

Northwest Olympia Neighborhood Association Board Meeting Minutes

Date & Time: Monday, January 17, 2005, 6:30 p.m.

Place: 214 Sherman St NW

Present: Margaret Barrette, Greg Black, Tom Connor, Steve Drutz, Marla Kentfield, Karin Kraft, Hugh O'Neill, Lyle Tribwell

Absent Board member: Erica Guttman

1. Call to Order, Public Communications

Tom called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m. There were no public communications.

2. Approval of Meeting Agenda – Approved with addition of discussion of appropriate recognition of contributions of former president and NWONA founding member Larry Leveen.

3. Minutes Approval for November 20, 2004 Board Meeting - Approved. Tom sent a copy of our annual meeting minutes and a current board member roster to Nancy Lenzi at Olympia City Hall. He and Hugh O'Neill are listed as representatives to receive City notifications. Marla agreed that as secretary she would maintain the official records for NWONA. She will contact Cathy Butler, the City's communications manager, to determine if there are any specific records retention requirements for neighborhood associations and will contact Larry to obtain any past records.

4. Commitment Review of 11/20 meeting – Completed as noted in Committee reports.

5. Treasurer's Report – Steve presented a draft budget for 2005. Budget was balanced to expected income (dues and Garfield Overlook Grant carryover). There are approximately 80 members on our membership role, but all may not have paid dues for 2005 and some families chose to pay for only one person to have a paid (voting) membership. Membership recruitment, grants, or other fund-raising avenues can be pursued if budget needs exceed income expectation. Approval of a budget was tabled pending additional committee input.

The new signature form for our account must still be submitted plus a notarized form from Larry Leveen authorizing the new signatories. Steve will assure the form is submitted this week.

6. Committee Reports:

Communications – No meeting held. Marla, Lyle, and city employee Jonathon Turlove will have keys to the kiosk. Marla will work with Larry on updates to the website.

Land Use – Garfield Nature Trail Overlook (GNT0) – Design has been approved. Lyle will get two more copies of the design, one for poster board displays at future NWONA meetings and one for archive. The city wants GNT0 interpretive sign done by the artist who did the Watershed Park signs. Funding for the sign isn't included in the grant and the city wants to wait until at least this fall for installation. Volunteers are needed particularly for fence post installation. Marla agreed to check with the Kiwanis Club of Olympia. Land Use Committee member, Angel, agreed to coordinate neighborhood volunteers. The board agreed that NWONA would cover cost of refreshments for volunteers. More money also may be

required for fence posts. Teachers at Garfield School are willing to have their kids help with planting of native plants to be obtained through the Thurston Conservation District, perhaps as rooted stem cuttings. Tom asked that all costs and volunteer contributions (hours and/or dollars) be tracked.

Land Use Committee meeting - Lyle, Angel Przybylowicz, and Elsie Higgins met to discuss 2005 goals which include continued advocating for a Woodard bike/walk path, championing the street tree program, tree maintenance, power line/tree issues, noxious weeds, greenbelts, code enforcement such as non-working vehicles in yards, yard sales, sidewalk clearing, and renter issues. Lyle will continue to teach a 6-week and 3-week native plant course at Garfield School. Glenn noted that downtown isthmus zoning (Bayview to fountain) may arise this next year and also might deserve NWONA attention.

Social & Recreation – No meeting held. Hugh suggested that NWONA may be able to join with other neighborhood groups for events, such as the Mariah School street chalk art event, a joint event with South West association, and events with Garfield School.

Transportation & Safety – The committee met twice to discuss goals. Angel Przybylowicz has agreed to take on the issue of neighborhood emergency planning. The committee will also track progress on the Bowman and Rogers traffic calming projects. Some committee ideas include a membership recruitment element such as sponsoring an alternative transportation contest for members only (with prize awarded via raffle of all member entrants). They would also like to use the Kiosk to promote carpooling options. They also questioned how to generate letters signed by NWONA president/board on transportation/safety issues.

7. New Business

Recognition of past president Larry Leveen – The board discussed appropriate form of recognition for the significant contribution that Larry has made to NWONA. Tom agreed to talk to Larry to assure that there would be no ethics conflict given Larry's current position on the Planning Commission. Hugh will check pricing for a recognition plaque

Treasurer position – Steve said his NW home is not yet on the market and he is willing to remain as treasurer through at least June of this year. Tom will get Larry's database of members and e-mail out a request that those interested in the position contact him.

By-Laws – Margaret agreed to draft recommended by-law revisions including a specific mission statement and possible restatement of NWONA boundaries. This could also clarify when/how NWONA initiates official statements/letters on issues. Karin Kraft, Transportation/Safety chair, is willing to be a board member, but our by-laws don't allow the board to designate new directors. Karin was encouraged to attend all board meetings which are open to any NWONA members.

Brainstorm NWONA goals for 2005 – Discussion was tabled for special meeting Feb. 21, 6:30 p.m., at 214 Sherman St NW. Quarterly meeting topics such as a presentation on the port will also be discussed. Committee Chairs were encouraged to invite members to attend.

Wireless (Cell Tower) Ordinance – At a Neighborhood Associations Presidents meeting in November the two major issues were graffiti which costs tens of thousands of dollars in

damage annually and cell tower placement ordinance. Tom presented a position statement and letter to the city council from the Eastside Neighborhood. Eastside would like other associations to join them in requesting review and update of wireless ordinances. Tom will draft a similar letter from NWONA for review and approval at the March meeting. Directors were encouraged to read the current ordinance which should be posted on the city's website.

NWONA's West Bay Drive Statement – Tom suggested that NWONA's November 13, 2000 position statement should be updated and presented a number of ideas that he has vetted with Mort James, Sarah Smyth, Councilman Joe Heyer, parks employee Dave Hannah and others. He is particularly interested in this issue after attending a November 20 public review of the West Bay Drive corridor transportation (road, sidewalks, bike path) plans. Board members explained the extensive review process and neighborhood involvement that went in to the original statement. There was also uncertainty as to whether the roadway planning provided an appropriate point to change position since the primary West Bay vision and re-zoning plans have been set. Tom will check on potential breadth of current planning efforts and how to best submit input.

8. Review of Commitments taken at this meeting

Marla – Check with city on any records retention requirements for neighborhood associations. Work with Larry on website updates. Ask for GNTTO project assistance from Olympia Kiwanis.

Tom – Obtain copy of membership and mailing database from Larry. Send out e-mail to members asking for volunteers for the position of NWONA treasurer beginning this summer. Check with Larry about any restrictions on our presenting some form of recognition. Prepare letter on cell tower ordinance for March meeting. Check on process for input to West Bay Drive planning.

Steve – Submit paperwork to change signatories on NWONA bank account.

Lyle – Obtain 2 copies of GNTTO plan for NWONA use. Track costs, volunteer hours and contributions for GNTTO project.

Hugh – Check on cost of a recognition plaque.

Margaret – Draft revision to by-laws for March meeting.

9. **Meeting Evaluation & Next Meeting/Draft Agenda** – There was very good participation from all. It was suggested that Tom turn over chairing the meeting to Hugh when he is presenting a topic.

The February 21 meeting will be dedicated to goals discussion.

The March 21 meeting agenda will include review of by-laws, recognition for Larry, approval of budget and position on cell tower ordinance.