

Highland Neighborhood Association Committee (NAC) Meeting

October 12th, 2019 6:30pm

Highland Park Middle School library

Social media: @HighlandNeighborhood, #fortheloveofneighborhoods

Members: Jim Connelly, Alan Donaldson, Danielle Santizo, Jonathan Santizo, Annie Pasbrig, Liz Buffam, Ethel Sparhawk, Kathryn Brumbelow, Barbara Parker

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

Presenters: Officer Matt Matias, Beaverton Police Department (BPD); Betina Brantley, City of Beaverton; Lori Leach, Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation District (THPRD); Captain Eric Oathes, BPD; Vanessa Robinson, SOJPD and Michael O'Brien, Landscape architect with KPFF/FFA

Meeting commenced at 6:29 pm by Adam. Attendees introduced themselves. Quorum present

Presentations

TVF&R:

- *There have been a couple of fires in neighborhood lately near 17th Street and also Hyland Way
- *A cigarette fire across street from Station 67 started in some shrubs and spread to nearby vegetation
- *Bark dust fires started by cigarettes have been common in area
- *If burning wood in fireplaces, clean annually to remove creosote buildup which risks a chimney fire
- *Station is celebrating 20th year in service. Open house at station on Saturday 10/19 from 10-2. Distributed flyers
- *Change smoke detectors every year
 - If you live in an older house and if the detector is still chirping after battery is replaced, it's time to replace the detector. Each typically has a ten year battery life
- *Comment was made that the fire off of Hyland was reportedly caused by a lithium battery charging
 - It was a possibility, as those can overheat from time to time
- *Question was asked if there is a number on overdose calls in the last several months
 - Number isn't available on hand but police are still seeing heroine and meth incidences regularly
- *Question was asked how a smell is determined to be garbage burning instead of just a regular fire
 - Can be difficult to determine. People can choose to not let authorities into their house so without someone seeing the burning it becomes hard to prove it's garbage, despite any smells
 - People are mostly cooperative but many also know they're doing something illegally

Officer Matt Matias, BPD:

*Document shredding event Saturday 10/12 at Sunset Presbyterian Church 10-1

*Car seat clinic at Kuni Auto Center on Saturday 10/19 9-11:30am

*DEA drug drop off event Saturday 10/26 9-2 at BPD headquarters

-Disposes properly instead of potentially going into water supply

*Question was asked how medications are disposed

-Sent to an incinerator

Hargis Road shooting update:

*Suspects have been identified in case. A press release may be issued in the near future

-No cause for alarm of suspects returning to neighborhood

*At this time the City has not been involved with who homeowner is allowed to hire due to their free ability to choose

*If anything coming from the house is concerning, call police

*Don't recommend putting yourself in a compromising situation with neighbors

*Officer Matias asked how the police department can best serve the neighborhood

*Comment was made about being frustrated living so close to a drug dealing house in the neighborhood, and they appreciate having so many police driving down street regularly but the offenders may have changed their timing in response

-Department is aware of that house, and multiple officers are monitoring it

-Only so much they can do looking from outside in before warrants and searching could happen

-If you see patterns, call police to report them

- *Comment was made that they appreciate the traffic enforcement at Wilson and Hart and catching people who run stop signs
 - Will pass along to traffic sergeant
- *Comment was made that before and after school would be a good time for enforcement
- *Question was asked to elaborate on last month's camera doorbell system
 - A camera doorbell company allows people to create an account with them
 - If you have a suspicious person caught on your camera, you can upload it and someone who works for the company will vet the video to see if it is someone of concern. If a crime happens near where the camera was, it shows the police all of the suspicious videos that have been uploaded in area.
 - Can also mark incident in area and reach out to camera owners to be aware of potential persons of interest caught on their cameras
 - Website allows more than one brand of camera to participate. Program is called Neighbors By Ring

Lori Leach, THPRD:

- *Followed up on possibility of trail in new Fir Grove East park
 - Only City trail will remain, no immediate plans to add new trail
- *Followed up on the Sorrento Road-to-131st Avenue bike path replanting of removed trees
 - It is a City of Beaverton property
- *Greg Creager of Nature & Trails department with THPRD has offered to come to speak to NAC in fall for questions about Fir Grove East and other parks
- *Cedar Hills Park reopening 10/26 11-2, kids activities, food trucks, sports, nature mobile
- *Halloween events: Harman Swim Center pumpkin bob, Trunk or Treat at Aloha, Cedar Hills Park grand opening, Booverton trick-or-treat at Beaverton Swim Center, Stuhr Center having costume party and dance.
- *Welcome signs in multiple languages at all facilities arriving in November
- *Conestoga has 9-month bilingual Spanish preschool
- *Open swim on Fridays, one free day per month per pool
- *Pools are offering films from fall through winter
- *Conestoga has cultural book fair 10/20 12-4
- *Adult basketball registration at HMT starts 10/19
- *Air structures up at tennis center
- *Newt Day on 11/2 at Nature Center 12-4
- *3 parks in district, Schiffler, Barsotti, and Jackie Husen have new no-parking signs to deter overnight parking
- *Raleigh Pool is having a deck reconstruction
- *Bridge replacement ongoing near Fanno Creek southeast of Fanno Farmhouse, where bridge has outlived lifespan
- *Commonwealth Lake Park bridge replacement happening
- *Fir Grove Park volunteer natural area restoration event on 10/12 from 9 to 12
- *Comment was made that a trail had been discussed when Fir Grove East property was being purchased. Also asked if the NAC wanted to have work parties to plat out a trail in the park
 - Will pass comment along
- *Question was asked about the status of the proposed renaming by the NAC voted on recently
 - THPRD sent information to the NAC about the process of naming a park in the district
- *Question was asked about having a sign to signify natural area
 - Will bring it up
- *Comment was made that it's hard to enjoy the whole natural area because the trail is on the edge
- *Question was asked about a trail that dead-ends in Taliesen Park. Wondering if the park district will connect the trail in the future. What are the park boundaries?
 - Will take a look and compare with maps and geographic information systems of the district
- *Question was asked what can be done at Hyland Woods about all the people letting their dogs run into the park to defecate from the adjacent apartments despite the nearby garbage cans and bag dispensers?
 - Call park patrol if you're seeing someone
- *Question was asked if flyers could go out to the apartment complex or more signs be posted
- *Question was asked what is being done about Fanno Creek Trail going beneath Scholls Ferry Road because of flooding
 - Will look into it

Captain Eric Oathes, BPD:

- *City acquired the former Shell station in May 2019
- *Opening end of April 2020

- *First floor is almost done
- *Building is being closed in, getting ready for brick
- *Road work on Main Ave and Hall Blvd will be done in the coming weeks
- *Open house coming soon
- *Question was asked about sidewalk connecting to Fir Grove East trail, any improvements to flow
 - All new sidewalk and street trees
 - New water swale on Main. Won't be a sidewalk on the swale portion. No improvements past the swale

Michael O'Brien, Landscape architect who is working on plaza at Shell station property at Allen & Hall Blvd

- *Distributed drawn plans of the plaza to replace gas station
- *3 large steel sculptures proposed in entry plaza with large open space in middle and perimeter landscaping
- *Phytoremediation plantings on Allen Blvd side of building to address leaked contaminants in soils
 - Quaking aspen, deep rooting, surface planting that helps uptake contaminants
- *Providing bus stop benches on Allen
- *Putting plans into Land Use for construction, starting early next year
- *Question was asked if there will be turnouts for the buses because buses stopping in lanes cause back up
 - Not on Allen Blvd
- *Comment was made that there should be trees to shade the Allen Blvd bus stop since the diagram shows benches in full sun exposure
- *Question was asked if the art in the diagram is final
 - Close, being finalized. Three 10' steel sculptures each having words collected from night markets at the Round in various languages containing feelings of courage, compassion, and integrity, the BPD motto. Will be lit up at night
- *Question was asked if there will be a public mailbox around the police station, which may be helpful
 - Can find out
- *Question was asked if at the end of the building's life the contaminant plume will be fully resolved or just partially
 - Will follow up. Plume is continuing to move
- *Comment was made that the plaza is too exposed as shown in the plans and won't remain viable as community space through the worsening effects of climate change due to lack of shade on bus stop and plaza, suggesting landscaped islands in plaza with enough soil volume for large trees and to prune canopies of trees upward over time if concerned about visibility

City Update, Betina Brantley:

- *Climate Action Plan is up for review and accepting public comment. Beavertonoregon.gov/sustainability
 - Aiming to have zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050
- *Question was asked if it outlines plans for just the City or what the community will do
 - *City plan, but involves multiple agencies
- *Share comments at green@beavertonoregon.gov
- *Plastic bag and disposable straw ban begins in January (straws available upon request)
 - 5 cent fee on paper bags
- *Share thoughts on draft Allen Boulevard District Plan. Beavertonoregon.gov/allen
- *Leaf disposal locations all throughout City in October and November. 10/26-11/24, Beavertonoregon.gov/leafdisposal
- *Question was asked about City policy on residents leaving furniture on street, such as couch at Allen Blvd & Valley Ave
 - Will look into it
- *Question was asked who is charging the 5 cents. Grocery store or a tax?
 - Likely the store
- *Question was asked about any leaf pickup vehicles
 - Not in Beaverton, but leaf drop events will accept leaves without bags
- *Comment was made that they appreciate so many people coming out to neighborhood meeting because they care and are able to share their concerns

Treasurers Report, Jeff

- *Balance of \$3,804.30 remains the same
- *Received thank you card from 2D4D acknowledging and thanking for donation to chalk art festival in August

Approval of the Minutes

- *Reggie distributed the September minutes
- *Konnette moved to approve, Juanita seconded no discussion, approved unanimously

Visioning

Konnette, Natural Gardening and Landscaping Workshop Series:

- *Postcard was mailed out this month about event
- *Jennifer crafted a social media posting that had a good response
- *Every person who comes is counted as a volunteer
- *First workshop at Griffith Building Monday 10/14 6 to 7:30 in Room 330
 - All on second Mondays of the Month at Griffith. January and April

Kathryn, Rock the Block:

- *No immediate plans but could happen as early as this fall
- *People could bring their leaves to event for disposal, or NAC may request a leaf sweeper vehicle to go around neighborhood picking up leaves

Reggie, Barlow Road Tree Planting:

- *13 trees ordered so far
- *Thanks to Kate Prakash for helping canvass neighbors to let them know about planting event and tree offer
- *New Seasons will not donate food for this event because the NAC is not a 501(c)3, but a 501(c)4 organization
- *Continuing to do outreach up until the October 21st order deadline

Reggie, Native American History Recognition:

- *Working with Adam and getting ready to send letter to the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
- *Asking for support from tribal community, and for suggestions of names relating to local indigenous history within the Atfalati dialect of Kalapuya
 - Requesting for Grand Ronde to send letter to THPRD and NAC with endorsement

Reggie, Community Bulletin Boards:

- *Found potential woodworker, same person who installs the Poetry Posts around area
- *Questions that need to be answered are things like how many boards, how large they'll be, if they'll have a roof, a lockable door or be open to the public, or where they'll be situated
- *Question was asked about how to get a private property easement for a board
 - Could be difficult, would need to evaluate all options and go with avenue with least resistance while still protecting the bulletin board in the long term
- *Comment was made that if in the City right-of-way the City might want to control its installation and it could get expensive
- *NAC needs to determine first where the boards would go so we know what stipulations to follow

Round Robin

- *Adam reminded that there is the NAC election next month at the November meeting
- *Question was asked if community bulletin boards could be placed at same locations as little free libraries
 - Reggie will keep that in mind going forward
- *Comment was made suggesting to put on a future agenda how the NAC can be involved with the replacement of trees that are removed
- *Comment was made to suggest adding a comment to Climate Action Plan
- *Aaron expressed his resignation from the board
- *Question was asked about where the bylaws can be found
 - Betina passed out a copy. Also available online at NAC webpage
- *Halloween photo contest happening on NAC Facebook pages
- *Question was asked when the end of the public comment period for the Climate Action Plan and Allen Plan was
 - May be listed on website

Meeting adjourned at 7:57 pm

Next Meeting: Thursday, November 14th at 6:30 p.m., Highland Park Middle School Library

Addendum. Answers to questions from the meeting provided by Betina and emailed to NAC board in week after meeting:

- **Q: What is the deadline to submit public comment for the Climate Action Plan?** A: Written Comments may be submitted until Nov. 11. Public Testimony can be heard at the Nov. 12 City Council meeting. The plan is available for review online at www.BeavertonOregon.gov/sustainability and feedback can be shared by sending an email to Green@BeavertonOregon.gov.
- **Q: What is the deadline to submit public comment for the Allen Blvd District Plan?** A: October 31. To view the draft plan, project documents, and take a brief survey, please visit www.BeavertonOregon.gov/Allen.
- **Q: Who is charging the 5 cent fee on paper bags beginning Jan 1?** A: It goes to the grocery store.
- **Q: What is the city's policy on someone leaving discarded furniture in front of their place of residence?**

A: If it is placed on the curb or right of way it is illegal dumping and can be reported to the Regional Illegal Dumping (RID) program and they will send someone to pick it up. They will also seek to prosecute if they can find evidence of who is dumping. <https://www.oregonmetro.gov/tools-living/garbage-and-recycling/report-dumped-garbage>. On Private property, City Code 5.05 prohibits the storage of rubbish on private property including: carpet, upholstered furniture, and household appliances. There are other ordinances against garbage that may pose a public health concern and wood or building debris. Contact code services <https://beavertonpolice.org/358/Code-Compliance-Program>. They do have a backlog of complaints so it may take some time for them to respond.

- **Q: Does the city have a leaf vacuum?** A: The city has vacuum trucks for cleaning out the storm water system. It does not vacuum leaves from the street or curb. Residents are responsible to collect the leaves from their yard and sidewalk and dispose of them in their roll cart or at one of the city's free leaf collection events. <https://www.beavertonoregon.gov/446/Leaf-Disposal>