

North Gresham Neighborhood Association Board Meeting
Monday, October 21, 2019, 6:00 PM
Clubroom of Rockwood Village Condos
18550 NE Wasco St. Portland Oregon, 97230

AGENDA:

Call to order 18:06

Establish quorum – Attendance Mike Elston, Alesya Berkovich, Linda Van Deusen-Price, Linda Parashos, John Weigant, Kim Kovacs

Minutes from the September 16 meeting were approved (Linda Van Deusen-Price motioned approval, Mike Elston seconded, unanimously approved).

Land Use Planning:

- Willie June was absent, so Linda Parashos gave a brief report about a three-story building of 31 units going in at 845 NE 181st, which is in the Wilkes East neighborhood. It's been on the books for three or four years and has gone through review after review.
- Linda P, Willie and Mike will meet to go through the ins and outs of Land Use. Linda has gone through and deleted documents and information that is no longer needed. She still needs Willie's address.

Annual Meeting review

- Linda P felt the annual meeting went great, and that everyone was impressed with the officers. She mentioned they'd rather stay on as part of the NET team but are being reassigned to patrol.
- Mike called Anthony Bradley at Play Grow Learn and learned he'd had a family crisis and so was unable to attend the annual meeting. His backup, Germaine Flentroy, is passionate about the group, and would be more than willing to work with us to bring groups to Kirk Park. Mike asked him to contact the educator's union/teacher's union. Germaine would like to have the school coaches involved. Mike has re-invited them to the spring meeting.
- The other group Mike would like to have at the spring meeting is Latino Network.
- Alesya mentioned there's a new principal at Hartley that's much friendlier and willing to help. She'll assist us with getting notices out. We'd asked the last principal to put an announcement in their newsletter, but she didn't.

Park Project update

- Mike went over the additional equipment we're hoping to get. He's particularly interested in a "mobile global" stand-alone piece, like a huge ball. We have a typical playground designed but in most places there's also a stand-alone structure.
- The Kaboom! people called Mike to find out how it's going. Mike updated them on the playground status. They may back the addition of a hard court next year.
- Mike will approach US Bank and the railroad again next year; it should be easier to get support, now that we have a 501(c)3.
- We're in good shape right now; the vendor's planning a shallow dig, then the concrete, then chips on top. If there are boulders under there, they said they can probably work around it. They're going down 9" from the surface.
- Alesya wanted to know if they'll be moving the big rock. Mike said they'll definitely keep it in the park, but it might have to move a little for the wellhead.
- Mike added that once the money is in place, the vendor will farm out jobs. Anything he can do ahead of time, he will. Once the structure is put together, chips have to be put in before it's usable.
- Linda Van Deusen-Price asked about swings. Mike answered that regular swings are really expensive, because they require a lot of room. They're looking at an "oodle swing" instead – a round swing with a

net bottom. He's waiting on a price for it; we may be able to afford it with the extra money he's expecting to come in.

- Mike mentioned the wood chips would be about \$40/cubic yard. That sounded high to folks, but Mike said it's what the city uses, especially since it's "clean." We don't know how much we'll need at this point. Linda V asked about using rubber fill, but Mike thought it would be more expensive, plus, as wet as it is around here, wood is better than rubber. Kim and Alesya also felt that wood was more sustainable than rubber, with Alesya adding that the rubber gets moved off the surface just as easily as the wood chips. Linda P asked about the city's involvement with the wood chips. Mike said the city people were at the table, and they're giving us their discount.
- Linda P asked if there was money available for benches. Mike responded that yes, they've received a breakdown for benches and tables, with prices quoted for 4', 6' and 8' combinations. Linda V asked if the benches are attached to the tables; Mike said yes. They need to go on a concrete surface. Posts go into the concrete to secure the equipment. They're right around \$1,000 for a 4' table with attached benches, made of aluminum and plastic. The benches are stretched steel, and Linda P asked if those were benches like the ones at the Main City Park. Mike said that backed benches (no tables) are \$500-\$600 each for the smaller ones. He didn't think we needed many, maybe four? The group agreed with that number. John W. asked about graffiti on the equipment. Mike said that's why we're going with metal instead of wood; it's difficult to get the graffiti off the wood, plus it rots. With this type, the graffiti comes right off. Linda P wondered whether the benches would attract homeless people? Mike said that buying the shorter benches will help.
- Linda asked about the possibility of a plaque. Mike noted that Ben Sanford from Ross Recreation said he'd put any plaques up for us.
- Linda P asked about timing – we're shooting for spring now, correct? Mike said yes. Joe Walsh, Senior Manager for Neighborhood Prosperity and Youth Engagement for the city of Gresham, convinced Wells Fargo to wait. He was worried it would end up being a mud hole if we started during the rainy season, and no one would want to be out there. Plus the temperature could be too low to allow the concrete to cure. So there's no problem waiting until early spring.

NGNA Goals for 2020 – Tabled until next meeting

Clarification of roles – Linda V was concerned about who's responsibility it is to get the postcards out & coordinate with Lina. Linda P did it last time, but going forward Kim will handle it. Linda P will be Kim's backup, should Kim be out of town.

Are we meeting in December? – No.

NNO Survey Results: Compiled by John Parashos – Deferred to November meeting

Other business?

- We discussed the need to put a letter together for the Wood Village Fred Meyer thanking them for their help. Kim will draft one up. Linda created an awesome looking letterhead, which she'll get to Kim. Kim will send out the letter this week.
- Linda V suggested sending a letter to all our partners (Pella, Wells Fargo, etc.). Mike said we'd do that, once the Wells Fargo grant is finalized.
- Linda P mentioned that at Wilkes East, Kelle Landavazo, the city's Emergency Management Coordinator, had a great presentation on emergency preparedness. She's like us to keep Kelle in mind for the spring meeting
- Office Chris Watkins from NET hinted to Linda P that the NET team would like to do another city cleanup on 183rd. Linda said she's in favor of that, but the city will need to help organize the dumpsters. Mike said this would be a good opportunity for the spring. Linda would like to hold this before they're transferred; she'll find out when that'll be. She thought it was a huge success last time.

Meeting adjourned 6:53 (Linda V made the motion; Mike seconded; unanimous vote to adjourn).

Next Board meeting is Monday, November 18, 2019 at 6:00 PM at the clubroom of Rockwood Village Condos,
18550 NE Wasco St. Portland Oregon, 97230

Adjourn Meeting