

# Willamette Neighborhood Association

**Willamette Neighborhood Association (WNA)**

**Pacific West Bank - Willamette Marketplace**

**Date: September 11, 2013**

**Call to order: 7:05pm**

**Attendance:**

Officers: Julia Simpson, President; Michael Selvaggio, Vice President; Elizabeth, Rocchia, Treasurer; Beth Smolens, Secretary.

WNA Member At Large: Linda Neace, Rae Henry, Jim Milne, Shannen Knight, Gail Holmes, Andy Rocchia, William Ross, Jerry Connolly, Diane Connolly, Derek Hines, Joc Krish, Stacey Krish, Chris Jones. One member sign in could not be deciphered, two members who came in for the trails presentation failed to sign in.

**Treasurer's Report:**

WNA Account at US Bank: Balance: \$2479.00

Yoga:\$2041.70

WNA:\$437.30

WNA Account at Pacific West: Balance: \$2109.03

**Agenda:**

New Business:

Election Ballot Measures for 9/17-measures were briefly discussed by the group.

Old Business:

Willamette Bench Condition Report (Elizabeth Rocchia):

Bench at WFD and 11<sup>th</sup> needs refinishing and repair, bench at 12<sup>th</sup> as well. WNA approved up to \$450.00 to repair 3 benches that were known to need repair.

Added Discussion: side discussion commenced on the number of and location of the bike racks on WFD. Members considered in discussion that location may not be optimal for bikers when using businesses. Grant money can be applied to "tourism" through city. WNA discussed application for tourism grant could go toward improving and promoting "cycling" through business area.

Lengthy conversation about parking solutions and options for the area also occurred. Solutions discussed; signage limiting parking (although there is some concern over too much signage cluttering the business district), meters were discussed, designated (future) parking area and traffic flow were discussed. Long term vision for Willamette area; traffic flow, business enhancement, developing "central park" between WFD and 8<sup>th</sup> in the future discussed. WNA to devote time in October to continue discussion about parking.

Cutting the Red Tape Report (Julia and Gail): Code Amendments

# Willamette Neighborhood Association

Goal of amendment-to make it easier for business startup.

Gail Holmes reported that this issue was presented to EDC by director Chris Kerr to be voted on by EDC.

Added Discussion; members were concerned that amending the city building codes was not necessarily related to improvement of the business and economic structure in WL. The codes affected all development (residential). Not appropriate for approval by the EDC. Ideas discussed for grant applications; buy local, shop local. Also mentioned; this should not necessarily be the focus as we need more sustainable businesses to move to WL in order to encourage "buy and shop local" , "bike friendly business signs for business windows".(Julia and Gail will put together an application for "bicycle 'way-finding' signs" and "bike signs" for businesses).

Willamette Signs Report (Jim Milne):

City quoted that the cost of the sign was about \$3000.00. If we wanted two signs, we would have to come up with the money for it. The city will pay for one sign. Group agreed to move forward with one sign. Jim was going to follow up with Kirsten. Julia has emails from Kirsten and will forward information to Beth Smolens for communication purposes.

Chamber Event (Linda Neace):

<http://westlinnchamber.com/>

Calendar available with listing of events- 9/19 event mentioned is coming up at the library.

Fields Bridge (Elizabeth Rocchia):

Ongoing discussion regarding the parking and sport field use for this WL Park. WNA members have presented this to WLCC. Editorial in paper by Andy Rocchia; there are more appropriate fields and spaces in West Linn for baseball then Fields Bridge. This park should be a designated nature park.

Trails Master Plan (Todd Jones from Commission):

Presented with power point the trails master plan, reviewed "pinch points". Reviewed "problem trails" and trail proposed along I 205, a major connection between 10<sup>th</sup> street area and Sunset area. Concerns raised and discussed about: asphalt, drainage, maintenance. Barrington Heights has a few neighbors that back up to hill and have voiced concern over the trail proximity to their yards. Compromises made: trail actually moved closer to I-205 further downhill from neighborhood. Todd requesting WNA backing for the trail concept so that City would hear from other citizens who approve of trail. They have only heard from the families that live in Barrington Heights whose property overlooks the hill the trail would be on.

# Willamette Neighborhood Association

Discussion: multiple neighbors felt trail would be a great connection for Willamette area which has been cut off-for years-from other parts of the city by I-205. Connection would allow access to Willamette area shops and restaurants by trails from other neighborhoods.

WNA Motion: The WNA supports the commission moving forward with the concept of the I-205 trail portion of the Trails Master Plan, allowing that the commission will further address design and implementation issues, including but not limited to environmental, public safety, and privacy concerns.

Motion passed with 1 abstain, 2 no, 17 yes.

Respectfully submitted,  
Beth Smolens, Secretary  
Willamette Neighborhood Association  
September 29, 2013