

**MINUTES**  
**NORTHWEST OLYMPIA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**  
**Monday, February 25, 2013**

**Board members present:** Erica Guttman, President; Rip Heminway, Vice President; Dorothy Gist, Treasurer; Cathy Visser, Secretary; Jean Mead, David Moseley, Scott Bishop.

**Other NWONA Members:** Mike Cousino and Robert Kam.

The meeting was moved to Dorothy Gist's home because Dino's Coffee shop was not available. The meeting convened at 6:15 pm.

**Secretary's report:** All NWONA minutes are emailed to Board members for feedback and approval before they are finalized and posted.

**Treasurer's Report:** Dorothy Gist reported that the only activity was a .23 deposit in interest.

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
1/31/13 Dep interest	.23
<b>Ending Balance:</b>	<b>\$3,153.58</b>

**Boy & Girls Club Update**

Rip and Erica shared the latest information about the Boys and Girls Club project. There have been concerns about the impact on the traffic patterns around the school. It appears that NWONA has been left out of the City project emails these past few months, but now we are back on their email list. The Garfield School expansion/renovation and B & G Club contractors are coordinating their projects. There will be a B & G Club project report released by the City of Olympia on March 18<sup>th</sup>, which will include info on traffic patterns and other project data. There will be another public meeting at City Hall on March 25<sup>th</sup>, to give the community an opportunity to comment on the project. Rip will post the meeting on NextDoor and on the NWONA website.

**City Pathways Project Submissions**

Robert Kam reported that the Scammel project grant proposal is nearly ready to submit. He found out that implementation of the project is contingent upon the property owners at 601 Milroy and 1816 Scammel signing off on "pedestrian easements" to clarify the right-of-way. The project would require that we get rid of the rusty arbor and guardrails, plus move the garden beds. Robert asked about what he should submit for the proposed fencing. The group felt that he should price out pressure-treated posts that could be used to make a split rail fence. The project will include signage. Erica reported that Daniel Einstein stated that he plans to work on the Woodard project this week. Dorothy and Erica will follow up with Daniel on this as soon as possible. The grant deadline is March 1, 2013.

**Planning for upcoming NWONA Business Meeting Pizza & Potluck, Tuesday, March 26<sup>th</sup> in the Garfield multi-purpose room from 6 – 8 pm.** This will be our first mid-year business meeting under our new plan of having two per year. The focus of this meeting will be to check in with neighbors on what we've accomplished based on the priorities identified at the fall annual meeting. Based on ideas from several members, the board decided to format this meeting as an "Open House" with booths set up where small-group discussions can occur before we all come together for a larger conversation with everyone.

The Board would like to cover the following issues and have a booth with a representative set up for most of the topics:

- Boys and Girls Club and the Garfield Elementary School renovation
- Update on the Pathways Projects
- Love our Local/Summer community party
- Summer work party planning
- Feedback on NWONA communication efforts
- City of Olympia Parks Dept. for involvement on Garfield Nature Trail and West Bay Park.

Social time and dinner will be held from 6-7 pm. Booths should be set up by 6:15 pm so community members can visit and discuss different areas of interest including the Garfield Expansion, Boys & Girls Club project, Love our Local/Summer Community Party, Communications (NextDoor, NWONA website and email), Parks, and the Pathways Projects. The business meeting will start at 7:00 pm. We'll discuss the NWONA by-laws, vote on any new changes, and get community feedback about any other issues that folks would like to discuss and/or see happening in the community. Afterward, community members will have another chance to peruse the booths. To increase meeting participation, Dorothy and Scott will work together to design a sandwich board sign. Rip suggested a planning meeting, which will be held on Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. at Dorothy Gist's house. Rip, Erica, Scott, Jean, and Michael committed to attending. Erica will confirm that the Garfield multi-purpose room is available and see if the Garfield project and B & G representatives can each have a booth, as well as the Parks Dept. Rip will post the event on NextDoor and ask for an RSVP so we have an idea of how much pizza to order. Dorothy will follow up with Susan to see if she can help arrange for the food and see if she's willing to help with a Love our Local booth. Jean will staff a "little free library" idea booth.

**By-laws update:** Rip posted the current version of the by-laws on the NWONA website with the approved changes from the 2012 annual meeting. Board members are asked to review this version and suggest other changes for review and approval at the March 26th general membership meeting. Following our special board meeting on March 17, we will post the recommended changes to the by-laws for members to review in advance of the March 26th membership meeting. Erica brought up a few concerns she has noticed: (1) that neighborhood boundaries are part of our by-laws and we need to revisit our boundaries, specifically whether we exclude the West Bay Neighborhood Association, which formed after NWONA. Rip will get a confirmed NW neighborhood map from the City of Olympia. (2) Erica suggested that we clarify when any annual dues changes at membership meetings would go into effect to avoid confusion at the annual fall membership meetings. Rip will draft language about meeting dues and post it on NWONA website/Google Docs. (3) Erica pointed out that NWONA by-laws don't specify a mission or purpose; Rip echoed this concern. Erica expressed her opinion that our mission is primarily to facilitate communication

about issues in the neighborhood and broader community that are important for our neighbors to know about; provide opportunities for education about City processes; and support community action for the betterment of the community. The Board felt that, as we move to update our by-laws for approval by the membership at the meeting on March 26, we should draft a mission/purpose. Erica and Rip will look for samples of good neighborhood mission and purpose statements in time for the March 17<sup>th</sup> planning meeting for discussion by the board prior to incorporation into the proposed by-laws changes.

### **Neighborhood Matching Grants**

The City's grant application is due February 28. We have not completed all elements of the original design for the Mad Thom Park. More amenities are needed at the pocket park, e.g., the final seating arrangement, sign, and raised beds. Erica will check with Jerry and Susan for assistance as she assembles the grant request. Dorothy volunteered to help wherever she could.

### **Location of Future Board Meetings**

Meeting at Dino's may not be ideal, as our times occasionally conflict with their business activities. The group decided to look for a new public place to hold the monthly NWONA meetings. Scott Bishop will check into having the NWONA meeting at the blue house owned by the Coop.

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