

Lents Neighborhood Association

Minutes for General Meeting, July 26, 2016

Lents Activity Center (Seventh-Day Adventist Church)
8835 SE Woodstock Blvd.

Acting Chair Judy Low called the meeting to order at 7:04pm and the board members introduced themselves.

Reports

Public Safety Chair Robert Schultz reported on attending a meeting in Eastmoreland about the issue of homeless campers. He also shared information about the procedure to dispose of found needles, which are no longer being accepted at the fire department; individuals can purchase a \$5 sharps container from Metro. Schultz will post more information about this on the LNA Facebook page and website.

Joanne Rees spoke about the issue of houseless campers, stating that some of the houseless people are being steered in one direction by the organizers, and that a delay is being requested for the planned sweep. Schultz stated that the sweep was planned for August 1, and invited people to talk to him after the meeting.

Member-At-Large Gary Primack reported that the board had voted to appoint the current Vice Chair Judy Low to the Chair position at the July 14 board meeting. He then made a motion for the ratification of her appointment by the general membership; Robert Schultz seconded.

Melissa Collins and Rob Bentley asked questions about the necessity and timing of the vote.

Schulz and Cora Potter clarified that, if the appointment were ratified, Low would become the Chair and the Vice Chair position would remain open until the election in September, and if it was not ratified, Low would remain the Vice Chair and both the Chair and Vice Chair positions would be upon for election in September. Collins asked Low about her vision for the Lents Neighborhood Association.

Low responded that Lents faces considerable issues; she would like more neighborhood involvement and would like the LNA to represent the views of the neighborhood.

Amir Assasnik asked about plans to be more inclusive.

Low responded that she has worked as a cultural resource consultant, and wants to reach out to the diverse population of Lents and partner with groups like Livable Lents and the immigrant and refugee populations. Jennifer Bentley asked about bringing cohesion to the board.

Low agreed on the need for cohesion and stated that the board is working on problems of communication and openness.

William Powell stated that he'd like to see some continuity in the Chair position and called the question.

With 42 in favor, 2 opposed, and 2 abstentions, the motion **passed**.

Schultz briefly updated the membership on the Lents Street Fair, Jul 31,12-5, which will have music, a beer garden, fortune teller, Lents coloring books, and Chicken Beauty Contest; fliers were available.

Judy Low stated that she will ask that the Treasurer's Report be posted on the LNA website.

William Powell made a motion to approve the minutes from the June general meeting; Ken Luchini seconded. Robert Schultz noted that, although the minutes included the ratification of Lee Rimar as a Member-At-Large, Rimar had since stepped down.

Low called the question, and the motion **passed** with 37 votes in favor, 0 no votes or abstentions.

Land Use Chair Cora Potter reported that there were currently no active Land Use issues. The landscaping issues at 8705 SE Foster had been resolved.

Cora also reported that she had spoken to the mayor's office housing policy adviser about the site at 105th and Reedway. They told her that the city is planning to clear contaminated dirt off of the site to test the soil underneath. If the soil is deemed safe, they will consider placing a sanctioned camp there, but they assured Potter

that there would be a robust public process before moving people on to the site. Any camp would be managed by a reputable nonprofit .

Powell asked if the camp's management would involve screening people; Potter responded that people living there would need to fit the criteria of the nonprofit.

Alan Linhares asked that the city reach out to neighbors who lived on surrounding streets.

Krista Denis expressed concern about the drinking water wells that were adjacent.

Autumn West asked about an accounting from the city of the waste that they clean up.

Potter stated that she would pass on and ask for all of this from the city.

Robert Culver asked if the area was part of the Beggar's Tick natural area; Potter said no, it is adjacent.

Potter then shared information about the Lents Park construction project and the plans for a new gazebo.

Assasnik and Ray Hites asked about involving local children's art and saving the original artwork, respectively.

Mary Oxford asked who would decide the final gazebo design; Potter responded that it will be put to a vote after the designs are presented.

Primack asked about the architects that were hired and any costs.

Potter stated that the board had authorized up to \$1,000 for the hard costs, while the design itself would be done pro bono. She said that she had contacted the local AIA chapter, asked for volunteers, and only Propel Studio Architecture had followed through.

Potter stated that the demolition of the New Copper Penny would begin in October.

Powell asked about the NCP sign, and Potter said it was being donated by the owners and stored for future use.

Informational Items

Leila Aman, from the Portland Development Commission (PDC) updated the membership on the projects in the Lents Town Center. The project planned for the New Copper Penny site will begin in October and will break ground in December; the 9101 Foster project will break ground in October; the ROSE and Asian Health and Services projects will break ground in the spring.

Aman also shared information about the Commercial Affordability Program ,Community Livability Grants, and the upcoming Foster Road project.

Ken Luchini, William Powell, and Richard Monahan asked questions about the plans for Foster Road; Aman responded and suggested consulting their website for more specifics.

Assasnik asked about affordable housing and stated that the website did not seem to have that information.

Robert Culver and William Powell asked about the potential for another floodplain project.

Nicole Leaper thanked Aman for attending the meeting and for the plans to return every month with updates and asked that the community have input in choosing the retail stores that would go in at the 91st and Foster project.

Mary Oxford asked for information on the NAYA project.

Cora Potter stated that the executive director had left, and that phase 2 of the project was on hold. The housing portion of the project should be finished soon and may be waiting on inspections.

Transportation Chair Nick Schillaci-Kayton updated the membership that the Powell-Division project would stay on Division, and therefore not be in Lents. He also reported that the Powell Park & Ride will become a LIFT service.

Kirby Gleason expressed concerns about increased traffic around the Park & Ride and encouraged neighbors to send their concerns to powellgarage@trimet.org.

Gary Primack updated the membership on his work on the nominations committee.

Rob Bentley, Jennifer Young, Mary Oxford, Autumn West, Krista Denis, Michael Collins, and Melissa Collins expressed confusion and frustration about the nominating process and committee.

Michael Collins made a motion to remove Primack as the Chair of the nominating committee; Primack seconded. Schultz called the question, and with 26 in favor, 0 opposed, and 16 abstentions, the motion **passed**.

Ken Luchini made a motion that the membership elect a new chair of the nominating committee, and Dhyana Westfall seconded. After a brief discussion, Cora Potter added the friendly amendment that the membership

appoint Jennifer Young as the chair of the committee, and Robert Schultz called the question. With 37 votes in favor, 0 opposed, and 3 abstentions, the motion **passed**.

Interested parties should contact Jennifer Young at gjlaurabell@aol.com.

Citizen Communications

Joanne Rees shared information about an Oregon Consensus meeting and a Facebook post later made by Vahid Brown, who attended the meeting as an employee of Clackamas County. Rees read Brown's post and summarized her own letter to the Clackamas County Health, Housing and Human Services Administration and a shorter letter submitted by the LNA, both of which were also made available to the membership.

Lara Storke made a motion to send both letters to Clackamas County H3S, William Powell seconded, and after a brief discussion, Robert Schultz called the question. With 28 in favor, 0 opposed, and 12 abstentions, the motion **passed**.

Lee Rimar asked for clarification for the process to recall a board member.

Primack stated that all recalls must be started at a board meeting.

Low stated that Rimar should consult and interpret the bylaws on this issue and bring something to the August board meeting.

Rimar asked the membership to email him at lee.rimar@gmail.com for information.

Member-At-Large Raymond Hits shared copies of the EPN Newsletter and a list of upcoming events.

Vicky Oglesbee, from the Holgate Library, shared information about the library's new logo and free bags, as well as their book of the month club and upcoming events.

Steve Madsen, from the Lents Seventh Day Adventist Church, shared information on their free medical clinic, including dental and vision services, on 8/26 and 8/28 and made fliers available.

Primack made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Dhyana Westfall seconded, and Low called the question. The motion **passed** unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 9:20 pm.

Attendees: Zoe Richerson, Otis Richerson, Mary Oxford, Jennifer Young, Krista Denis, Janet Honea, Jose Rodriguez, DeAnn Womack, Kirby Gleason, Raymond Hites, Marissa Schillaci-Kayton, Alan Linhares, Autumn West, Steve Kinchen, Denis Wilder, Steve Voiles, Matt Lynch, Vicky Oglesbee, Melissa Collins, Michael Collins, Lee Rimar, Brandy Zurbano, Steve Short, Dhyanna Westfall, Richard Monahan, Gillian Austin, Nicole Leaper, Dennis, Amanda Lunger, Lara Storke, Michael Bosch, Carma Crimins, Charles W. Lawrence, Michael Cumming, Robert Culver, Olivia McClelland, Joanne Rees, Ken Luchini, Jennifer Bentley, Rob Bentley, Joe Foss, Aaron Riedl, Kelly Fitzpatrick, Steve Madsen, Leila Aman, Jerson Caluya, Jason Bird, William Powell, Laurel Richardson, Amir Assasnik, Steve Maxon, Erin Roberts, Tiffany Hand, Doris VanNorman, Tiffany Summers, John Flack, Judy Low, Cora Potter, Gary Primack, Nick Schillaci-Kayton, Robert Schultz, Heather Chapin

Submitted by Heather Chapin