

## **Lents Neighborhood Association**

Minutes for General Meeting, June 28 , 2016

Lents Activity Center (Seventh-Day Adventist Church)

8835 SE Woodstock Blvd.

Acting Chair Judy Low called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and the Board members introduced themselves.

Low stated that the first order of business was the issue of ratification of the Board's action of filling vacant Board seats by appointment at the June Board meeting.

At-Large Member Gary Primack made a motion to defeat the ratification of the appointments made at the last Board meeting, which were for the Transportation Chair and a Member At-Large position. Ken Luchini seconded, and the membership discussed the issue.

Some attendees stated that prospective board members should have been contacted first about the election, and Low stated that the appointments were made in opposition to her original agenda; Land Use Chair Potter noted that some volunteers attended the Board meeting expecting an election. Primack called for the question. There were 18 votes in favor of defeating ratification and 29 opposed, and the motion **failed**.

Potter then read the following statement from Nick Schillaci-Kayton:

"I started in transportation with some part time shuttle bus driving for Providence Health & Services. Then, I got some bachelor's degrees at UO: Planning, Public Policy & Management and Political Science. I was the student body Transportation Coordinator for a year when I was getting these. After that, I worked at Lane Transit District (LTD) for a couple of years. My departments were Service Planning and Marketing, as well as Long Range Planning. Finally, I worked for a short time at Ride Connection. I believe in multiple well-developed transportation options. In alphabetical order, I bike, drive, fly, ride, and walk on a regular basis. One area of improvement I see for the Lents neighborhood is streets and their sidewalks, particularly along the main roads leading to the town center (Ellis, Harold, 104th, etc). I enthusiastically follow transportation issues around the neighborhood, region, country, and globe like the transit geek that I am."

Kim Willis-Simmons then moved to ratify the election of Nick Schillaci-Kayton as Transportation Chair, Mike Collins seconded, and the membership discussed the motion, including concerns voiced by Kris Dennis and William Powell. The motion **passed** with a majority of votes, with less than ten opposed.

Treasurer Rebecca Binford made a motion to ratify the election of Lee Rimar as At-Large Member, Dhyana Westfall seconded, and the membership discussed the motion. Members, including Krista and Kris Dennis, Joyce Beedle, and Jennifer Young had concerns about the election process.

Rimar spoke about his background, qualifications, and intentions to work on technology and social media issues for the LNA.

Doug Wilder expressed concerns about Rimar, and Barbara Bader suggested adding more At-Large positions. Primack called for the question. The motion **passed**, with 35 votes in favor of ratifying and 20 votes opposed.

Low asked for volunteers to form a Nomination Committee for the September 2016 elections and asked volunteers from the general membership to indicate their interest on the sign-in sheets. She then read the following statement, thanking Nick Christensen, who had been appointed to the Board as Chair at the June Board meeting but had withdrawn his candidacy: "I would like to acknowledge Nick

Christensen's prior contributions to the LNA. Although, he has officially declined his appointment, I hope he will continue to serve as an advisor or consultant on the ongoing issues facing our neighborhood, as he has institutional knowledge that will add depth to our deliberations on those issues."

### **Informational Items**

Potter introduced Nick Sauvie from Rose CDC and Jennifer Hoffman from Carleton Hart Architecture to discuss the Woody Guthrie Place project, located at 91<sup>st</sup> Ave. and SE Reedway. Hoffman shared the plans for a four-floor complex with 64 units of both affordable housing and market rate units, with rent ranging from \$350-1300. Hoffman also stated that the plans include 28 parking spaces, possible solar panels depending on a renewable energy grant, bicycle parking, and an outdoor play area. The presentation included architectural renderings of the proposed building and its floor plans.

Attendees asked questions about the construction labor used; Hoffman stated that they were working with Walsh Construction, and that it would be union labor, including local hires.

Dan McElligot asked if local families would be given increased consideration and Binford asked about the definition of affordable housing; Sauvie stated that families with young children would be a priority.

Attendees also asked about the durability of the project, and Hoffman stated that it would be built to last for an absolute minimum of 30 years. Binford also asked about lighting, maintenance, and cleanliness; Hoffman stated that the trash and recycling area will be enclosed within the building.

Sauvie asked attendees to email him with any further questions or concerns.

### **Reports**

Treasurer Rebecca Binford reported on the upcoming Lents Street Fair (7/31) including sponsorships from local businesses totaling over \$2300 and the various anticipated expenses, especially insurance. She also called for volunteers for the Street Fair. The Lents Neighborhood Association currently has approximately \$11,000 in reserves.

Land Use Chair Cora Potter reported that a homeowner at 8705 SE Foster would be making landscaping changes in accordance with an agreement made with LNA years ago, and to contact her if there were further concerns.

Potter and Public Safety Chair Robert Schultz reported on their meeting with the mayor's staff, including Chad Stover and Lucas Hillier, about the letter sent by the LNA on the issues of homelessness and camping in Lents. Potter and Schultz stated that they communicated all of the concerns and complaints that they had heard from the community, including the many dangers on the Springwater Trail, such as fires, crimes, and environmental destruction, but had received no new information or response.

After a suggestion by Ken Luchini, McElligot made a motion that the LNA reach out to mayor-elect Ted Wheeler to engage on the issue of homelessness in the Lents neighborhood before he takes office; Schultz seconded but the motion was not voted on.

Schultz then made his Public Safety report, which focused on the resources of the local fire department, including free CPR classes, sharps disposal, emergency preparedness, and tours of the fire station. At the request of attendees, he will speak to the fire department on the issue of fires along the Springwater Trail.

Schultz also shared reports of local dogs being stolen and harmed and advised attendees to watch their pets.

At the request of an attendee, Schultz stated that he would look into the issue of a dangerous intersection at 97<sup>th</sup> and Woodstock; At-Large Member Raymond Hites stated that said intersection has been a problem for over 30 years. Another attendee stated that drivers talking on their cell phones were dangerous to pedestrians.

Member At-Large Raymond Hites shared information about the East Portland Neighbors' changes in their bylaws, which now allows nonprofit community groups as members, and invited local community groups to join. He also shared copies of the April East Portland Neighborhood Association newsletter and stated that the next issue would be out in July.

Member At-Large Gary Primack reminded attendees about the Board positions that would be open in September, 2016.

Richard Christman made a motion to approve the minutes from the 5/24 general meeting, Schultz seconded, and the motion **passed**.

### **Citizen Communications**

After the reports were finished, Acting Chair Low noted the time and invited attendees to speak. Chris Elkorek shared his concerns about homelessness in Lents, especially along the Springwater Corridor. He encouraged Lents residents to attend a meeting on 7/6 to discuss the issue with the Springwater Corridor Project. He also invited attendees to join a rally on July 9, planned by Lents Active Watch, at 82<sup>nd</sup> and Foster.

Hites made flyers available about events in local parks and stated that the movie "42" would be playing at Walker Stadium on 7/23.

Primack shared that there is free produce available at Raymond Park, Thursdays from 12-1:30pm.

William Powell made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Richard Christman seconded, the motion passed, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:03.

Attendees: Robert Schultz, Melissa Collins, Richard Bixby, Richard Bradeen, Elena Bradeen, Autumn West, Jaime Angel, Steve Hunter, Steven Short, Dhyana Westfall, Joe Westfall, Robert Culver, Nick Pittman, Kim Simmons, Bev Henley, Nicole Leaper, Jeff Reuter, Josh Tagliern, Lee Rimar, Jill Elliott, Jennifer Hoffman, Noah Harvey, Michael Collins, Amanda Theresen, Carmen Millan, Nick Sauvie, Christopher Luchini, Jason Bird, Jennifer Young, Joel Rebik, Mary Oxford, Carma Crimins, Amanda Gleason, Raymond Hites, MaryLou Bonham, Paul Trakarn, Krista Dennis, Kris Dennis, Richard Christman, William Powell, Ken Luchini, Joanne Reed, Joyce Beedle, Johnathon Liles, Ashley Jones, Thomas Legg, Rob Bentley, Brandy Zarbano, Gaby Lopez, Brandon Rhodes, Tiffany Summers, Adam Simmons, Emily Robins, Gary Primack, Jen Bentley, John Flack, Nhuy Hoang, Terry Noble, Nicole Leaper, Philip Goh, Dan McElligot, Patricia K Cooke, Kelly Fitzpatrick, Wakisha DuClos, Michael Cummings, Cora Potter, Judy Low, LeAnn Raschke, D'Borah Forrest, Sarah Forrest, Chris Elkorek, Dianna Mayo, Barbara Bader, Kirby Gleason

Submitted as corrected by Heather Chapin, Secretary