

## Highland Neighborhood Association Committee (NAC) Meeting

February 14th, 2019 6:30pm

Highland Park Middle School library

Social media: @HighlandNeighborhood, #fortheloveofneighborhoods

Members: Alan Donaldson, Barbara Parker

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

Presenters: Officer 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 shared what they like or dislike about Valentines Day. Quorum present

### Presentations

*TVF&R Station 67:* absent

*Officer Matt Matias, BPD:*

\*Shredding event in February was canceled due to snow

\*Car seat clinic, 2/16, Kuni Auto Center

\*New service being offered called Help Me Home, a service for families struggling with aging issues like dementia

- \$20 fee, good for 2 years

- Sign up with County

- Puts family member photo in database, accessible to law enforcement

- Has information on medication, residence, other family members, so if wandering, law enforcement can better help

- Can come to BPD building and staff will help walk patrons through process, but sign-up completed via County website

\*Project Lifesaver, free service for anyone who may have an intellectual disability that may cause them to be nonverbal with police, or with life-threatening medical needs

- Receives bracelet, serves as a homing beacon. Police can help find the person if missing or disoriented. Has high success rate

- Had 2 individuals who wandered out of house, even though found, caretakers had trouble finding them

- If you see someone walking around, young or old, who seems disoriented, don't hesitate to call 911 to have police check on them

\*Question was asked if there are ways to pay the \$20 registration fee if one cannot afford it

- BPD has ability to help figure out how to pay

\*Comment was made offering to sponsor fee for anyone in Highland if one can't afford it, and to submit request to the NAC

\*Question was asked how to spread word about program, adding that Nextdoor is very effective

- Word-of-mouth is most effective

- BPD has previously posted on social media but the website algorithm can bury it if the reader is not actively looking at the poster's pages

\*Question was asked if warming shelter opened for recent cold

- Does not think ours has opened yet, but may have in last couple of days

*Lori Leach, THPRD:* absent (John instead gave update, sent to him from Lori)

\*Get Fit '19 challenge is happening now to early April, join challenge on website.

- Grand prize is one year deluxe pass to all THPRD facilities

\*Spring registration begins Saturday 3/2

\*Aquatic programs and free teen swim lessons are offered on early-release Wednesdays

\*Harman Swim Center is offering Spanish swim lessons on Sundays

\*Board of Directors will give update on expanding to more fenced, off-lease dog parks

\*Nature and Trails volunteer programs: long-term and one-day volunteer opportunities available on THPRD website

\*PCC Rock Creek synthetic turf being replaced

\*Hazeldale dog park improvements to fencing being implemented

*Miles Glowacki, City of Beaverton:*

- \*Tax assistance program underway at Griffith building
  - Free tax preparation and filing on 3rd floor, through Monday 4/15
- \*Question was asked if there are minimum qualifications
  - No, but program is aimed at low income
  - Organizers haven't had to turn people away, and attendance has been light this year
  - Available Tuesday to Saturday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. without appointments
  - Multiple languages offered - more info on City website
- \*City social service funding grants are now open to non-profits addressing low-income Beaverton residents
  - Application due 3/22. More information online
- \*Last chance to apply for BOLD program, aimed at historically underrepresented people to train them to be more engaged with the City

**Wilson Traffic Study Meeting, John**

- \*First public meeting happened shortly prior to this NAC meeting
- \*The next steps are to determine traffic calming options
- \*Comment was made that next one is Tuesday 3/5
- \*In April, plans are firmed and costs are determined
- \*Ballots go out 2-3 weeks after open house
- \*Two thirds of the properties in the study area must vote "yes" for traffic calming to pass
- \*Comment was made that most people who were there came from out of the project area, as the whole neighborhood is interested
- \*Comment was made that after the 2018 130th Avenue traffic calming plan failed due to not enough voters, they went to Ian Beaty at the Traffic Commission to speak regarding this
- \*Comment was made that NAC should advocate to City Council to revise the process so that non-voters are excluded from the pool and instead of being counted as "no"
- \*Comment was made that traffic on Wilson Avenue is a neighborhood problem, not just for the small focus area directly along street
- \*Comment was made that months of money and city labor were wasted with the failed 130th Avenue process
- \*Comment was made that Sexton Mountain Drive is also vying for funds
- \*Comment was made that the settled 130th Avenue option was only going to cost around \$40,000
- \*Comment was made that process is slanted to fail, with non-voters counted as "no"
- \*Comment was made to encourage connecting with other NACs to collectively go to City Council
- \*Comment was made by the chair that they will look into putting together a coalition, find a date, and invite people to come testify
- \*Comment was made that the question was asked to traffic engineer how often a project such as this gets approved, and response was 3 to 4 years
- \*Comment was made to reach out to PTAs for support

**Treasurers Report, Jeff: absent**

- \*Opening balance is \$4,638.30
- \*One expense, reimbursement to Reggie for \$223.97
- \*Closing \$4,414.33

**NAC Projects**

*Fir Grove School Tree Planting Project, Sunday 2/24 1 to 4 p.m., Reggie:*

- \*Distributed updated project expense and in-kind contribution spreadsheets and the matching grant contract
- \*City matching grant was approved by BCCI
- \*NAC did not need to pay for utility locates after all
- \*Added 2 gift certificates and 3 donated trees to raffle, asked if anyone would be interested in contributing donations
- \*Woodchips will not be added to cost, since it ended up that the ChipDrop service is too large for the NAC's needs
- \*Letters were delivered to 30 houses near the school and no additional follow-up outreach was needed
  - 3 houses responded, resulting in addition of 8 street trees and 1 yard tree to the project
- \*Volunteer roles are available
  - Need assistant crew leaders to help lead volunteers during the planting

- If needing a planting refresher, Reggie will be planting the replacement Douglas-fir at Channing Heights Park at 10 a.m. on Sunday 2/17 and anyone can join
- Need greeters to help volunteers sign in, distribute raffle tickets, and count attendees
- Need help taking down event at 4 p.m.
- Will arrive around 11:45 to set up, people can arrive soon after to help
- Donna is helping with the Monday planting with the students
- \*Expecting groups from Beaverton and Southridge High School key clubs and environmental clubs
- \*Wear NAC shirts to event
- \*Gave the extra event sign to Barbara and her daughter, who wrote event information on, decorated, and installed it on the corner of Wilson Avenue and 20th Street
- \*Question was asked how many people are needed to help plant
  - Based on last year's event, 30 would be a good goal
- \*Question was asked if groups such as scouts are needed
  - Yes, but please have large groups email in advance
- \*Comment was made that the mayor was going to be out of town that weekend, but that John would email the other city councilors
- \*Comment was made, fencing around some of the trees. Acts as a statement for neighborhood to see tree protections
- \*Comment was made to contact Miles if more NAC shirts are needed

### **Approval of Minutes**

- \*Reggie distributed copies of the January minutes
- \*Comments were made to change 'Hyland Forest Park' to 'Hyland Woods' and to correct that Juanita hadn't offered to volunteer for the student planting due to a prior commitment, making her unable to attend.
- \*Reggie motioned to approve with the aforementioned amendments, Konnette seconded, no discussion, approved unanimously

### **Visioning Update, John**

- \*Spread word about meeting to neighbors
  - Meeting will spend majority of time planning for year in a similar format to last year with posterboard, voting
  - Had 30 people last year for meeting
- \*Comment was made that they spoke to a neighbor about the Wilson Avenue traffic calming and invited them to meeting

### **Round Robin**

- \*Comment was made that they are on the Housing Options Project work group, and the project organizers had an open house to get public feedback
  - Despite the Highland neighborhood being built originally with variety of housing types, a couple of neighborhoods have homeowners associations that forbid that design
- \*Comment was made that they had spoken to THPRD park ranger John Gaddis at Hyland Woods
  - Park has suffered from fungal root rot affecting Douglas-fir
  - Staff replanting with bigleaf maple and other hardwoods
  - Would be interested to invite him to a future meeting to present
  - Western redcedars have been observed to not be doing well, City agrees, problems being found all over
- \*Question was asked how ground water pump stations affect ground water level in the neighborhood during the summer, which might affect mature trees that are sensitive to hydrological changes that are already suffering from drought stress
  - Will follow up
- \*Miles updated that crews went out to the Fir Grove East natural area trail and cleaned up trash
- \*Comment was made that the City did a great job cleaning the walking paths between Fir Grove and Highland Park schools and the 22nd Street connector
- \*Question was asked if one should identify as NAC member when canvassing doors
  - It would be fine, as it is identified as a neighborhood priority
  - Would be good to wear NAC t-shirt
  - Would need to come up with good counterarguments to address concerns
- \*Comment was made requesting extra pamphlets from City to distribute give
- \*Comment was made recommending that on the next agenda, have an official vote to go to City Council as NAC representatives

\*Konnette moved to approve the NAC's official position to support removing hindrances and obstacles to the neighborhood traffic calming process, specifically in relation to Wilson Avenue, to review and reduce quorum requirements for traffic calming to pass, and that households who don't return a ballot would not be counted as "no". In essence, the NAC position is that barriers to traffic calming are too restrictive high, particularly the vote threshold, and it should be revised to promote a more fair process, Ryan seconded, question was asked if it would require a petition to change rules to City Council, with a response that there is a citizens petition project, but City Council recently changed the time allowed to gather signatures from 2 years to 6 months in response to advocates for run-off voting, passed unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 7:47

**Next meeting: Thursday, March 14th 2019, 6:30pm, Highland Park Middle School library**