

Willamette Neighborhood Assn meeting....August 14, 2013

The meeting was called to order by president, Juila Simpson, at 7pm in the Pacific West Bank community room. Minutes of July 10 were reviewed and approved.

Treasurer's report:

WNA acct at Pacific West Bank.. \$2,109.03 which reflects the 2013-2014 stipend

WNA acct at US Bank..\$2,764.45

of which WNA has \$437.30 and balance belongs to yoga group

Roberta and Ed Schwarz presented for the White Oak Savannah Acquisition Fund. They hope to acquire additional 5.65 acres to supplement 14 acres now in conservation. They have a pledge of \$500,000 from Metro if they can match that amount 2:1.

A fund raising event will be held at Fiala Farm on September 14, 10am to 6pm, with booths and activities. In addition a benefit concert is scheduled, 3:30 to 5:30, August 17th in Willamette Park at \$20 a person. Attendance and support for this project is encouraged as a restoration endeavor benefiting all of West Linn.

The Youth Music Project at 10th and WF Drive presented a plan for exterior restoration. Jessamynn Griffin of Siteworks Design led the discussion and explained the improvements with graphics. The program was described by principal supporter, Sally Bany, who offered tours of the facility (salbany@hotmail.com).

Jim Milne moved that The Willamette Neighborhood Assn strongly urge acceptance of the proposal when it is presented for Design Review. Motion passed.

Ken McLarty of Tenacious Training Events described a Triathlon event on August 18th that will begin in Willamette Park, wind through neighboring streets and finish in the park by late morning. Volunteers and certified flaggers will be stationed along the route for safety and smooth traffic flow. Ken has staged many such events and anticipates 100 entrants.

Julia Simpson read a resolution from the Savannah Oaks NA opposing certain proposed changes in the WL Comprehensive Plan that would compromise citizen input and interests. This resolution was discussed and met with endorsement by those present. The resolution will be attached to these minutes.

Julia Simpson met with Linda Neace and others to discuss parking options for the baseball activities at Fields Bridge Park. A representative from the West Linn Baseball Assn will come to our meeting early next spring to describe the game schedule so neighbors and Willamette businesses can be prepared for the crowds and hopefully mitigate parking problems.

Elizabeth Rocchia had a chat with Ken Warner who described the location of 50 new grasscrete parking places at the park. These will be near the old farm house as indicated on the 2005 Master Plan and not in the open field adjacent as occurred this summer. Zac Pelz of WL planning staff is forming a parking task force.

Andy Rocchia has been in communication with John Sonnen of the Planning Dept. Andy emphasized the need for more crosswalks on Willamette Falls Drive because of increased pedestrian use of the roads to the park. He also commented on the stagnant pond in Fields Bridge Park that was once flushed by the river but now is blocked off. In the summer months when the water level is very low, this area exhibits oil scum from abandoned tanks once dumped there. Andy came away thinking his concerns were low priorities to the City.

In general discussion that ensued, it was felt by all present that there was very little opportunity for conversation or dialogue with Council, Commissions or City staff. Citizens' concerns and thoughtful suggestions need more receptive attention.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Rocchia