

Savanna Oaks Neighborhood Association Meeting

July 11, 2023

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by President Richard Sakelik at 7:06 p.m. There were 21 SONA members present at the onset of the meeting. This met the quorum requirement of a minimum of ten members to approve the SONA agenda and minutes. In addition, there were four guests from the community in attendance. SONA's online meeting announcement and agenda were posted to the City of West Linn's website and email reminders were sent to members.

Minutes:

President Richard Sakelik called for any corrections to the May 2023 minutes. Upon establishing that there were no corrections, the minutes were approved.

Agenda:

President Richard Sakelik called for any changes or additions to the agenda. No members requested changes so the agenda was approved.

Treasurer's Report:

As of July 1, 2023 the balance in the SONA account is \$6,529.05. The expenses totaling \$98.82 since the last meeting are for Zoom meeting costs and pizza for the May 23rd work session. In May, SONA received a \$55.31 rebate from Zoom. Treasurer Frank Carini reported that SONA will receive \$1,460.70 from the city of West Linn as our annual stipend. The annual stipend was increased by a vote of the City Council and an allocation of funds from an inactive NA.

Presentation:

Representatives from AKS Engineering and Forestry were absent from the scheduled timeslot reserved for their presentation. Present Sakelik then checked the SONA President's email account at 7:15 p.m. and found an email sent at 5:28 p.m. from Grace Wolff, AKS Engineering and Forestry, before the SONA meeting on July 11, 2023 stating, "We have been coordinating with the City since the pre-application meeting and still have some questions that need to be answered to determine the best path forward for the project. To ensure that we can provide accurate responses to the community's questions, and to avoid providing any wrong information, we would like to wait until the questions get answered by the City."

President Sakelik showed the PDF of a presentation that Grace Wolff from AKS sent prior to the meeting. He noted that these plans could be changed, and that AKS would need to reschedule a new presentation with any changes to the future proposed development plan.

Old Business:

a. May 24th Working Group Discussion Summary

Richard Sakelik reported on the SONA work session held on May 24th in person at West Linn's Adult Community Center. Six members were present and the discussion included brainstorming on topics related to an ice cream social, social media efforts, Music in the Park booth, and emergency preparedness. President Sakelik elaborated on the possibility of an ice cream social in August using a vendor such as Ice Queen. The cost of a cooler and 100 vegan/gluten free frozen treats would be \$425 from Ice Queen.

There was also discussion during the work session meeting that explored the possibility of contracting someone to assist SONA in building a Facebook presence. Other alternatives discussed included updating the current

Facebook webpage linked to the City's Facebook page. Lori Carini, Frank Carini, Scott Zurschmit, Ed Schwarz, and Richard Sakelik agreed to work on updating SONA's current webpage.

For the topic of emergency preparedness, the possibility was explored to purchase safety equipment such as an AED. However, the logistics for storage and training of neighbors might make this difficult. It was proposed that emergency preparedness for SONA could be addressed when Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue (TVF&R) presents at an upcoming meeting.

Scott Zurschmit, who attended the work session meeting, reported on a possible Music in the Park outreach and the subsequent findings and requirements to support this outreach. There are dates in July through August to consider. Hailey McDowell is the contact at the City's Park and Recreation Department and she can arrange a free booth.

Table, chairs, handouts, a portable awning, and signage would be needed. Also, a possible activity or free refreshment could be offered. Members discussed activities including games for children and free water or a misting/cooling station (water source would be needed.) Scott recommended a long-term SONA member/volunteer should be present to answer questions about the NA.

After the reports and discussion, a motion was made by Scott Zurschmit and seconded by Richard Sakelik for SONA to host an information booth in August on either the 3rd or 10th (Thursday) of the month at the Music in the Park event with a total of \$200 approved to cover the cost of this one outreach event.

The motion passed with 11 yes votes, 0 no votes, and one member abstaining.

Scott Zurschmit, Amarillis Zurschmit, Lori Carini and Frank Carini volunteered for this event.

Ed Schwarz moved and Scott Zurschmit seconded that SONA host an ice cream social in August at a park to be determined in coordination with the Willamette Neighborhood Association if they agree, with a total cost to SONA not to exceed \$1,000 drawn from the SONA banking account.

The motion passed with 11 yes votes and one no vote from members in attendance.

Richard Sakelik volunteered to be the coordinator for this event and President Sakelik further stated that he would be meeting with Willamette NA President Kathy Halicki regarding a joint ice cream sponsorship of this event by the two neighborhood associations.

b. Update White Oak Savanna Park

Roberta Schwarz stated that the mowing of the White Oak Savanna would be delayed until July 24th. The long periods of extreme heat and low humidity were factors in the decision to reschedule.

Roberta also reported on an incident of possible herbicide spraying on June 14th near a water source (stream) on the property across from the White Oak Savanna. Both Roberta and Ed Schwarz were in the White Oak Savanna when they witnessed men using a firehose to spray what appeared to be herbicide on vegetation along Tannler Drive.

She stated emails had been sent to the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA), Tualatin River Keepers, Oregon Department of Fish and Game, and the West Linn City Manager John Williams to investigate this incident. It still needs to be determined what chemicals were used and if there were any regulations or laws violated.

c. Fields Bridge Appeal

Richard Sakelik provided an update on the recent City Council's ruling on the Fields Bridge Appeal filed by Karie Oakes and Teri Cummings. The City Council denied their appeal; however, changes were made to eliminate some parking spots and a guardrail would be added. President Sakelik noted that Oakes and Cummings could choose to file an appeal with Oregon Land Use Board of Appeals.

Next Meeting:

Richard Sakelik stated that the next Savanna Oaks NA meeting will be held on September 5, 2023 as a virtual meeting via Zoom.

Rich Sakelik, seeing no further business, adjourned the meeting at 9:07 p.m.

Submitted by Lori Carini, SONA Secretary