

# St Johns Neighborhood Association General Meeting

19<sup>th</sup> November 2012 - 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm  
St Johns Community Center, N Central St., Portland, Oregon 97203

*Minutes submitted by Stephanie Lynn Acevedo, Secretary SJNA Board Member*

Jennifer Levy, co-Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. Board members present were Emilie Saks-Webb, Babs Adamski, Stephanie Acevedo, Michael Sisler, Gil Luzader and Gloria Luzader. There were no Board members absent. Approximately fifteen citizens and eight Board members are present for the meeting.

Introductions and the evening question was “What are you most thankful for?”

Minutes were read by those present and corrections were made. Babs Adamski motioned to accept the amended minutes; Michael Sisler motioned to second; this was agreed to unanimously by voice vote.

Babs made the **Treasurer’s Report**: \$1,182.36 in checking; \$1,015.79 in the CD; \$1,138.71 pending reimbursement from city; assets total \$3,336.86. Shamus Lynskys asks the cost of the Winter Social; about \$500-600. An effort will be made this year to recoup some monies if not turn a profit.

**Angela Wagnon, Neighborhood Crime Prevention Coordinator**, spoke of meeting with Officer Sharpe for approximately two hours. The biggest concerns are:

- Truck enforcement;
- Street drinking/over-serving/public intoxication; and,
- Drugs being sold in the parking lot behind Anna Bannana’s.

Emilie encourages people to call the OLCC with complaints and concerns so they can “come down on” businesses. On that note, Jennifer and Emilie will be going around to all St Johns businesses to introduce themselves.

Teresa Marchetti of **OLCC** is the contact and there is an online form for complaints: “Time, Place & Manner.” A link will be posted to the SJNA website as well as the Facebook page. Angela mentioned that Officer Sharpe is a great resource, and is passionate about his trust in the community.

Babs mentioned that Officer Huong was enforcing speed limits and mentioned the Neighborhood Response Team. This is bad info; they are no longer a resource. The Portland Police Traffic Division will operate out of the North Precinct 24/7.

A public information officer was injured by a tree during training.

Gil Luzader states that the public hearing for the **OLCC licensing of the new 7-eleven** will be first or second week of December; Babs states the date is December 13-14. Teresa Marchetti is the contact. The Board has submitted comments individually. Gil has talked to George, Corporate Manager of 7-eleven, twice; they're trying to keep clean and will sponsor a garbage can near their location. [Captured By Porches withdrew their application; Joe Adamski says they need to improve their "good neighbor" policies.] Babs requests an official Board statement against 7-eleven and/or (Jen) strict "good neighbor" policy adherence. A straw vote is called for general endorsement of official Board stance; Gil asks for recognition and comments that not all Board members agree. Angela states that 7-eleven does have their license but that it is currently up for renewal; Gil clarifies that it is a temporary license, up for renewal in December. Em seconds motion; there is one nay.

ODOT regarding **traffic issues around Tyler & Polk** (the ACE Hardware/Grocery Outlet/Dollar Tree development): Shelli Romero states a traffic study was done to determine the impact of the new businesses; there has been a large increase, especially in pedestrian traffic. Sue D'Agnese states that ODOT takes a special look at "pedestrian destinations" and they are sending a report to the state with three-day counts (which is quite extensive). Tyler had the most traffic, peaking at 100 per hour. ODOT is returning next month for a full-team study to determine recommended improvements. Emilie & Jennifer are pushing this through; the fear is that an accident is inevitable. No funds have been identified yet for the improvements.

Babs mentions last year's National Safety Report; does that help us access federal funds? Stephanie asks whether Main Street/PDC funds would be available. Joe Adamski states that Lombard is the Hwy 30 by-pass; does that indicate/qualify for anything? We want "pedestrian improvements," which does not necessarily mean crosswalks.

The first phase of the **public art project** will be a mural on the wall of the Grocery Outlet.

The **Winter Social** will be the last Saturday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, from 5:00 to 8:00 PM at the Community Center. More volunteers are needed; Babs is coordinating.

Gloria: entertainment (possibly a trio and a piano player)

Jennifer: raffle

Emilie: publicity (Stephanie will assist)

Babs: food (Gil & CJ will assist)

Gil: donations, raffle, food

**NET** informs when and how to help someone as well as how to assess risk and personal safety; there will be a training in Spring (flyers distributed). The organization needs new members. St Johns has a population of 15,500; need 500 trained persons for a ratio of 31:1, currently have only 17. The worst case scenario is that a disaster along the Juan de Fuco/San Andreas fault line; “disaster” is defined as not having enough resources to meet need. Jennifer states that Gil and Gloria are forming a new committee for public safety. Gil asks if NET will have a table at the Winter Social? Yes. Also, what cool supplies will be provided for training? Hat, vest, fire extinguisher, etc. Jennifer asks how long the training course is? Seven weeks, three hours per week, plus three-hour final exercise. Judy mentions that the training is most helpful for emotional preparedness. March 13<sup>th</sup> is a “Map Your Neighborhood” event.

CJ Doxsee, Chair of **Land Use**, updates the group that the Open House for St Louis/Fessenden traffic improvements will be Wednesday Dec 12<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 8:00 PM at the Community Center. The session will be bilingual and childcare will be provided. The purpose is to finalize a plan to submit to Metro Council for funding. Shamus Lynsky mentions the need to compete for funds with other city projects and the importance of neighbor buy-in. The SJNA will create and distribute a bilingual flyer for the open house.

Sean Ongley of **The Yellow House** showed a presentation of the changes they have made for their Music Arts Studio Community Open Workshop or MASCOW. There will be an open house the last Friday of November, and they may have a booth at the Winter Social.

Jennifer Levy adjourned the meeting at 8:30PM.

**PSAC November 28th, 2012    Kenton Firehouse, 2209 N Schofield 7:00 - 9:00pm**

**November 2012, North Portland Public Safety Action Committee (PSAC) Report**

**Gloria Luzader, St. Johns Neighborhood Association, At-Large Board Member**

Angela Wagnon introduced the new Crime Prevention Coordinator, Sara Hussein. She was formerly with Commissioner Amanda Fritz's office for 4 years. Angela and Sara will share the north neighborhoods. St Johns will still have Angela. Yea!

There are some young women again walking/working the neighborhoods in North, going door to door, asking for money and/or food. Their story is that they have just lost their job and have nothing. They have a backpack on and are pulling a small roller suitcase. They are dressed nicely and the backpack and suitcase look new. The thought is that they are casing the neighborhood for homes where people are out. The police advice is to call 503-823-3333 to report the activity BUT, if they are seen walking up a driveway or in a back yard, that is a 911 call.

There are a lot of people in our community who do need help but there are many people who are just plain con artists. Keep alert. 'Tis the Season to be jolly?

Clay Neal from the mayor's office said good-bye. With a new mayor, Charlie Hales, coming in, Clay is not sure where he will be. We gave him a round of applause for always being at the meetings so we could give him input which he would give to the mayor.

The community policing office in Kenton is negotiating a new lease. But the rumor is that the building owner wants to lease to a business to add to the vitality of Kenton. Since the Traffic Division is moving to St Johns in the old St Johns City Hall it is suggested that this will be enough police presence in North Portland. But it was also suggested that the community policing office be moved to the old St Johns City Hall. (Note: with the traffic officers (motorcycles and patrol cars) moving to and from St Johns on a regular basis, it will behoove us all in North Portland to watch our speed and driving habits. The word is that the traffic officers will stop and write a ticket to their mothers, wives, and/or grandmothers.)

The patrol cars have a new electronic device on board. It reads license plates. If the plate comes up as "stolen car," the car is pulled over. Last year without this device – 6 stolen cars were pulled over, so far in 2012, 47 cars have been recovered.

Street crimes on Hayden Island seem to be decreasing. The OLCC, the Lottery and the street crimes officers are working close together. Residents on Hayden Island/Jantzen Beach really keep their eyes open. They have 911 on their speed dials. No new information on the Thunder Bird fire. Commander Leloff is very tight lipped on the subject. ATF is on the case.

New psychological evaluations for all Portland police recruits. Dr. David Corey is the city psychiatrist and works with the background investigators before the officer is off probation. It is acknowledged that a few not qualified recruits have slipped through in the past years. This is all being reviewed.

If you have a situation in your neighborhood that you are not sure how to address – come to the PSAC meeting and express your concerns. There is always time at the end of the meeting for announcements and/or general complaining. Sometimes this is when the police and the citizens find out about situations and/or problems in the North Portland community.

No December meeting because of many holidays. January meeting is January 23rd, 2013 at the old Firehouse in Kenton, 7pm.

Gloria Bouchor Luzader, St Johns Neighborhood Association Board Member, [gluzader2001@yahoo.com](mailto:gluzader2001@yahoo.com)