

MINUTES
NORTHWEST OLYMPIA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
Monday, January 28, 2013

Board members present: Erica Guttman, President; Cathy Visser, Secretary; Rip Heminway, Vice President; Leon Janssen, Scott Bishop. Other NWONA members: Daniel Einstein and Robert Kam.

The meeting convened at 6:05 p.m. Minutes had already been approved as they are emailed to Board members for feedback before they are finalized and posted.

City Pathways Program:

NWONA Pathways Project committee members Robert Kam and Daniel Einstein attended to discuss current project possibilities. Robert feels that the Woodard and Scammel projects are feasible although the Scammel project would be easier. The Woodard project has some drainage issues and may take more than one year to finish, but Daniel thinks it's doable. It was agreed that the NWONA Pathways Committee should meet again in the near future to involve more people, including folks from bordering neighborhoods. The grant deadline is March 1, 2013. Daniel, Robert and Erica set a meeting for Friday, February 1 at 7:15 p.m. and Erica volunteered to post that on the "Pathways" group on NextDoor and send personal email invitations to all the neighbors who have been involved in discussions to this point.

Communications Review:

There was a concern expressed to Rip by a neighborhood member that the web-based NextDoor neighborhood communication site is not the ideal way to communicate NWONA business because things get lost in all the details and information that is shared there. Cathy concurred with this concern. Rip suggested that we create a group on NextDoor for NWONA business. The Board decided to have a "group" open to everyone on NextDoor that is called something like "NWONA Business Group – Open to All." This will possibly make it easier for folks to find the NWONA agendas, meeting minutes and other more official business. Rip will review the options within Nextdoor to determine the best way to address this issue. Also, in the future, Erica and Rip will send the agenda out in advance of the meeting to both the NWONA Gmail email and NextDoor accounts.

Treasurer's Report: Dorothy Gist was absent, but submitted a printed treasurer's report.

10/01/12 Beg Bal:	\$2,674.37
10/31/12 Dep checks from annual meeting	657.00
10/31/12 Dep interest	.23
11/04/12 Chk to Dorothy Gist (cookies)	-54.00
11/04/12 Chk to Susan Tuzzolino (pizza)	-108.70
11/29/12 Dep 1 due chk	20.00
11/30/12 Dep interest	.22
12/31/12 Dep interest	.23
01/01/13 Chk to Susan Burgoon (cookies)	-36.00
Ending Balance:	\$3,153.35

Love Our Local Love Fest:

Rip looked into Garfield ball fields for the NWONA Local Our Love Fest. He found out that we can use them and he is outlining expenses for using this outdoor space for this new upcoming annual neighborhood party. Rip will provide this information to Susan T., who could not attend the board meeting. Leon Janssen is interested in helping. This project will require lots of volunteer help.

By-Laws Review: The NWONA Board briefly discussed comments by community members about the by-laws that Rip posted on Google Docs. The Board also discussed the changes to the by-laws that were approved at the annual meeting. These changes are reflected in the annual meeting minutes. Because of the full agenda, a discussion of the by-laws will continue at the next NWONA meeting. Rip reminded the Board that we will need to have any proposed changes to the by-laws ready for the first 2013 bi-annual NWONA business meeting on March 26.

Boy & Girls Club Update:

Rip shared information about the last Boys and Girls Club meeting held at Garfield on Monday, January 14th, which was meant to be a design review of the project. Some community members who attended were expressing concerns about the project site; multiple prior meetings have been held on the site issue and the project has moved beyond siting at this time. Another concern was that the project would cause unsafe traffic patterns in the area of the project, especially crossing Harrison coming from the west. Susan Burgoon is looking into the traffic impact of the project. Some information was shared about the project design as well, including that they will try to preserve trees, tie in with the school design and present an attractive “store front.” Rip showed a map and the proposed traffic patterns to make use of the existing Garfield School parking lot and a one-way access from Thomas to exit the main parking lot to use the light at Perry Street.

Neighborhood Matching Grants:

Erica stated that NWONA has a chance to apply for this small City grant. A few years ago, it was used to fund the Mad-Thom pocket park. More amenities are needed at the pocket park, e.g., the final seating arrangement at the park. It would also be nice to put in herb beds. Erica requested help writing the grant, which is due in March. Scott will ask GRUB to see if they have resources to help improve the pocket park. Leon will speak with folks working with the local Village Building Convergence. Rip will help Erica put a group on NextDoor to request help with the grant.

Two Agenda items for the next meeting: Engaging the neighborhood - Leon wants to talk about how NWONA can help get more consistent participation from the community. Rip would like to focus on the agenda for the March 26 semi-annual NWONA meeting at Garfield.

The next NWONA meeting will be held on February 25th from 6-7:30 pm at Dino's.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.