

Highland Neighborhood Association Committee (NAC) Meeting

November 8th, 2018 6:30pm

Highland Park Middle School library

Social media: @HighlandNeighborhood, #fortheloveofneighborhoods

Members: Michelle Coble, Sandy Listenberger, Deborah Reisman

Board: John Dugger, chair, Adam Gretzinger, vice chair, Jeff Menzel, treasurer [absent], Reggie Frumkin, recorder, Jennifer Lee, Beaverton Committee for Community Involvement (BCCI) representative, Juanita Coparanis, Bernadette Le [absent], Quinn Simpson, Konnette Etheredge, Ryan Sager, Donna Raagas [absent], Aaron Frumkin

Presenters: Rob Zoeller, City of Beaverton; Steven Sager, Justin Marris, Blake Ferguson, Michael Balfour, Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue Station 67 (TVF&R); Matt Matias, Beaverton Police Department (BPD); Lori Leach, Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation District (THPRD), Miles Glowacki, City of Beaverton

Meeting commenced at 6:30 pm by John. Attendees introduced themselves. Quorum present

Presentations

Steven Sager, Justin Marris, Blake Ferguson, Michael Balfour, TVF&R Station 67:

- *Distributed information on winter safety tips
- *Fully understand how to use a fireplace before doing so
- *Know what and what not to burn
 - Never burn garbage as it doesn't provide much heat and damages the fire place
- *Avoid putting hot ashes and coals in contact with paper or wood materials, like inside a bag or on a deck
- *Clean chimney regularly to prevent creosote build-up, which is a common problem
- *Furnaces starting up for the first time this season may emit foul-smelling air which is often due to dirt that has accumulated
 - Have technician check equipment
- *Extension cords and space heaters can be dangerous and are not permanent fixtures
- *Keep flammables away and kids from space heaters
- *Have at least 72 hours of equipment to use during power outage, such as water, food, blankets
 - The Federal Emergency Management Agency recommends being prepared for 7 days
- *Station 67 continues to be busier than other stations in the area
- *Be extra careful when driving during winter as roads get slick
- *Question was asked how well creosote cleaning logs work
 - Not very well. Best way to remove build-up is manually
- *Important to understand cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and how to use automated external defibrillators (AEDs),
 - They are designed with many failsafes and user-friendliness

Matt Matias, BPD:

- *Distributed crime statistics for October in Highland
- *Thefts are among more common crimes in the area
- *No Halloween candy issues outside of isolated incident in Aloha where candy tested positive for methamphetamine
- *Few calls on Halloween and relatively low amount of petty crimes such as pumpkin smashing
- *Breast Cancer Awareness Month and Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October were observed by police
- *Near SW 158th Avenue and Jenkins Road is the new Washington County Family Justice Center which houses ten different services for those needing resources or in the midst of domestic violence
- *November is No Shave November at police department to raise awareness for men's health initiatives
 - Staff must donate money to participate
- *Question was asked of a website for Family Justice Center
 - fjwcw.org
- *Highway 26 and 217 interchanges are some of the most dangerous areas in the city during slippery road conditions
- *Comment was made about an unusual amount of water recently on Highway 217 creating hazardous driving conditions

Lori Leach, THPRD:

- *Conestoga Recreation Center is offering a pancake breakfast for Veterans Day 11/11
 - Free to veterans and active duty members and their families, general admission for everyone else
- *Conestoga is hosting 'Teens for Jeans' with HomePlate Youth Services and seeking donations of gently-worn jeans to donate to teens experiencing homelessness
- *All Star Wars films will be shown at Conestoga from November through March
- *Fifty-meter pool at Howard M. Terpenning Complex is turning forty years old
 - Reception starting at 5:00 with photo booths, karaoke, open swim
- *Registration for winter programs starts 8am 12/8 online
- *THPRD presented the results of the community survey at a meeting at the main library 10/20
- *Question was asked about dog waste not being picked up in Hyland Woods
 - It is reportedly someone before 9am near the SW 139th Avenue entrance
 - Will follow up to see if that can be part of route for park technicians or find another solution

Miles Glowacki, City of Beaverton:

- *Tree Lighting is 11/30 at City Park
- *German Holiday Market 12/1
- *There will be a hot cocoa and s'mores booth for the neighborhood program 11/30,
 - Seeking 6-8 NAC volunteers
- *Inclement weather reminder: winter weather safety www.weather.gov/safety/winter for resources
 - Winter road conditions: beavertonoregon.gov/winterroadconditions
- *The Housing Options Project initiates this fall
- *Library is the inaugural title for a community-wide reading program.
 - Reading *The Wanderers*, by Meg Howrey.
 - Participants read in fall and winter
 - January has programs at the library followed by a literary event with the author 2/2
- *Question was asked about traffic timing for lights regarding city events such as the Voters Forum
 - City, county, and state must work together as they all have jurisdictions over different roads in area

Rob Zoeller, Associate Planner, Housing Options Project, City of Beaverton:

- *Distributed copies of presentation introducing the project. Website is beavertonoregon.gov/hop
- *Launching project to expand housing options in residential areas
- *Considers where and how additional housing types will be allowed in city's residential-zoned neighborhoods
- *Many residential areas only allow the construction of new detached single-family homes
- *Comment was made that Highland already has a lot of non-single-family housing built into the neighborhood
- *Comment was made that many younger people choose not to live in the area due to the cost
- *Comment was made that they were shocked to see how much of Beaverton is in the study area, adding that developers mostly won't build affordable housing but will maximize number of construction project and that we have created conditions making housing affordability worse
- *Comment was made that this project needs careful discussion
- *Comment was made supporting some new structures if they are visually complimentary to the adjacent neighborhood, and after having lived in neighborhoods with incompatible buildings they realized they didn't add value to neighborhood
- *Question was asked if the project would result in the accelerated loss of tree canopy in the city
- *Comment was made that trees are important to the neighborhood
- *The project will be weighing trade-offs, such as required parking spaces
- *Comment was made referencing the Sunshine Community in Portland, a successful example of cooperative housing
- *Comment was made that the city cannot rely on allowing more market-rate housing to solve the issue of affordability, as there are currently no guarantees that the housing built resulting from the outcome of this project would be considered affordable
 - Project would threaten to remove existing natural market-rate affordable housing if land owners and developers can suddenly make more money demolishing the existing structures, displacing their residents, and building new housing that would likely have no control on price and be more expensive than before, particularly given the context of imminent downtown Beaverton and Allen Boulevard redevelopment which would increase housing demand and the prices of even small units that would be allowed under this project to unaffordable levels
- *Comment was made that land trusts, intergenerational housing, cooperative housing, and intentional community based-housing are types the city must pursue to ensure the housing stock doesn't become further financialized

- *Comment was made that the primary guiding principle of this project must be to not decrease quality of life for all residents, as opposed to just allowing more housing development opportunities without regard for the existing residents' need for stability
- *Comment was made that the neighborhood has a strong identity
 - An 'ecodistrict' could be created, encouraging nature-based housing, unique to the neighborhood
- *Comment was made that they moved here three months ago from the San Francisco Bay area
 - The lack of planning there regarding preserving the identity of neighborhood and lack of infrastructure to match increased development,
 - The change in quality of life in the last ten years has been shocking and tragic
 - Appreciative of the City for having conversations about this before proceeding
- *Comment was made that as someone who grew up in Beaverton, the city is losing iconic places
 - How do we build housing but still preserve the community around the housing?
- *Comment was made that the community is changing, but is it in right ways? Is it equitable? Plan will take a while but there could be permanent consequences
- *Comment was made referencing churches that could be converted into denser housing
- *Comment was made of Bridge Meadows as positive example of what the city should allow
 - Built by a non-profit organization, physically designed to foster community, intergenerational housing, preservation of trees and investment in quality greenspaces and trees
 - In contrast to current new developments like the Westedge subdivision and SW Oscar Lane along SW Murray Boulevard and Tesla Terrace on Hall Boulevard, developments that are for-profit and are meant to extract maximum profit out of the land while adding minimal value to the neighborhood by allotting very little space for meaningful greenery, trees, and not blending visually with its surroundings

Approval of Minutes

- *Reggie distributed copies of the August, September, and October minutes
- *Jennifer motioned to approve the August, September, and October minutes, Konnette seconded, no discussion, approved unanimously

Treasurers Report, Jeff: *absent*

Visioning Update

Fall Pet & Tree Walk recap:

- *Comment was made that map was hard to follow if one got separated from the group
 - Have more signage
 - Can stripe sidewalks in future
- *Estimates of attendance range from 60 to 85 people, and about two dozens non-human animals
- *Comment was made that they are seeing recurring people at events
- *Event came in under budget
- *As part of the pet walk, the NAC budgeted \$100 to marketing on social media
- *Quinn gave an update on the social media advertising campaign for walk and its metric results
 - 1,131 people were reached for Rock the Block in August
 - For \$25 boost, able to engage 10x more people. 3,624 people reached for fall walk
 - Boosting and promoting posts on Facebook made a difference, and reached 7-10x more of people
- *Question was asked how to increase natural engagement
- *John distributed the Highland NAC annual report detailing the NAC's 2018 accomplishments
 - Guest speakers were with the new police building, Allen Boulevard project, Tualatin Riverkeeper, Beaverton water quality facilities, the Beaverton Half-Marathon, New Friends of the Beaverton Library, candidates for city council, county, and state representative
 - NAC partnered with Highland Park Middle School to raise money for cancer organizations, THPRD to plant trees in Channing Heights Park, Beaverton School District to maintain existing ecological restoration sites, and Girl Scout Troop 45066 to donate \$200 to stock a little free pantry at Fir Grove Elementary School
 - NAC helped City with police building design and groundbreaking, SW 130th Avenue safety improvements, added social media training and a social media coordinator
 - Held a visioning session resulting in priorities for the neighborhood
 - ~Neighborhood clean-up and block party in August, Fall Pet and Tree Walk, tree planting at Channing Heights Park

~Ongoing projects are increasing visibility of stop signs, having a dog park around the area, traffic calming, having a neighborhood resource map and welcome packet for neighbors, and tree canopy restoration projects

-NAC won the City's social media contest for the most new 'likes' on Facebook, for \$300, and Neighborhoods USA silver medal for neighborliness

-Treasury: January was \$3,578.56 and current is \$4,722.73

Round Robin

*At BCCI Meeting it was said that the Backyard Habitat Certification Program is coming to Beaverton in the spring and Nicki West could come present

*Fir Grove Park restoration work party 11/17 9am to noon, pre-register at thprd.org

*Leaf drop off 11/10 at HPMS courtesy of Public Works department

*Little free pantry at Fir Grove in December is NAC's responsibility and five people are set up to stock it

*Question was asked if our responsibility is ongoing or taking turns every three months

-The NAC hasn't discussed a decision yet

Meeting adjourned at 8:31

Next meeting: Thursday, December 13th 2018, 6:30pm, Highland Park Middle School library