

St. Johns Neighborhood Association
General Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 13th 7:00 p.m. St. Johns Community Center
Minutes by Crystal Glanz-Kreutz, Secretary

Board members present: Shamus Lynsky, Adam Robins, Justin Sundling, David Green, Babs Adamski, and Crystal Glanz-Kreutz. Officer Elam and 21 citizens were also in attendance.

7:04 p.m. The meeting is called to order by Shamus. Introductions are given; name and favorite fall activity.

Officer Elam reports- He's worked in the area the last three years. He doesn't have any new news, is open to feedback and questions.

Shamus- gunshots and/or fireworks are often discussed online, how often are loud noises actually gunshots? Answer- they're mostly fireworks, only 10-15% gunshots, if that.

Babs- regarding the parking lot behind Brekken's/Anna Bananas/etc... Answer- OLCC hit the area hard, the goings-on have improved. Babs encourages officers to solicit feedback from the businesses.

David- It has been said that there will be a new marijuana dispensary by Shamrock. Answer- those sites don't generally raise issues, but there has been no news so far.

The group reviews the September general meeting minutes. Crystal motions that the minutes be approved with the one change that was noted. Adam seconds, there is unanimous voice approval.

Land-use, David- There is a map app, which is part of the Portland Comp. Plan, it offers feedback. Now is the comment period. David offers a brief description of the Comp Plan; the City of Portland is forecasting for the next 20 years, it isn't just re-zoning but redefining the zones.

The 2/3rds project broke ground and is now in progress.

Ruth Lane asks about a project on Ivanhoe, David explains that it is an ADU.

Babs- the My Car Care Center (on Lombard) has been an issue for the last two years. David- no news on it, but we could place pressure. Babs makes a motion that the SJNA investigate the situation and encourage improvement. Crystal seconds, there is unanimous voice approval.

Shamus hands out paper and pens- the SJNA is looking for feedback from the group. Shamus asks for everyone to write down three goals for the SJNA so that the new board can review them and prioritize the coming year.

Adam, with the SJNA treasury report- The current account balance is \$5,547.74; there are pending transactions, such as Trash to Treasure, a transfer to the art account and state registration fees. There is also a donation from the winter social that hasn't posted onto the account yet.

Babs- There will be no SALT meeting this month. SALT meetings are normally held on the 3rd Monday of each month.

Shamus- on Monday, October 20th, the SJNA is hosting a community discussion on Gentrification/Revitalization. There will be a panel of five speakers, from non-profits to developers and

housing bureau representatives. The meeting will be from 7-8:30pm, it isn't a lecture, and it will be an interactive discussion.

Tom Karwaki announces a University Park/Portsmouth neighborhood cleanup at the Eagles lot this upcoming Saturday (Oct. 18th).

Jeff Bissonnette with the Citizens Utility Board (CUB). CUB recently asked private utilities how to keep costs low with the least risk. They are focused on water and sewer utilities with the Portland Water Bureau. CUB is asking utilities where they're investing. Do the investments make sense? Do these things serve the rate payers? Now is the first time in twenty years that one group has overseen both water and sewer. It seems successful; CUB is making a recommendation with the city to keep the one common lead. Currently, the focus of CUB is in capital expenditures; investing in pipes, treatment plants and other long term costs. CUB makes sure that big water/sewer purchases are a good use of funds, that there's oversight and a strong advisory staff.

Blue Ribbon Commission: long term oversight, monthly instead of quarterly water billing.

CUB is looking for feedback, contact: Janice Thompson at 503-227-2984 x24 or at Janice@oregoncub.org

Sharon White, PBOT- Sharon works on high crash corridors (not Lombard) such as Burnside, Sandy, and Barbur Blvd. She shows the group a short video regarding crosswalks. Pedestrians and vehicles each have responsibilities when using roads. Pedestrians have three main tasks: 1) Cross legally- every intersection (marked or not) is a legal crosswalk. 2) Show intent to cross- place a foot, hand, stroller, walker into the road (off of the curb). 3) Offer drivers adequate time to stop.

Crosswalk enforcement action will be holding a "sting" on Lombard and Leavitt at the end of October, on the 22nd or 29th, from 7:30-9am. A second "sting" will be on November 5th from 4:30-6pm. During these tests, Sharon wears light colors and ensures she's visible. Police can give a warning or a ticket.

Tickets are \$260 for drivers and \$120 for pedestrians. If officers offer it, there is a two hour, \$35 safety class that can be taken in lieu of a full ticket. Day of there is a cone/sign one block before the crosswalk. Prior to the day, PBOT speaks with local businesses to offer a heads up.

Question- Must bicyclists stop for pedestrians? Answer- Yes. Bikes operate as vehicles and can be tickets as such.

Some crash statistics:

Vehicle speed at impact:	Pedestrian survival rate:
20 MPH	95%
30 MPH	60%
40 MPH	15%

Safety tips: As a driver, leave adequate distance in front of your vehicle to aid in your ability to stop and respond quickly. As a pedestrian, wear light jackets, and use reflective gear (shoes, umbrellas, sashes, etc).

Question: Can drivers go around if a car is stopped? Answer: If a vehicle is stopped at a crosswalk (any corner, marked or unmarked) you CAN NOT pass. Whether you pass on the left or the right, it is illegal. Motor vehicles cannot enter bike lanes to pass other vehicles.

If there's a marked crosswalk and there's a crosswalk light (not a signal), the light does not have to be activated for it to be a crosswalk. The law protects the crosser, even if the crossing light is not activated.

Shamus reads the SJNA by-laws regarding elections. There are eleven positions available, and currently nine people on the ballot. Shamus asks if there is anyone else in the audience who would like to be added to the ballot. Rob Metnick nominates himself. There is a discussion of board member roles, expectations and responsibilities, etc. Shamus explains a slate vote. Crystal motions that we vote in the new SJNA board as a slate, all 10 candidates at one time. Babs seconds, there's unanimous voice approval. Shamus lists the board positions and explains that the board elects the positions at the next board meeting. Nominees introduce themselves.

Rob Metnick- Has lived in Portland for twelve years; he loves the small town feel of St. Johns. He has been in the area for one year, lives here with his wife and seven month old.

Josh Leslie- Has owned a home in St. Johns for the last nine years; he wants to be involved in the community/ public safety. Professionally, he works for a non-profit.

Denis Theriault – Lives off of Fessenden, has been in St. Johns for four years. He is a news editor at the Portland Mercury, knows a lot about City Hall. He has a wife and two kids and feels connected to the neighborhood.

Adam Robins- He has been on the board for the last year. He is currently the treasurer. A St. Johns resident for the last ten and a half years and enjoys the area.

Justin Sundling- A St. Johns resident for the last three years and an SJNA board member for the last year and a half. He owns a local business, a contract company.

Shamus Lynsky- Has lived in St. Johns for eleven years, has a wife and two kids. He has been on the Sitton PTA, been a previous SJNA board member as well as on the board for the last year, he also works to organize the St. Johns Bizarre. He would like to focus on working with other St. Johns non-profits; he has been working to create an equipment share bank.

Crystal read for Ben and Emilie in their absences.

Ben Poe- an SJNA board member for the last year, works on the SALT team and is also involved in Occupy St. Johns.

Emilie Saks-Webb- Has been an SJNA co-chair for the last two years, prior to joining the board, she worked to create the SJNA newsletters. She would like to continue her work in the community, it is something she is incredibly passionate about and dedicated to.

Shamus asks if there is a motion to elect the board as a slate. Babs makes a motion to elect the board as listed on the ballot. Ruth Lane seconds, there is unanimous voice approval.

Announcements-

Brooke Berglund (from the Port of Portland) - Campotex is about to invest \$140 million dollars to expand/improve terminal 5.

Amy- The Oregon Food Bank will be hosting a free farmers market at Sitton Elementary (9930 N Smith) on the third Wednesday of each month, at 2:30pm. It is through the school year, and all are welcome/encouraged to attend.

There will be a town hall at RHS on October 20th from 6-7pm. Attendees can speak with Steve Buell, and other PPS board members.

Shamus- Also on Monday, October 20th, the SJNA will be hosting a forum on gentrification/revitalization in St. Johns. It will begin at 7pm here at the St. Johns Community Center.

On Saturday, October 25th, Downtown St. Johns businesses will be hosting a trick-or-treating event from 1-3pm.

Richard Colvin- On December 7th is St. Johns Winterfest. There will be a tree lighting, caroling, and other activities. The proceeds benefit Community of Hope.

Babs- On the Saturday before Thanksgiving, November 22nd, there will be a grass-roots clean up in St. Johns. More information to be shared as it becomes available.

The meeting is adjourned at 8:33pm.