

April 24, 2018 General Meeting

Board members present: Sabina Urdes, Christo Brehm, David Carroll, Lacey Hamerin, Cora Potter, Barbara Bader, Ray Hites

Not present: Michael Collins

7:05: Meeting called to order

Urdes: Introduction, code of conduct, time keeper, success tracker: Community member Amir volunteers.

Committee reports: Handout, Potter, Carroll, Robert Schultz give oral reports.

Police report presented by Officer John Kuzar. NRT doing training with ATVs in precincts.

Allows them to work Springwater trail and offer resources and help to homeless on trail. A jail closure is happening soon. That could mean a 1-1 matrixing: someone new comes into the jail, someone currently being held goes out. Or, the jail could be closed for a time during the day, which means people will only get citations. If they need to go to jail they will be held at the precinct. Community questions:: Clarification on cite and release: Not domestic violence, but misdemeanor and felony property crimes. What about the guy who got caught for the shooting on 92nd and Henry, right down the street, second time it has happened, enough evidence or is it going to keep happening? Doesn't know. Gang enforcement team is investigating. From 10pm to 8am, the jail may be closed? Kuzar says that time is just an example. But says that is a quieter time for the jail. Not enough room to hold those people in the precinct. He just heard about this a couple of weeks ago from command staff. July 1 is when they do budget talks, could happen shortly after that. What about repeat offenders, does that count to keep them in jail? Kuzar says that is already happening. What is an example of felony property crime? Burglary, stolen car, large theft. Any news on recent shootings? Agrees there has been quite an increase in shootings in the community, doesn't know what the PPB plan is, says it's city wide. Is that normal for summertime or outside normal trend? Doesn't know cause, thinks increase in population has something to do with it, combined with a shortage of officers.

Discussion:

-Interactive community work session. Goal is to set priorities for what the LNA should work on. Arlene Kimura: Exercise shows what the community is interested in working on. Are these the topics you want LNA to address?

OTHER: Encouraging more attendance at meetings, including POC, renters, LGBTQ; economic development, better paying jobs to Lents; working with PPS/education; art tax disbursement, is it equitable in Lents?

TRANSPORTATION: Increase in demand on roadways, how do we improve that? Alternative modes: better walking, more frequent bus routes, improving bike paths, adding sidewalks. Equity in terms of investment between inner and outer east Portland: advocate for equitable distribution of resources. Designing streets from building to building, "a street to go to, not just a street to go through." Walking to and from the library.

LAND USE: Still interest in the comprehensive plan, addressing flooding on north side of Foster, developing industrial lands, support for more low income housing, ADU development in flood plains

PUBLIC SAFETY: Traffic safety: speeding, crosswalks, lack of sidewalks. Crime in general: need more police and community involvement

ENVIRONMENT: Concerns with keeping Springwater clean, floodplain restoration, Beggars Tick clean up, overflowing garbage due to homeless with no resources.

LIVABILITY: Making sure our streets are safe, walkable and we feel comfortable living, playing and working here. Walking from home to town center, making sure streets are part of the environment, not just a way to and from. Parking issues around new housing developments,

ensuring there is enough parking and making sure it doesn't exacerbate congestion and street parking. Feeling comfortable being a pedestrian. More inclusion for people with disabilities, stop tearing down historic homes.

Victor: What do you want to take and run with? What should be priorities?

Sabina: LNA can facilitate these issues for you, need volunteers.

Action items: Meeting minutes approval: Urdes moves to approve, Hamerin seconds. 13 in favor, 0 against, 5 abstain. Hites asks that all general members be listed in addition to board members.

Announcements:

Vicky Oglesbee from Multnomah County Library: Lunar new year celebration didn't happen in February due to snow day, rescheduled to May 15. Ballot boxes will be out tomorrow. May 12, city of Portland archives coming to Holgate library. Good way to do research on your house. Also May 12: Code your own website. May is also bike to work month, all libraries will have supply of bike lights. This month's book is H is For Hawk. The discussion is May 19.

Bader: Organizing a cleanup. Anybody who is interested please sign up. Still working out finances, will take place after June. Going to have one dumpster in one place. Certain items will not be accepted, there will be a small fee.

Schultz: Neighborhood emergency team lentsnetlead@gmail.com meet last Sunday of month, location moves around, 3-4. It is an emergency plan for volunteers. This Sunday is next meeting, "secret" location...if you want to attend, contact Robert. It is similar to a FEMA training program, disaster response. 4 weekends to become certified, other trainings throughout year.

Hites: 82nd avenue of roses parade is this weekend. Afterward, community event in the parking lot of Eastport plaza.

INFO SESSIONS:

Jen Corbridge with Rep. Alissa Keny-Guyer: Housing stands out to her when looking at our priorities. Housing is one of Alissa's top priority. State has done very little investing in housing. Counties and cities have been forced to supplement lost funding. Alissa is committed to doing a broad vision of housing in State. Oregon has one of the lowest rates of home ownership.

Community questions: What is the impact to Lents, in relation to state distribution of money? Lents is experiencing a large instance of houselessness. County and city trying to address it, state provides funding. Has increased that by increasing document recording fee. Emergency housing assistance program runs through Welcome Home, which works with city and county to distribute funds, which comes from state. What about people with moderate incomes, the "in between" people, who are at risk of being pushed out: There are down payments assistance programs available. Raised income caps for first time buyer homeownership program at state level.

Rich Newlands, Foster Streetscape Project Update: This project is finally going to construction. Conversation happened over the past 2 decades. The contract will likely start late next month, so either late May or early June. Take 6 months to complete; early to mid fall. Community members will receive postcard in the mail indicating the project is starting and where to get information. Billboards along Foster will alert drivers on how to get more info. The most intense construction is happening in Lents, but that's because we're getting the greatest benefit.

Completely rebuild road between 82nd and 90th. One lane of travel will be maintained at all times. only detour will be 82nd avenue to Foster westbound, if you want to turn left you will be detoured around Fred Meyer building. Community question: Work done on 205 at the same time, any coordination between the two projects? Unaware of significant impacts on 205. City work ends at 90th. Brehm: work times for both projects are outlined in committee handouts.

Sarah Wilson, Wilson Company Contractors: Company doing work at Woodstock and 90th, constructing an apartment building. Still in early stages. Exterior materials haven't been finalized. It will be a 3 story, 12 unit building. Ground floor includes main entrance, trash and recycle on backside. Bike storage in each unit. Bike racks on outside as well. Getting ready to submit for permits, expect to start construction in fall. Community questions: Is there any car parking? No, they are not required to provide additional parking because it is so close to transit. Roofing materials? Green or solar? Not decided, will take that into consideration. Also, looking for a name for the building, willing to take community input, a historical name perhaps. Is this currently the blue house? Yes.

Michael Mills and Rep. Jeff Reardon, Oregon Solutions Lents Collaborative Update: This project started 3 years ago by Nick Christensen. Concerned with historically high flood insurance. It is on a two year planning cycle. Includes 3-4 city agencies, the county, variety of different state agencies. Major goals are job creation, improve wetlands and help folks save money on flood insurance. Mills: Project driven by Lents and Powellhurst-Gilbert. August 1 will be statement of commitment saying what each entity will contribute to the project. Group will reconvene a year later. BES has reached out to other agencies across the nation who are doing floodplain management. Community questions Schultz brings up negative impacts of NAYA Generations and asks if there is money there to actually build the classrooms. Mills unsure because he is no longer involved.

Success tracker update: Collaboration with Arlene, great information from library, excellent dialogue during work session.

Meeting adjourned at 8:58