

WILLAMETTE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MINUTES

Meeting called to attendance at 7:02pm Wednesday, July 11, 2021

- I. Reading of June minutes.
- II. A motioned was given to pass June's minutes. Membership passed the motion.
- III. **Kathie apology:** She wanted to apologize for duplicate emails, MailChimp didn't allow the large file to send the first time through with the water feature.
- IV. **Map your Neighborhood:** Opportunity for everyone to get involved. YouTube has 9 chapters named "Map your Neighborhood" that we can watch to setup neighborhood crisis information and tips. To work with our neighborhoods to be crisis ready.
- V. **Planning Commission; Athey Creek:**

Membership was provided an update regarding two previous meetings. The meeting held on August 4 – resulted in a 3-3 to deny the application. There was a commissioner missing from the meeting, the commission planning chairs agreed to put off a final vote until August 18. Where a final vote can happen with the missing commissioner.

Concern arose among members if this commissioner would make themselves aware of the situation by watching previous meetings, before casting their vote. The membership 18 of 24 raised their hand, while 2 additional members wrote in on the zoom call, amassing a group of 20 members of the 24 present they would want to appeal the approval of this decision if the planning commission goes forward.

A member explained to us that Brendan Place was being considered a bypass road for Athey Creek, however the logistics of that happening failed to meet the criteria set in the city charter and therefore, is not allowed as a bypass. August 18 will be the final meeting about this location issue.

The membership is going to prepare themselves for appeal process through the Willamette Neighborhood Association.

A member suggested part of our appeal can be contested by using ruling rules that have been set by the Planning Commission. Frustration was shared that with the City Council using the Webx Program there isn't a way for anyone's objection to be logged into the record. One must submit a signup card by noon the day of the meeting to have themselves noted as present and their comment. There is no longer an open discussion period or open attendance due to Covid-19 rules.

The membership also learned the city attorney has noted that a 3-3 tie would create a "no vote."

- VI. **Historic Willamette** - Rebecca updated the membership that we have the largest Wednesday market in our history. There are currently 80 vendors, and we have a waiting list.

September will be starting the Third Wednesday in Willamette.

The group is planning for Halloween, Winter on Willamette, and a wine walk.

The flags should be up on light poles shortly.

People have been driving on sidewalks.

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More “bollards” (black decorative light items at crosswalks) will be placed along path

Power poles are still being removed and there will be a loss to power when removed, date TBD.

They’re including more garbage cans and benches.

If interested to see how a curb may be reconfigured walk to corner of Willamette Falls Drive and 11th Street.

- VII. **Water Fountain Installation** – The board voiced concern that this water fountain was not brought to WNA prior to approval. In fact, there was no formal procedure regarding this item. The membership also believes there should have been discussion on the location chosen for the fountain. A few questions posed was the cost of this and what is the upkeep? We had an Ecoli scare in the past, how will the city be able to keep this fountain safe for public use? Also, the Membership deems this should have gone through the proper three channels for design and placement in historic Willamette Falls Drive. Another suggestion was to wait until Handris has finalized his plans for the adjacent town square, which may have a more appropriate design that reflects Historic West Linn. The three groups Lance should have gone through are:

- a. Utilities commission.
- b. Art commission.
- c. Historic commission.

Rebecca advised the membership this was funded by the public works department. This was primarily conceived out of walkers with animals to provide something like this. Lance took this and designed, fulfilled, and worked alone on this project, other than the funds from public works. Membership will asked for Lance to appear at one of next meetings to explain the reasons for this elaborate fountain he chose and the cost to maintain.

- VIII. **City Updates** – We have a new code officer. She will be inundated to start. If you must reach her, please email, or dial the non-emergency number.

A BIG thank you to Keisha Brewster for informing the membership about the discharge of a weapon at the Jamestown Apartments. The person who discharged the weapon was arrested and mental health literature was distributed to the apartment office to hand out when needed.

There are two new businesses in the Icon building on the corner of 11th and Willamette.

1. Cosmetic Dentistry
2. A realty agency will be moving into the building and will create their main office.

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We were also informed that the LPGA playing at Lake Oswego Golf Club on Pete's Mountain 9/16-19. There is no traffic plan created to assist with the traffic that will be coming through Willamette and our neighborhoods.

The old gas station that has been purchased by six West Linn families. They have named the gas station, "Willamette Garage". There will be food carts, some permanent and some that will rotate in and out. There will be a bar and eating area, as well as a small business where the office was once located.

Meeting adjourned at 9:02 pm