

Northwest Olympia Neighborhood Association Board Meeting Minutes

Date & Time: Monday, December 19, 2005, 6:30 p.m.

Place: 214 Sherman St NW

Present: Greg Black, Tom Connor, Carol Juris, Marla Kentfield, David Mitchell, Ethan Schaffer and Lyle Tribwell Absent board members: Diane Gaile, Jonah Hankin-Rappaport, Karin Kraft, Barbara Oswald, Angel Pryzbylowicz

1. **Call to Order, Public Communications** - Tom called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m.
2. **Approval of Meeting Agenda** – Approved.
3. **Minutes Approval** – November minutes approved as corrected to indicate Ethan was present and correct month of next meeting. Minutes of the annual meeting and October 17 meeting were also approved. Tom noted that the city requires a copy of our annual meeting minutes plus the November meeting. Marla will send copies to them.
4. **Commitment review** –
There were no commitments recorded at the November meeting. Marla noted that she had received the membership database from Larry Leveen and has updated it with current information.
5. **Treasurer's Report** – David hasn't yet gotten together with Karin to transfer the records so there was no report. The revised account signature card was completed at last month's meeting.
6. **Committee Reports**
Communications - Marla will e-mail a member spreadsheet to board members so that they have a list of people interested in various committees. It was agreed that this information would only be used for committee contacts and that individual e-mail addresses would be protected (enter addressees as blind carbon copy recipients). The intersect of the secretary's duties, communications and member recruitment were discussed with suggestion that membership and communications be combined in a single committee.
Social & Recreation – Greg said their plan is to hold one event each quarter: a winter dance (see New Business discussion), perhaps a plant & seed exchange in the spring, a summer activity, and the annual meeting in the fall.
Land Use – There were Nature Trail work parties in November (including a dozen high school students with their biology teacher) and a December group of Black Hills Special Education students who helped with some planting after a tour of the park. Also in December there were 24 volunteers, mostly Olympia High school biology students, who planted 117 native trees and shrubs and removed ivy and trash from 1,436 sq ft. There has been more ivy removal plus "hog fuel" fertilizer spreading and Lyle in some cases is able to just manage the work parties versus doing the work. In addition to building the Overlook in 2005, NWONA led the clearing of 17,260 sq ft of ivy and replanting it in native plants. We have cleared a total of 25,711 sq ft since the year 2000. The ivy is now carried out of the park to the corner at Conger for pickup by a city backhoe. Work parties are scheduled for the 2nd Saturday each month from 9 am to noon.

Our new Garfield Nature Trail Overlook bench was stolen the first week of December. City staff hadn't yet been by to weld the bolts to the concrete base. The city is self-insured and unlikely to find the funds (\$800) for a replacement. Lyle will check on possibility of our replacing it with a wooden or alternative bench such as at the Garfield School intersection. David said that he has welding equipment we can use to secure a replacement bench. Motion, second and unanimous approval to provide a \$50 reward for information leading to recovery of the bench. Lyle will contact Crime Stoppers about advertising the reward. Marla will send an e-mail to the NWONA list serve asking for help with its recovery.

Transportation & Safety – Tom and Greg discussed problems with the new traffic calming roundabout on Bowman and Thomas. A homeowner on the NW corner had damage to his irrigation pipes, lawn and an adjacent tree. The project took longer than scheduled and still feels precarious for pedestrians. It was suggested that the committee could survey neighbors in the area and consider whether NWONA should provide comments to the city. Marla mentioned that the process to get calming devices used to require *lots of contacts* with affected neighbors and homeowners and took more than 2 years in the SW neighborhood. The city may now have erred on the other side in expediting the process. Ethan suggested that we could also host a forum for neighbors to discuss issues such as this and invite city staff.

7. New Business

Motion/second/approved to rename the Communications committee to Communications & Membership since these efforts are complimentary. Ethan agreed to remain as chair and all board members and other committee chairs agreed that new member recruitment should be considered part of all our projects but C&M will assist with specific recruitment efforts wherever possible.

Winter Party – It was agreed that a \$5.00 per person entry with kids free would be appropriate for the January 28 event. It will be billed as a NWONA fundraiser, with opportunity for folks to pay membership dues as well. The band will play from 8-11 and refreshments will be available for minimal cost. The Mariah Arts facility will hold about 60 people. Greg will check on any Health Department requirements if we offer soft drinks, etc. Marla will check on any insurance requirements for the event. A theme for the event is needed with suggestion by Marla of "Break out of Mid-Winter Blues".

West Bay parklands and Deschutes River estuary/Capitol Lake – These are two significant land use issues on which NWONA may want to provide official comments or position statement. The proposed estuary restoration will likely take a couple more years of research and public comment. It may be appropriate to gather NWONA input and consider submitting comments on our preferences for West Bay parkland development as early as this next year. It was agreed that the Land Use committee should consider both these issues and recommend an approach which could include forming a special ad hoc committee as we did in 2000 for the West Bay Drive development vision.

Common Neighborhood Issues – Tom said the neighborhood associations' presidents group wants to identify common issues where a joint advocacy might be useful. The traffic calming approval/design process might be one. Safety, such as eliminating any drug dealing, would be another. Marla mentioned that an issue presented at our annual meeting was how to prevent light pollution and whether neighborhoods could opt to minimize street lamps.

Angel Pryzbylowicz has submitted her resignation from the board due to new family considerations. Tom will send her a note encouraging her to stay involved with NWONA at whatever level will fit her schedule.

8. Commitments –

Marla – Send annual meeting and November minutes to the city. Send spreadsheet with members' committee interests to board members. Send e-mail about stolen bench to the list serve. Check on insurance requirements for January dance.

Lyle – Check with city on possibilities for replacement bench. Contact Crime Stoppers re \$50 reward.

Tom – Send note to Angel expressing our regret. Assure that the city has our NWONA boundaries listed correctly as to the waterfront (per our bylaws) and ask that they correct some of the published maps.

Greg – Check on any Health Department requirements for refreshments at the January dance. Inform the board members of any Social & Recreation committee meetings for further planning of the event.

- 9. Close and Next Meeting** – Marla suggested that we try to hold to our stated process to submit issues to appropriate committees for consideration. This should allow for more focused discussion at board meetings after committees come back with specific proposals. Adjourned at 8:43 p.m. The next board meeting is Monday, January 23 at 6:30 p.m.