

DRAFT

Hidden Springs Neighborhood Association

August 20, 2019

West Linn Adult Community Center – Scheduled 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Quorum: A quorum was established with 10 members present.

President Lauren Beeney called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. Minutes from the June meeting were not approved because the secretary brought copies of the wrong minutes. The agenda was changed to remove the call for a vote on the use of HSNA funds for ivy abatement because there was less than a 2-week notice provided to members of the meeting agenda.

Officer's Report:

Treasurer's Report: Current balance \$8,942.89 no change from the previous balance. Approximately \$1000 annual stipend from the City is due to be added.

Public Comment:

Neighborhood resident and member of the West Linn Lions Club Dick Akins gave a report on the success of the Honor given to the WL first responders at the WL Olde Time Fair. Free food and certificates of appreciation were given to all the first responders that attended the Fair. First Responders from the WL Police Department and from stations 55, 57, 58, and 59 of the TVF&R. HSNA had approved a donation of \$100 to help cover the cost of the meals but due to other donations received by the Lions, they requested only \$20.

Guest Speaker –Suzi Cloutier, Clackamas River Watershed Council:

Suzi Cloutier was approached by HSNA VP Eleanor Wynn as part of the information gathering for Trillium Creek ivy removal, to support concepts listed in existing proposals for ivy eradication. Trillium Creek is not in the Clackamas River watershed, but Metro Neighborhoods program coordinator referred Wynn to the CRCW for advice. CRWC is one of several Metro area organizations tasked with protection of fish, wildlife and water of area river basins. Cloutier brought extensive expertise on wild land restoration; additionally, she heads a council on herbicide use. She shared that everyone who handles herbicides for commercial level projects is required to have 2 years of training in their use. This includes appropriate strength, timing (Fall), and highly targeted spraying. There are

about 35 invasive plant species on the list of noxious weeds; ivy is the most prolific. Prior to the meeting Cloutier walked the Palomino Trail to assess the situation; she noted that she did not see the secondary forest growth coming up because of the mat of ivy on the ground. She noted that the ivy was growing up the trees and that the weight over time can pull the trees down. She noted that when the ivy grows up the trees it produce berries that birds eat and then spread to other areas via their feces. As well, ivy is shallow-rooted and does not provide the soil retention on slopes that native plants do. Once the ivy is eliminated in the green space there is a seed bank of native plants to help natives reestablish. Trillium is already growing back in spots, but other natives may need encouragement to be reestablished. Cloutier is very much a conservative when it comes to using pesticides, but in the case of ivy she feels it is necessary to use a certain amount of herbicide properly diluted and delivered to the freshly exposed ivy roots in order to make progress in returning the forest to native species. She also recommended that after the controlled use of herbicide and the manual removal of the ivy, replanting native plants would speed the process and provide erosion control. She indicated that the entire process takes about 5 years to complete.

Guest Speaker- Ken Worcester, WL Director of Parks and Rec:

Ken was also invited to speak about ivy in the Trillium Creek green space. He shared the tremendous success that was achieved in clearing ivy from Mary S. Young Park that was done with coordination from volunteers and neighbors. Funding via grants helped with the expense. The point was made that Mary S. Young is generally flatter and that there are far more people frequenting it. Skyline Ridge neighborhood is also engaged in controlling ivy. There is little money available from the city for green space maintenance--\$25,000 for the year, for a total of 600 acres of green space in the city. He was happy to see the NA be proactive. He pointed out that granting agencies often want matching funds and efforts.

Ken also provided an update on the new play equipment proposed for Palomino Park. He shared that current efforts are being focused on Sunset and Sahali Illahie, but that Palomino is on the list to be updated at some point this year. He noted that there can be cost savings by having volunteers assist with installation, often offsetting the cost by 30%. NA members generally indicated that a group could be assembled to assist with installation.

WLPD Sergeant Hoesly attended the meeting to share appreciation for honoring the first responders at the West Linn Olde Time Fair. He stayed to answer a few questions from NA members.

Karen Wied, resident of the neighborhood, asked for funding to pay for sidewalk stripping across Furlong at Rosemont Road. She withdrew her request for funding from the NA after someone suggested that since that intersection is in an HOA she ask for the funds from the HOA. Additional discussion about the need for more HOA's in the neighborhood was brought up by resident Lynn Fox.

Eleanor Wynn requested that we consider having our next meeting in September rather than maintaining the current every other month schedule in order to be able to have a vote on the use of funds for ivy abatement this fall.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.