

NWONA Board of Directors Minutes: Nov 2, 2009

Attending: Paula Connelley, Jerry Parker, Mary Nelson, Alice Lind, Kahlil Provo, Robin Ivey-Black, Robin Levin, Beth Provo, Kendra Sawyer, Kari Ann Holcomb, Jeff Holcomb, Steve Conway

1. Election of Officers; President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. All currently serving officers re-elected to their positions: Robin as President, Kendra as Vice-President, Mary as Treasurer, Alice as Secretary. Jerry offered to serve as back-up secretary if needed. (15)
2. Treasurer report (5): \$600 in checking and \$1200 in savings, added about \$300 with dues for 2009
3. Secretary reads overview of membership meeting and brain storm ideas. (Tabled this activity except to discuss the ideas generated at the meeting, see below) (10)
 - **Community gatherings at Sage's.**
 - Outreach to people who need to be looked after; **better preparation and response to natural disasters (slow response after snowstorm e.g.)** – first aid, neighborhood check-ins. Mary will bring information next meeting.
 - **Mapping resources.** Annual cider press parties; **fruit map with location of food that people need help with; work with gleaners** and Thurston County food bank to share excess food with those in need; chickens around NWO – feed-buying co-op, phone tree to **help with chickens** when out of town; predator problem in neighborhood (esp. coyotes getting into chicken coops) – need relocation. Deer fences needed for community gardens (work group for deer fences). Garden installation parties/raised beds. Dandelion parties.
 - **Skill inventory in neighborhood – health care, communication, mechanics, tools in emergency. Truck sharing. Towards greater self-sufficiency.**
 - Crime: stay in touch with police and revisit block watch.
 - Importance of NWONA as **facilitator/clearinghouse. Serve as clearinghouse for activities in neighborhood. Especially conduit from city to neighbors – when to get involved. E.g., City planning process: Nov. 14 roll-out with informational event. (Jeff will attend and report back.)**
 - People for Puget Sound opportunity for classes. NWONA host neighborhood to get together, education about issues, training. **Promote ideas: conducting workshops** with Tall Trees, native plant salvage, rain gardens, earth-friendly gardening. Tree pruning practices. Bring experts to match the interests of the community.
 - **West Bay: Set aside land controversy -- federal fish and wildlife is the trustee of this land and are not allowing walking/bike trail. Jeff did some investigation on this already, probably will not disrupt this area.**
4. How do we see the year ahead—priority projects we can't live without doing. (25) Ideas as above and from last year:

- Walking loop (may be 15 years before sidewalks can be completed); alternatives to sidewalks may be possible – permeable surfaces, etc. Home builders are required to provide sidewalk by current rules. Seems kind of silly to have a short stretch of sidewalk that does not connect to anything, rather than paying into a pool that can be used for priority projects. May want to revisit when new council is in place. Seattle piloted a rain garden and alternative edge approach (SEA on web). Jerry willing to put some energy into this.
 - Graffiti kits available, may need more organization around reporting and dealing with.
5. Design process for the Pocket Park (25)
 - Kahlil talked to the person at the city (Marcus) who had planned to do site clearing and grading. Does not seem likely that this will happen before Spring. City does not want us doing anything with the site before they have done clearing. This means there is plenty of time to plan design.
 - We have \$1400 for plants and other materials. Need an official extension of grant. Kahlil and Robin will work together on the extension.
 - Do we want a committee for this? 15 people volunteered at the annual meeting. Need to follow up with them about change in schedule.
 - How do we get as much of the neighborhood involved and invested in it? Should we bring in a neutral facilitator to help (e.g. folks from Portland, City Repair). Need to investigate cost (Beth will report back at next meeting).
 - Set a date for the first Planning Meeting once we have done above, vs. waiting for city to finish work.
 - How will we insure that it is taken care of year after year? Important consideration. Could connect to volunteer organizations, e.g.
 - Ideas for pocket park: bike rack, water fountain, light? Other partners may be Native Plant Salvage, Tall Trees.
 6. Review of date and time of meetings (Mary would rather do a second Monday of the month) (5) Next meeting: December 14th, Robin's house, 6:30 p.m.
 7. An Environmental Committee or person who can wade through city/county proposals/meetings/zone changes, etc. that come to us each month. (10) Jerry willing to follow these issues and report back.
 8. Adjourn at 8:30