

**LENTS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF JANUARY 19, 2017 BOARD MEETING
Thursday, January 19, 2017**

6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

**KingPins Bowling Alley, The Chalet Community Room, 3550 S.E. 92nd Avenue
Minutes Approved Thursday, February 9, 2017.**

Board Members Present (in alphabetical order): Krista Dennis (At-Large Board Member) Ray Hites (Treasurer); Judy Low (Chairperson); Cora Potter (Land Use Chairperson); Joanne Rees (Luchini) (Secretary); Nick Schillaci-Kayton (Transportation Chairperson); Randy “Icebear” Schroeder (Public Safety Chairperson) (arrived late); Autumn West (At-Large Board Member); and Jennifer Young (At-Large Board Member).

Board Member Absent: Michael Collins (due to work commitments that could not accommodate a change in meeting date)

Attendees (in alphabetical order): Megan Gorecki, Christopher Luchini; Ken Luchini; Char Pennie; David Potts; and Robert Schultz

The Thursday, January 19, 2017, Board Meeting took the place of the regularly-scheduled January 12, 2017 Board Meeting which did not occur due to a weather emergency. The required 7 days' notice had been given on the LNA Facebook page.

The Board Meeting was convened at 6:35 p.m. by Chairperson Low.

Approval of Draft Minutes from the December 15, 2016 Special Board Meeting. Secretary Rees (Luchini) submitted the draft Minutes from the December 15, 2016 Board Meeting for approval. Hard copies were unavailable due to not being able to get to East Portland Neighborhood Office (EPNO), which had also been closed due to the weather emergency. However, electronic copies had been submitted so that Board members present at the Special Board Meeting could have an opportunity to review them.

At-Large Board Member Dennis suggested one correction to the draft minutes. Dennis commented that the Board Meeting should be called a “Special Board Meeting,” because, although it was scheduled to replace a regularly-scheduled Board Meeting that did not occur due to inclement weather, the meeting was called with 3 days' notice and did not include a full agenda. The rest of the Board agreed that this was a valid correction. A motion was made by Rees (Luchini) to approve the draft Minutes from the December 15, 2016 Special Board Meeting, with the correction proposed by Dennis. The motion was seconded by Dennis. The motion passed with 5 in favor (in

alphabetical order: Dennis, Rees (Luchini), Schillaci-Kayton, West and Young); and 3 abstentions (in alphabetical order: Hites, Low and Potter). (Schroeder had not arrived yet. Low and Potter abstained because they were not in attendance at the Special Board Meeting. Hites abstained because he did not have a chance to review the draft Minutes.)

Social Media Guidelines; Logo Contest; Environmental Committee (West).

Social Media Guidelines. At-Large Board Member West had submitted proposed Social Media Policy Guidelines at the December 6, 2016 General Meeting. She has a couple of revisions to make. West proposed sending her revisions to the Board for its review via email, with the intent of presenting an “official” Social Media Policy at the next Board and General Meetings. The Social Media Guidelines would be voted upon at the February Board Meeting and could be presented as Board policy without a vote from LNA General Meeting.

LNA Facebook Page: “Editors;” Moderation; Admins. The Board considered moderation of the LNA Facebook page. The moderation would entail that visitor's posts would not automatically appear on the LNA Facebook page. Moderation would be limited to two trusted administrators. There was a concern about postings of unkind remarks about neighbors, often including baseless accusations, loaded language and profanity.

Currently, the only administrator of the LNA Facebook page is Chairperson Low. There used to be more admins with the ability to moderate the postings. It was perceived by Low that postings were being deleted on the basis of their being uncomplimentary to the Board member or members being posted about, which is why the Chairperson currently is the only one in the admin position.

The Board discussed the difference between what could be perceived as uncomplimentary as opposed to potentially defamatory. Young and Rees (Luchini) remarked that community members (including staff at local nonprofits and with City and County agencies located in and serving Lents) had mentioned to them that, from some of the posts on the LNA Facebook page, it appeared that Lents residents were not very nice people. Young and Rees (Luchini) felt that the actions and discourse of a few were negatively impacting how the wider community perceived Lents. Hites reminded that the LNA Facebook page was the “official” page of the LNA and that social media guidelines, with standards of conduct, would, therefore, not be unexpected. Other neighborhood association Facebook pages do not feature the rants, some of them containing misinformation, that appear on the LNA Facebook page. Reference was made to possible model Neighborhood Association Facebook pages of Brentwood-Darlington, Powellhurst-Gilbert and Woodstock.

Discussion ensued as to what this “moderation” would look like. Visitor's posts would be “held” until the admin had a chance to review and approve them for posting. Facebook provides notification of pending requests. The people serving as admins for the LNA Facebook page would have to be able to commit to reviewing posts in a somewhat timely fashion.

Board members' posts would not be moderated. Low reminded Board members that everyone on the Board has the ability to be an “editor” and post on the LNA Facebook main page. If Board members are still only able to post as “visitor's posts,” they are again being requested to submit to Low their “Facebook email address” so she can add them as editors. “Editors” are not admins or moderators.

A motion was made by West that Board members' posts will continue to automatically be posted on the LNA Facebook page; visitor's posts will need to be pre-approved by LNA Facebook page admins. The motion was seconded by Hites. The motion passed 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.

A motion was made by West that West be made the second admin on the LNA Facebook page. The motion was seconded by Potter. The motion passed 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions.

LNA Website. The LNA website is still non-operational. Dennis indicated that it is a wordpress website, but that a proxy company owns it. Potter noted that the proxy company is probably Dreamhost, the host of the website. Hites noted that the website is due to expire in one year + one month (April, 2017) and that the last payment for the website was made with a debit card on March 17, 2016. West mentioned that a wordpress site costs less than \$10.00 a month (approximately \$100,00 annually). She suggested that an entirely new website be created, under a new domain name. Potter felt that the problem with the website could probably be resolved if passwords could be exchanged. Young and Potter had heard the LNA member Dan McElligott might have access to a usable password. West will contact McElligott to ascertain whether his password works.

Lents Logo Contest. West reminded the Board that the idea of a logo contest was well-received at the December General Meeting and that details (criteria, deadline, outreach, judges, etc.) for this contest will need to be considered. Potter stated that a logo change had been considered in the past, but that any attempts to change it had not been successful. Schillaci-Kayton distinguished between a “seal” (such as the Oliver Lent logo), which would appear on official correspondence, and a “logo,” which is used to inspire people. Schillaci-Kayton supported the idea of a change in the LNA Facebook and website “logo.”

Proposal of a Lents Townhall (to lead to a possible series of Townhalls)

(Young). At-Large Board member Young is organizing a Townhall, to lead to a possible series of Townhalls, around issues of concern to Lents. An ongoing concern that has been impacting Lents' livability is homelessness – in particular that Lents is bearing a disproportionate share of the responsibility for the homeless in Portland and the presence of a number of “criminal homeless” who pose a threat to neighbors (housed and unhoused). West has agreed to help Young organize this Townhall. A sign-up sheet will be available at the next General Meeting for interested LNA members to participate in the Townhall's planning and execution. A similar event had been organized by Young in November, 2016, at Kelly School. In addition, the August LNA General Meeting, just prior to the “sweep” of the Springwater Corridor, had assumed a Townhall format. City and County representatives would be invited to the Townhalls.

Hites mentioned that, in the 1990s, Brentwood-Darlington Neighborhood Association had engaged in something similar. There was a series of “neighborhood forums,” separate from the general meetings. The “neighborhood forum” meetings were less structured than the general meeting and provided an opportunity for neighbor-to-neighbor discussion on matters that were important to them.

Young and West wish to have this Townhall organized as soon as possible, perhaps as early as within next six weeks. In addition to the invitations to key people in City and County government, there will be the need to set a date and find a venue.

LNA member Char Pennie brought up a concern about House Bill 2215, a Right to Rest bill, recently introduced by two Portland legislators. If enacted, this bill could create widespread problems negatively impacting Lents, similar to Mayor Hales' relaxation of the no camping ban last spring which resulted in mass encampments along the Springwater Corridor. House Bill 2215 acknowledges that shelter is a right and could potentially lead to camping in public parks and public buildings, as well as recreational vehicle camping in neighborhoods. Low commented that this House Bill was a proposed amendment to ORS 659A, which addresses discrimination in employment, and claims arising from that law would usually be heard by Bureau of Labor and Industry (BOLI). Low remarked that there might be a need for a legislative advocacy subcommittee on this issue and specifically mentioned LNA members and former LNA Board Chairpeople Kyle Linhares and Nick Christensen as having expertise in this area.

Determining Agenda for January 24 LNA General Meeting (Low).

Chairperson Low opened up discussion of determining the agenda for the January 24 General Meeting, to occur next Tuesday.

A discussion ensued surrounding the usefulness of the Police Report portion of

the agenda, given that the officers present are “night shift” and the concerns being raised are primarily “day shift.” Appreciation was expressed to the Police officers on the night shift who regularly appear at LNA General Meeting to engage the community on public safety issues. LNA member Char Pennie suggested that LNA collect questions from the general membership prior to the General Meeting so that the answers could be gathered and prepared by the Police officers before the General Meeting. Otherwise, there remains a disconnect. Young confirmed this disconnect from her experience with trying to get the Police to enforce the public right of way, where street and sidewalk camping spills over onto the public right of way that is crucial for the safe passage of people with disabilities and seniors. Pennie was thanked for an excellent idea, which will be implemented.

Low informed that the new Captain at East Precinct is Dave Golliday. The new Commander of East Precinct is Bryan Parman. Young and Low expressed appreciation for Captain Robert King's efforts on the part of Lents. Captain King has transferred over to the North Precinct. Low said she would try to get Parman and Golliday to attend an LNA General Meeting in the near future.

Low also mentioned that Head Librarian at the Holgate Library Vicky Oglesbee had requested to present at the January 24 General Meeting.

Consideration of Request by Kelly School for a \$500 Sponsorship of its April Fun Run (Potter). Potter brought to the Board's attention an email request from the Kelly School PTA President that LNA sponsor the Kelly School April Fun Run in the amount of \$500. (The email from the Kelly School PTA is attached hereto). According to the email from Kelly School, the \$500 was being earmarked towards a fundraising goal of \$3,000 to purchase tee-shirts for students participating in the Fun Run fundraiser. The Fun Run fundraiser was being undertaken by Kelly School in lieu of the Run for the Arts, which would have incurred some administrative costs. The proceeds from the Fun Run would ultimately be directed to purchasing art supplies, physical education equipment, musical instruments and Library books.

At-Large Board members (in alphabetical order) Dennis, West and Young and LNA member Megan Gorecki clarified that Kelly School had been burglarized five times since the New Year. Kelly School is a local school serving a diverse, low-income student population deserving of our help. Low and Treasurer Hites questioned the precedent of donating such a substantial sum to Kelly School and expressed a concern that this type of sponsorship could prove unsustainable long-term. There are at least 5 other schools in Lents, who, after hearing of LNA's generosity, might also approach LNA for similar sponsorship for their school activities. Hites added that the monies for this sponsorship would have to come from LNA General Fund. The General Fund currently rests at \$12,884.94, which still does not include proceeds from the 2016 Lents

Street Fair.

Young wondered whether it would be possible for LNA to perhaps write a smaller check (in the amount of \$250) and earmark it for a specific need. Dennis clarified that donation checks to PTAs usually are spent at the discretion of the PTA and not necessarily as earmarked. Rees (Luchini) was unclear from the Kelly School PTA email how purchasing tee shirts for students would ultimately translate into purchases of art supplies, books, etc. Rees (Luchini)'s reading of the email was that the \$3,000 tee-shirt purchase (\$500 of which was being funded by LNA) was to be an incentive to students participating in the fundraising. She was wondering whether it would be possible for someone from Kelly School PTA to attend the General Meeting to answer any questions.

LNA member Gorecki mentioned that David Douglas School District managed to engage in successful fundraising without tee-shirts as incentives. David Douglas School District used less expensive incentives for students, such as Otter Pops and fun and games at the end of the fundraiser. LNA member Robert Schultz mentioned that he felt uncomfortable giving \$500 to the Kelly School PTA to manage when one of its members was our former Treasurer, who, when she resigned, did not help facilitate an easy transition from one Treasurer to the other. There remain unanswered questions about the LNA “books,” which the current Treasurer is still attempting to resolve.

A motion was made by Potter that LNA sponsor Kelly School PTA with a \$500 donation towards the purchase of tee-shirts for the April Fun Run. The motion was seconded by Dennis. The motion passed 5 (Dennis, Potter, Schroeder, West, Young) in favor; 2 (Rees (Luchini) and Schillaci-Kayton) opposed and 1 abstention (Hites).

Hites reminded of the need for a receipt from Kelly School PTA and also mentioned that it would be appreciated if LNA could get formally acknowledged by the Kelly School PTA.

West proposed that a “bucket” be also kept at the LNA General Meeting to allow those LNA members who wished to further contribute to the April Fun Run at Kelly School to do so. LNA member Char Pennie volunteered the bucket. Low suggested that West, who is an artist, decorate the bucket. Cash and checks would be accepted. Checks should be made payable to Kelly School PTA. An announcement will be posted on the LNA Facebook page advising LNA members of this additional opportunity to support the Kelly School April Fun Run.

LNA member Robert Schultz also asked a question regarding the \$1,000 that LNA gave to the architects for the gazebo plans. It had been his – and others' – understanding that there was a possibility of reimbursement to LNA through

fundraising. Potter mentioned that LNA fundraising had not started yet and that this fundraising might take the form of crowdfunding. She confirmed that the \$1,000 from LNA served as a retainer to Propel Architects. Potter also confirmed that the gazebo had not been submitted as a possible PDC Community Livability Grant project this year.

EPNO Funding for Neighborhood Spring Cleanups (Low and West). Low announced that EPNO has funds available for community cleanups, but that funds were first-come, first-served. West volunteered to write the grant application to EPNO in order to get funds for a Lents spring cleanup. Details will be forthcoming on the LNA Facebook page.

Additional Agenda Item for LNA General Meeting – Status of Mentally-Ill Homeless Lents resident with Stillborn Child found in Lents on January 9. Rees (Luchini) requested that LNA invite someone knowledgeable about the case from the Police Bureau to the LNA General Meeting to answer questions regarding the status of this concern.

On January 9, a mentally-ill, homeless Lents resident was found near the McDonald's bus stop, carrying a dead baby. The woman was a resident of the Chuck E. Cheese transient encampment, which had been established after the Kumar encampment had dispersed around the beginning of the school year. The Kumar encampment located near the former Marshall High School campus was purported to be a white supremacist camp where drug dealing and pimping were common. Neighbors had repeatedly contacted Police about criminal activity at the camp, seemingly to no avail.

The story was released on January 16 by the Willamette Week. The initial press stated that the baby boy had been born prematurely, but viable, at 32 weeks. The Medical Examiner autopsy subsequently revealed that the child had been stillborn. Rees (Luchini)'s concern was whether the pregnancy of a seriously mentally-ill woman, who claimed the birth was the result of an immaculate conception, was the result of a consensual relationship or sex assault or sex trafficking or ??? There was a concern that the woman was a victim of a crime and the possibility of her having been victimized should be investigated by the Police. Young and West supported Rees (Luchini) in this concern.

According to media, the case has been closed because the child was stillborn. A subsequent Willamette Week article, however, stated, “It is not clear where the infant's mother is.” Rees (Luchini) had spent 2 hours contacting various agencies (Point of First Contact, East Precinct, ONI, Non-Emergency Police Line, Street Roots, Right 2 Dream Too, and Willamette Week) and no one seemed to be able to answer her question as to whether the case was closed or whether an investigation was still pending and whether

the mother was in care or had been released to wander the streets of Lents while in distress.

Rees (Luchini) was wondering whether Low, as Chairperson, could invite someone from the Police Bureau who would be knowledgeable about the matter to answer some simple questions at the next General Meeting, including: Was the case closed? Was an investigation pending to ascertain whether the woman had been a victim of a crime that resulted in a pregnancy? Has the woman been released and should Lents residents be on the lookout for a mentally-ill, homeless woman who, post-partum, still might be in distress? Rees (Luchini) was not seeking details as to the circumstances surrounding the investigation or the whereabouts of the woman. This was not idle curiosity. Her concern was that the woman, if released, might still be in danger and that the woman might have been the victim of a crime. Rees (Luchini) was worried that the woman, due to serious mental illness, might not be able to advocate for herself if she indeed were a victim of a crime.

Hites inquired as to why this was an LNA matter. Rees (Luchini) remarked that the woman was a Lents resident, her child was born in a tent in Lents and she was found in distress in Lents in very cold temperatures with a dead child. In addition, the encampment where the woman was residing had been part of a larger encampment that neighbors had repeatedly reported for suspected criminal activity, seemingly to no avail.

An LNA member reiterated that some of the perceived closed-mouthedness about the situation was due to respect for patient privacy. She also mentioned that the case was “much bigger than anyone can comprehend” and that only a select few in the law enforcement were knowledgeable about the status of the case and had inside information. This LNA member was not optimistic about any further information being forthcoming from the Police Bureau or the Sheriff's Department due to the sensitive nature of the investigation.

Potter suggested that, if no information were forthcoming from the Police, the media be contacted. Young mentioned an Emily Smith article in the Oregonian last spring that fairly portrayed Lents' problems. Rees (Luchini) said that Nigel Jaquis was the reporter at Willamette Week who has been covering the tragic deaths of homeless Portlanders from hypothermia during the cold spell. Young indicated a willingness to be interviewed for an investigative journalism report.

Low agreed to contact the Police Bureau to see whether answers could be forthcoming as to the status of the case involving the mentally-ill, homeless Lents resident with the stillborn child at our next General Meeting.

Inquiry as to Status of Petition to Recall Chairperson. Dennis remarked that

she had been contacted by LNA members inquiring as to the status of the petition to recall the Chairperson.

Low replied that, “There is no status” to the Low recall due to the absence of an up-to-date membership list. Rees (Luchini) referred Board members to the ONI (Paul Leistner) email correspondence which was sent out around the time of the petition to recall At-Large Board Member Gary Primack. She will re-forward the email to refresh Board members' memories.

Because the section on recall in the LNA Bylaws does not qualify “voting membership” as being voting members present at a meeting but just indicates “voting membership,” for a recall to take effect, 2/3 of voting membership would be 2/3 of LNA's total roster of LNA members eligible to vote who have not terminated their membership via postal mail and/or not been contacted with a postal-mail reminder that they might be subject to removal from membership for not having attended an LNA meeting in two years. Dennis added – and Rees (Luchini) and Hites concurred – that there will need to be a good-faith attempt to do outreach to LNA's current membership before any recall election can take place. This outreach will include, in accordance with bylaws, a letter to members who have not attended a meeting in 2 years reminding them that they may be subject to removal and a notice by publication in the East Portland News April edition. Rees (Luchini) clarified that this does not mean that a recall is impossible. It just means that there are some steps that need to be taken before a recall election can be held, such that the recall will not be happening anytime sooner than May.

Rees (Luchini) also reminded that the maintenance of an up-to-date membership list is not the Secretary's responsibility. She is willing to help with that because the Secretary collects the sign-in sheets at Board and General Meetings. In the recent past, the Board had an At-Large Board member in charge of Outreach-Membership. It is unclear what this person did, as she was potentially subject to removal for non-attendance according to LNA bylaws and later resigned. Rees (Luchini) has sign-in sheets from the September elections and sign-in sheets from Board and General Meetings since October when she assumed office. She will make an appointment with EPNO to cross-reference membership lists.

Dennis reminded that an updated membership list will also be necessary for bylaws revision. Dennis is chairing the Bylaws Revision Committee. (Dennis is also the Board liaison for the Lents Street Fair Committee, which is being chaired by LNA member Robert Schultz.)

Resignation of Transportation Chairperson (Schillaci-Kayton). Nick Schillaci-Kayton resigned as the LNA Transportation Chairperson and submitted his

resignation in writing. He and his spouse will be moving to Albuquerque. Nick was thanked for his exceptional service to LNA as the Transportation Chairperson, his commitment to professionalism and his good-humor and collegiality. He will be missed. Best wishes to Nick and his spouse as they embark on a new life in New Mexico.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m. by Chairperson Low. The motion to adjourn was made by Dennis and unanimously seconded.

Submitted by Joanne Rees (Luchini) (LNA Secretary) on Friday, February 3, 2017.
Minutes approved Thursday, February 9, 2017.

**LNA: Attachment to Approved Minutes from January 19, 2017
Board Meeting Fw: LNA Sponsorship Request for the April 19th
Fun Run**

Hello, I'm reaching out on behalf of Kelly Elementary to request a sponsorship from the Neighborhood Association in the amount of \$500.

Kelly is comprised of a ethnically diverse student body. At a minimum, 49% of our student body is below the poverty line.

Historically we've participated in Run for the Arts. This third party organizer takes a substantial amount of the revenue for little benefit, tying our hands in utilization of our funds. We will be able to generate more revenue for our special curriculum needs through an independant fundraiser which will allow us to use the money for any programs and supplies our PE, Music, Art and Library programs need.

We are requesting sponsorships from community stakeholders to offset the cost of our t-shirts for the event. Our estimated cost is about \$3000.00 and we are attempting to offset as much of that as we can.

The PTA is a non-profit, and the donation/sponsorship would be tax deductible.

Thank you for considering this request.

Becca