

## **RNA October General Meeting 2013 Minutes**

Chair Paul M. called the October 8, 2013 General Meeting to order at 7:04 pm.  
Approximately thirty-nine (39) people were in attendance

**Board members present:** Ted Carlston, Angela Carpenter, David Drouin, Denise Gorrell, Nancy Mensch, Paul Mooring, Melinda Palmer, Bob Price, Linda Row, Peggy Sullivan, Lindsey Wise, and Julia Wojciechowski.

**Neighbors Present:** Approximately twenty-four (24) people.

**Volunteers Present:** Kathleen Blevins, Nancy Fredricks and Catherine Wilson.

**Additions to the Agenda:** International Business District Update; Kakumyo Lowe-Charde, with a Dharma Rain Zen Center (DRZC) Update.

**Approval of the September 2013 Board Meeting Minutes:** Paul M. moved and Lindsay W. seconded. Motion carried with the following correction noted:

- On page 4: substitute Glenhaven Park for Wellington Park

**Treasurer's report:** Linda R. reported \$10,732.06 in the bank.

### **CURRENT BUSINESS:**

#### **CNN Update:**

- Catherine W. attended the October CNN meeting and reported the following:
  - Portland has a new Office of the Ombudsman (run by the City Auditor's Office), to advocate for residents having problems with a city agency. Margie Sollinger is the Ombudsman.
  - Staff reporter from Oregonian (Stacy Parks) wants to hear from various the neighborhood associations.
  - On October 10, there will be a meeting at Hollywood Senior Center regarding the construction of a new four storey apartment building on NE 41<sup>st</sup> (between NE Broadway and NE Halsey) that lacks parking.
  - CNN is no longer receiving small grants for neighborhood use.
  - Portland Urgent Care (at NE Fremont and NE Sandy) is offering inexpensive CPR classes.
  - CNN made a \$100 donation to the Sisters of the Road Café in honor of Lee Perlman.
  - All neighborhood association board members must sign a conflict of interest waiver form and return it to CNN.

#### **Land Use Update:**

- Bob P. attended the October LUTOP meeting and reported the following:
  - Tom Armstrong of the Portland Bureau of Planning & Sustainability presented a study on the gentrification of Portland. The study is not yet

- complete, but he introduced what the Bureau is doing and how.
- Bob P. reported that one-half (1/2) of the Roseway Neighborhood is in a gentrified district, but the other one-half (1/2) is not.
  - Bob P. stated that he will post a link to the study to the RNA website.
  - Bob P. also reported that Nan Stark is the new NE District Planner and he would like to invite her to a future meeting to discuss planning services for the Roseway Neighborhood
  - Bob P. also reported on the perceived proliferation of medical marijuana businesses in CNN neighborhoods and that other neighborhoods may have found that where a medical marijuana dispensary has moved in, local crime has gone up in its immediate vicinity.
    - Bob P. stated that he has contacted a crime specialist for CNN to help identify any trends around the medical marijuana dispensaries in the Roseway Neighborhood and see what comes out of it.
  - Bob P. next reported that three (3) Fix-It Fairs are coming up:
    - November 23 at Parkrose High School.
    - July 25 at Rosa Parks Elementary School.
    - February 22 at David Douglas Highschool (which will be in Spanish).

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**International Business District:**

- Catherine W. discussed the renewed interest from neighbors and business owners to revive the International Business District. There will be a meeting in October (TBD) at US Bank on NE Freemont.

**BOARD ELECTIONS:**

**Board Member Positions:**

- Current Board Members Nancy M., Angela C., Julia W. and Jessica E. (not present) each nominated themselves to continue as Board Members.
  - All current Board Members were re-elected by acclimation with no opposition.
- Paul M. stated there were two (2) new Board Member positions available and opened the floor to nominations:
  - Neighbor Mark Sandri nominated himself. Nomination seconded by Paul M. and Peggy S. The Board elected Mr. Sandri by unanimous consent.
  - No other nominations for the remaining Board Member position put forward.

**Officer Positions: Vice Chair and Secretary**

- **Vice Chair:**
  - Ted C. nominated himself for position of Vice Chair. Nomination seconded by Paul M. No other nominations for Vice Chair put forward and the Board elected Ted C. by unanimous consent.
- **Secretary:**
  - Paul M. nominated Nancy M. for another term as Secretary. Lindsay W.

seconded the nomination. No other nominations for Secretary put forward and the Board re-elected Nancy M. by unanimous consent.

### **SPEAKERS:**

#### Fritz Hirsch (Chair of Montavilla Neighborhood Association):

- Mr. Hirsch asked for the Association's support to improve the area along NE 82<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and brought a letter of support for the Association to sign.
  - Effort called the 82<sup>nd</sup> Avenue Improvement Coalition. The coalition is separate from neighborhood associations, but will hopefully work with them.
- Peggy S. asked Mr. Hirsch if coalition board members must also be a neighborhood association board members?
  - Mr. Fritz answered no.
- Paul M. asked the Association whether it should sign the support letter tonight or table it for later discussion.
  - Ted C. asked for more information from Mr. Hirsch and for the Association to discuss the letter at the November meeting. Peggy S. and Bob P. concurred.
  - Paul M. stated that he will e-mail a copy of the letter to the Board Members.

#### Sheri Schneider (Montavilla Food Co-Op) with Diana Scholl:

- Ms. Schneider and Ms. Scholl discussed the concept of food co-ops in general and for the proposed Montevilla Co-Op, which is in the development stage. Ms. Schneider and Ms. Scholl wish raise awareness of the project, solicit new members and look for opportunities to work with the Roseway Neighborhood Association.
- Ms. Schneider stated that there is no "store" yet, and it may not be located inside the Montavilla Neighborhood.
- Catherine W. asked what is the membership fee.
  - Ms. Schneider and Ms. Scholl reported that lifetime membership costs start at \$25 for a partial share and go up to \$125 for a full membership share.
- Catherine W. also asked if the Co-Op will be staffed by volunteers or by paid staff.
  - Ms. Schneider responded that it will be staffed on a volunteer basis for now, but there may be paid staff in the future.
- Angela C. asked if they had any time frame for opening the Co-Op.
  - Ms. Schneider answered that it will hopefully open within the next year, but a marketability and feasibility study must be done first.

#### Andee Short (Legislative Assistant to Sen. Jackie Dingfelder) and Logan Gilles (Chief Policy Advisor to Rep. Michael Dembrow):

- Ms. Short and Mr. Gilles introduced themselves to the Association and Neighbors to let the Association and Neighbors know that Sen. Dingfelder and Rep. Dembrow want to be resources for each.
- Paul M. asked if Sen. Dingfelder and Rep. Dembrow had any comments regarding the September bicycling town hall.
  - Ms. Short stated that there will be another bicycling town hall again soon.
- Ms. Short stated that a town hall meeting will be held on October 16 at the IRCO building regarding the implementation of new health care act.

- Paul M. stated he will post information on that meeting on the RNA website.

Jim Bitner (Roseway and Radon):

- Mr. Bitner spoke on Radon levels in the Roseway Neighborhood in order to raise awareness about the dangers of Radon; how to test for it; and how to mitigate the dangers.
  - A Neighbor stated that free radon kits are available at the Fix-It Fairs.

Addie Lindstrom – update on Flower to the People:

- Paul M. stated that he asked Ms. Lindstrom for an update about the ongoing zoning issues for the property.
- Ms. Lindstrom reported that fines are ongoing (because the property is zoned for residential use; and not because of the tenant) and that the city working very slowly.
  - Ms. Lindstrom reiterated her desire to foster good relations with the Neighborhood and asked what she can do to improve neighbor relations.
- Bob P. stated that, per City Commissioner Amanda Fritz, the purpose of the fines is to encourage compliance, not penalize or shut down the business, and suggested that Ms. Lindstrom contact her office.
  - Ms. Short suggested contacting Sen. Dingfelder’s office as well.
  - Catherine W. suggested contacting Ms. Sollinger at the Office of the Ombudsman.

Kakumyo Lowe-Charde, Dharma Rain Zen Center (DRZC) Update:

- Mr. Lowe- Charde gave the Association a construction update: heavy construction work will start this fall, but most of the construction will begin next summer.
  - Mr. Lowe- Charde also reported that the DRZC is building a bike path through the property, and asked for Association support for future projects (which he will present at later meetings).
- Bob P. asked if the DRZC is still holding work parties.
  - Mr. Lowe- Charde responded yes. The next work party will be on October 12 and 13, from 10 am to 4pm. More work parties will follow, including tree plantings.

Paul M. adjourned the meeting at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Nancy M.