier for new officers to step in to their positions, such as the BNA website, banking, contacts with the city and TVF&R, facilitating meetings, records retention and working with the Google Gmail.
- Refine and strengthen "Zoom" meeting norms and process.
- Continue to adapt to online meetings and broadening membership.
- Judicious use of resources.

### **Draft 2023 Goals –**

1. Partner with the City and Non-profits to be a part of neighborhood events and provide them with resources. Such as:
  - Maddax Woods Ivy Pull
  - Willamette Falls and Landings Heritage Area
  - Garden Club event at McLean House
  - Fall Library Harry Potter Festival
  - Future "Maddax Woods Lighting" and animal Scavenger Hunt

2. Formalize a way to welcome new neighbors into the neighborhood by following real estate transactions. Partner with real estate agents in the area. Lovell & Hall and Old Bolton House above the Fire Station
3. Expand TIC to include more areas to develop in Bolton
4. Explore merging with Rosemont Summit NA.
5. Upgrade and refine the BNA website with photographs.
6. Continue to support and expand community events such as the Ice Cream Social, , volunteer efforts to improve trails, the restoration of Maddax Woods, Burnside Park, and the Pocket Park.
7. Assist neighbors in finding solutions to the issues that are important to residents and businesses of Bolton and the City, i.e. I205 Tolling, etc.
8. Continue to support the McLean House as a vital part of our neighborhood.
9. Engage new BNA Officers.
10. Continue to explore uses for the Bolton Fire Station. .

**Accounting of Neighborhood Association Grant Funds 2022 –**

• Beginning balance	\$4219.28	
• City & Donations	<u>\$1200.00</u>	
		\$5419.28
• Expenses:		
• Printing and FedEx		95.26
• BNA Social Gathering		1105.82
• ZOOM		112.25
• Google		<u>17.98</u>
		\$1,329.31
• Ending Balance:		\$4,089.97

**Likely Areas of BNA Planned Spending for 2022 –**

- Office Supplies and Printing.
- Park Restoration Maintenance and Supplies.

- Support for Maddax Woods, Garden Club Ladies at the Mclean House, West Linn Food Bank.
- Supplies and refreshments for volunteers and NA meetings.
- Publication of Bolton Neighborhood Walking Tour Booklet and App.
- A memorial for Elaine Mahoney in Maddax Woods.
- Neighborhood Signs and Website enhancements.
- ZOOM and Google fees.
- Social Gathering.

January 19, 2023

Robert McCarthy, President  
Erich Kunrath, Vice-President  
Janet McCarthy, Secretary