

Northwest Olympia Neighborhood Association Board Meeting Minutes

Date & Time: Monday, June 19, 2006, 6:30 p.m.

Place: 214 Sherman St NW

Present: Greg Black, Tom Connor, Marla Kentfield, Karin Kraft, Carol Juris, David Mitchell, Ethan Schaffer and member Jacob Rosenblum. Absent: Diane Gaile, Jonah Hankin-Rappaport, and Barbara Oswald.

1. Call to Order, Public Communications - Tom called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

Sam Bradley, former member of the Olympia Design Review committee – Sam said that neighborhood association input is requested at each design review meeting but he never saw any input from them. He is unhappy with some of the design criteria such as no landscaped setbacks between buildings and sidewalks. He circulated to us pictures of various newer commercial buildings on the west side versus those with setbacks. He also mentioned the new 24x7 fitness center approved on Black Lake Boulevard (up from Penney's) will have metal siding and its back to the street, an "industrial" look. He resigned from the committee, feeling he could do more by becoming an activist and helping to provide neighborhood associations with the information they need to provide input to the process.

2. Approval of Meeting Agenda – Approved.

3. Minutes Approval – Minutes for May to be e-mailed to board for approval.

4. Commitment Review –

- Tom – Submitted article for newsletter. Sent letter to city on port's Weyerhaeuser lease.
- Greg – Submitted articles for newsletter.
- Jonah/Jacob – Submitted article for newsletter.
- Marla – Newsletter published and e-mail sent on commute contest.

5. Treasurer's Report – David presented the treasurer's report. He had an issue with WSECU requiring 2 signatures to move funds from our checking to savings. Also nobody is getting statements which should be mailed to Tom. He will try to resolve these issues. Both Tom and Karin provided receipts for reimbursement of newsletter and commute contest expenses. Marla submitted checks for 3 new members who signed up after receiving the newsletter. Plus Russ Lehman has signed up (Tom to get money to Dave, address/e-mail to Marla). The issue of 501C3 versus 501C4 corporate status was discussed. C3 limits any actions of political nature. C4 is more open but donations from members and local businesses would be taxable. C3 can take 4 months to a year for approvals.

6. Committee Reports

Communications – Communications committee hasn't met. Marla got newsletter to Karin, Tom got it printed at the city offices, and Karin found a volunteer willing to distribute for \$50. The neighborhood maps used last time (with suggested distribution subsections noted) would have been helpful. Marla suggested that any neighborhood block parties may provide a member recruiting opportunity. Karin noted that the police department should also be notified of block parties and is interested in having an officer attend to speak to neighborhood safety issues.

Social & Recreation – Greg said that Diane’s commitments have prevented her attendance at board meetings but that she is still willing to offer her facility for events and does want to attend and assist at NWONA events. Greg will check with any Health Department requirements for the neighborhood picnic in September. We discussed the possibility of activity at picnic such as inviting the fire department, police, or Red Cross. If Greg needs any assistance with planning prior to our next board meeting, he will contact us by e-mail.

Land Use – Port – There was a motion, seconded and carried to post our letter, the city’s response and Jerry Parker’s contact information on our website and send an e-mail to our list suggesting that members get involved as they feel appropriate. The city responded to our letter. The new office and shop buildings have been approved by the city. Tom will contact Tom Hill re the lighting appeal to determine what additional action we might take. It has been ruled based on independent report that there is no significant traffic impact or need for mitigation. Jerry and his group of concerned citizens will appeal the ruling on July 7. They have also paid \$200 to appeal the paving plan and \$200 to appeal the lighting plans.

There was a motion and second to donate \$200 to Jerry Parker for his efforts in challenging the port on their lack of public process regarding Weyerhaeuser lease arrangements and related port improvements. The motion carried with Marla Kentfield abstaining.

Garfield Trail – It’s open! A group of volunteers was cleaning out ivy last weekend.

Committee chair – This position is open with Lyle’s resignation.

Spaces Used for Public Enjoyment & Recreation (SUPER) – The May 16 potluck planning session was well attended and improvement plans for the Jackson Street area are continuing.

Transportation & Safety – Commuter Contest (\$1800 city grant) – The June 5 sign-up deadline on the initial notices was a problem. Karin is allowing entries throughout the contest and also allowing entry by folks outside NWONA. Lisanne Rolle and Bruce Coulter are still on this committee and assisting with the contest. STEPS – Karin submitted the qualifying grant but cannot manage this project. There have been difficulties getting signed contract and problems with contracting for assistance. Russ Lehman has agreed to work pro bono for now. Announcement of the program is planned for a Garfield Elementary May 21 general assembly. Erica Guttman, Tom Connor, Russ Lehman and Linda Steward will attend. Linda said they are still encouraged that this could be a great 3-year sustainable contract/project.

7. **Old Business** - None

8. **New Business**

Olympia Design Reviews – We agreed with Sam’s invitation to provide us with information on project design reviews. Tom will draft a letter to Sam. We will ask that information be sent to the board’s list serve and then determine how to best inform the membership.

Garfield ball field – There have been on-going problems with dog poop left on the field. Tom said NWONA has been asked to provide any assistance we can in encouraging responsible pet ownership. Joe Hyer will be speaking to the issue at the neighborhood association presidents’ meeting. Three doggy bag kiosks will be erected by the baseball associations using the field. The dog catcher doesn’t work weekends or after 5. Much of the problem is people letting their dogs roam and not people who use the fields for off leash play.

Neo Nazi literature – This small group of racists is gearing up for their planned July 3 rally. Some members of our community found literature in their driveways. We agreed that NWONA should send an e-mail supporting the efforts of the Unity in the Community group who are planning counter demonstrations showing the inclusiveness practiced in our community. As our Safety committee chair, Karin volunteered to contact them.

9. Commitments –

- Tom – Contact Tom Hill at city to see what options we have to comment on proposed port lighting changes. Draft letter to Sam Bradley. **Get kiosk key from Lyle and send thank you letter (cc to city). Check with association presidents (meeting late June) on 501C4 status and event liability insurance.**
- Greg – **Send thank you to Batdorf & Bronson and San Francisco Bakery. Check with Garfield on end of October annual meeting date. Check with city on September 16 picnic at Woodruff Park.**
- Karin – Get a thank you card for Lyle.
- Marla – Notice to Olympian and radios on commute contest. **Draft a NWONA letterhead design. Status of un-cashed \$100 Key Club check. Letter to members re participation. Post agenda on website. Check with city staff on website access.**
- **Committee Chairs – Consider budget needs for this year.**

10. Meeting Review and Next Meeting – Meeting adjourned at 8:30. We agreed to take a month off but handle any business via e-mail in the interim. The next board meeting is Monday, August 21 at 6:30 p.m.