

**NWNA Board Meeting
January 13, 2021 board minutes**

The meeting was held via Zoom, and was called to order at 7:10 p.m.

Kat, Barb, John, Chris, Naomi, and Dave were present.

The November 19, 2020 meeting minutes were approved with one correction.

Ideas for February 8 general meeting presenters:

Kat said she likes Chris's idea to have an **earthquake preparedness presenter** at our upcoming general meeting in February. Chris said he did reach out to a possible presenter but has not heard yet. Kat suggested Brit as a presenter to speak about the value and importance of the **urban tree canopy**. Kat also said it might be nice to invite a **new city councilor**. Barb suggested inviting the **new Gresham City mayor** to speak. Chris also suggested inviting a **master gardener** to present. Kat said that we need to solidify our agenda so we can get it out to neighbors in advance of our February 8 general meeting.

Rain Garden:

Kat said she is concerned about the giant sequoia tree that is being affected by water pooling up more than it did before the rain garden was built last year. It is possible that the rain garden might need to be extended to the west, but Kat isn't convinced that that would solve the problem. According Sue with the parks department, she thinks the tree is resilient to water flooding. Sue did ask that we pick up sticks in the park and move them over to the bench at the east side of the park at Fourth and Bella Vista. Kat suggested we have a park clean up, which would also add to our volunteer hours. Dave will send out an announcement for a park clean up event this Saturday, January 16, at 9:00 a.m.

Chris shared this link: <https://emswcd.org/workshops-and-events/upcoming-workshops/> about a free nature scaping workshop coming up.

Land-use:

Regarding the Shaull property, John said he dug up the will and appraisal to understand what has happened with the sale/history of the property. He said First People artifacts have been discovered on the property, which might affect the sale and future use.

Vance Park/Industrial area, the county does not know what they want to do with the site. Multnomah County's public outreach team will be reaching out to the public, probably an online questionnaire, etc., sometime this year.

Regarding the development along Bella Vista Park, John said he might look into what the plan is for drainage of storm water.

Park bench update:

Kat received an email with an invoice for the new park benches. She reached out to the company and received shipping and tracking info, she shared that with Parks. They should arrive tomorrow, January 14, at the city's maintenance office. John suggested we ask for an installation timeline before our February meeting so we can make a report.

Historical panel:

We have until March 15 to write our copy and submit images for the historical panel. Barb shared a 1975 photo that she was able to obtain from a neighbor.

Community enhancement grant:

Naomi talked about options for upcoming grant application ideas. The next application is due at the end of this year (2021). Now is the time for us to think about and prepare to apply. She explained the application guidelines. The deadline was December 15 last year.

To gain ideas Naomi suggested we solicit ideas from neighbors in February and March, and that we present researched ideas to neighbors by September/October and bring it to a vote during our general meeting in October.

John suggested Naomi make this presentation at the Feb. 8 meeting. John and Kat provided some helpful feedback to make the presentation clearer.

Account balance: \$2,389.67

Activity: Rockwood Water deposit for the bench, then Naomi made the payment for the two benches.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:41 p.m.