

City of Beaverton  
Neighborhood Association Committee Meeting Minutes

**NAC: Denney Whitford / Raleigh West**

Date: November 12, 2020

Board members present:

Co-Chair: Sherry Moore

Co-Chair: Ernie Conway

BCCI Rep: Rick Skayhan

Treasurer: Sheri Struk

Recorder: Tracy Thornton

Quorum present?  Yes  No

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Meeting start time: 7:02 pm (via Zoom)

**Tualatin Hills Parks & Recreation District report:** Jaspreet Chahal reported that THRPD's out of school programs continue; there are no spots left in the preschool program but they encourage you to get on the wait list so they know what the need is.

The Bethany Creek Trail is now open. THPRD and Clean Water Services are working on stream enhancement and a new bridge in Greenway Park. THPRD is expanding the off-leash dog space at Ridgewood Park and installing a temporary pop-up dog run. They are hosting a dog-themed event this weekend. Staff and volunteers will be taking feedback to see if the dog run should become permanent.

A talking wall public art mural was installed at Sunset Park. On Nov. 15, a second set of talking walls will be installed in Greenway Park. This work is being done in collaboration with the Native American Youth and Family Center.

Volunteers have been helping to winterize community gardens. This has been a great activity for families during the coronavirus restrictions. THPRD staff are working on winterizing throughout the district. They're paying extra attention to tree health due to dry summer weather.

Planning is underway for a sewer project between Cedar Mill Creek and the Tualatin Hills Nature Park; pre-work on the project could start this winter.

The district now has financial aid available for those who qualify. For families whose income falls below federal free meal guidelines, \$200 is available to use toward THPRD activities.

THRPD is studying the practicality of constructing a Westside Trail Bridge from SW Greenbriar Parkway across to the north side of Hwy 26. See <http://www.thprd.org/parks-in-progress/westside-trail-bridge/> for more information.

An adult volleyball league has started at athletic center with over 40 teams. Water fitness has started at Conestoga Aquatic Center. Following governor's two week pause, there have been some changes in activities; they are in the process of updating the website with information about the number of people allowed in an indoor space.

Sheri asked about the holiday gift drive this year. Jaspreet explained that instead of the usual gift drive, THRPD is collecting gift cards from \$5 to \$50 (or more) for local retailers such as Target and Fred Meyer for families in need. Gift cards can be dropped off at any of the five open facilities. See <http://www.thprd.org/connect/news/thprd-announces-holiday-gift-card-drive-for-families-in-need> for more information. The deadline is Dec. 15.

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**Beaverton Police Department report:** Officer Justin Haugen brought crime statistics for our area. There has been an uptick in the number of thefts (almost double); he attributes that to the COVID situation, which has limited the jail's ability to accept people. The department is seeing a lot of the same people committing the same crimes because they can only write a ticket now. Drug crime calls have also gone up; there's typically a correlation between substance abuse issues and theft. We've seen more abandoned vehicles in our area. In Multnomah County, police staff has been directed to other issues for the last several weeks so we're seeing some of this activity move into Washington County.

The department has moved into their new building! When things are safe, Officer Haugen would like to host our NAC in the new Public Safety Center and give us a tour.

The department is currently in the process of hiring a social media person. They have seen a lot of interest in lateral moves to open positions.

The City and Police Chief have been fantastic with staff scheduling since COVID started; they have focused on keeping staff and their families safe.

Officer Haugen ended by thanking us and the Beaverton community for our support. There has been a lot of negative press about police recently, but the citizens of Beaverton have demonstrated their support and offered thanks; this means a lot to the department.

**Hwy 217 improvements – Update from ODOT:** Lili Boicourt and Matt Freitag gave an overview of the project to create auxiliary lanes along Highway 217, which will start construction in a little over a year

Highway 217 has high crash rate and a lot of unpredictability. This \$134 million project will build auxiliary lanes so that drivers have a lane to merge in and out of without interfering with through traffic. This will reduce merging conflicts to make the highway more efficient and reduce crashes.

The Denney and Allen interchanges are two of the closest together. To address this, a frontage road will be built between them (similar to the one between Beaverton Hillsdale Hwy and Canyon Road), between 217 and the railroad tracks to the west, so that two of the four interchanges can be eliminated. They will permanently close the on ramp from Allen and the off ramp to Denney Road; drivers will use the frontage road instead. There will be a lot of work in this area during construction.

The project is also making several bicycle and pedestrian improvements in partnership with the City of Beaverton and Washington County. The sidewalk on Denney across Hwy 217 will be widened. Fanno Creek will be extended to Allen Blvd. The Hall Blvd. bridge over 217 in Beaverton will get wider sidewalks and bike lanes. The Hall Blvd. bridge over 217 in Tigard will be completely replaced; the new bridge will have wider sidewalks and bike lanes. There will be a detour in place for six months while that bridge is being worked on. The project will also build four sound walls along Hwy 217, three in Tigard and one in Beaverton.

The project is in the last months of design now. It will be finalized in the spring; the construction phase will begin about a year from now and continue into 2025. It's going to be messy, but the end result should be safer.

Lili will visit the NAC again once they're closer to starting construction. There will be an online open house next week (featuring NAC chair Ernie Conway) at [www.hwy217.org](http://www.hwy217.org). You can add your name to the e-mail distribution list on that webpage as well.

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**City Update:** Lani Parr presented updates on several city activities:

The City's combination of remote, virtual and onsite services to the public will continue through at least Thursday, December 31 in response to COVID-19. Visit [www.BeavertonOregon.gov/coronavirus](http://www.BeavertonOregon.gov/coronavirus) for information on the latest on available services; the status changes regularly so check back often.

Community members should help limit the spread of the virus and practice statewide requirements, such as wearing a face covering when inside public spaces and outdoors when six feet of distance can't be maintained. Also, wash your hands often, stay home when you're sick, and it's recommended that you get a flu shot. For more information, visit the CDC, Oregon Health Authority, Washington County Public Health Division, and 2-1-1.

The Beaverton Library continues to operate its BCL To Go pickup service at both locations. Library buildings remain closed, but library cardholders can make an appointment or drop in. See [www.BeavertonLibrary.org/BCLToGo](http://www.BeavertonLibrary.org/BCLToGo) for more information. Book drops at both the main library and the Murray Scholls branch are open for returns. The Computer Lab at the main library is open Tuesdays from 10 am to 2 pm and Wednesdays, 3-7 pm and is now offering wireless printing (free up to 20 pages). Visit <https://www.beavertonlibrary.org/467/Computer-Lab-and-Wireless-Printing> for more information.

Utility bill relief for qualified Washington County residents impacted by COVID-19 is still available. Visit [www.caowash.org](http://www.caowash.org) (Washington County Community Action) for more information. Housing and emergency rent assistance is also still available; \$700,000 has already been deployed but funds still remain. For more information, visit [www.BeavertonOregon.gov/housing](http://www.BeavertonOregon.gov/housing).

If you see something that you think should be on the City's website, reach out to Lani so she can make sure the information is available: Lani Parr [lparr@beavertonoregon.gov](mailto:lparr@beavertonoregon.gov), 503-526-2243

**BCCI report:** Rick reported that BCCI has been discussing many topics, such as diversity and police reform. A significant focus was on the online voters forum, which featured questions sent in from the NACs. They received positive feedback on the event.

BCCI will be getting a new City Council liaison now that Lacey Beatty has been elected mayor and Cate Arnold is moving on.

BCCI is working with the City on the Housing Options project. The City's work was undercut by HB2001, which basically eliminated single family zoning in Beaverton, so the City needs to figure out what the new law means. If we don't create our own zoning rules before 2022, the state will set the rules for us. Because our NAC and West Slope NAC have low density and have lots of large lots, we are likely to be ground zero for this work.

**Board business:**

- **Treasurer's Report:** Sheri reported that we received \$0.79 in interest.
- **Minutes from September:** Minutes were not posted in time, so we will approve at the December meeting.

**NAC board elections:** There were no new nominations. Ernie moved we retain the board as is for the next year. Sheri seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

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**Old business:** Ernie received two notifications for projects in our NAC going before the Planning Commission. One requests the removal of loading zone parking for the business behind the old Big & Tall clothing store by the Taco Bell on Hall/Scholls. The other requests a zoning change for an office business that's being converted to a medical facility. Both of those projects are going before the Planning Commission and not the NAC; the Planning Commission will accept public comments.

**Public Comment / New Business:**

Sheri asked whether we should contribute again to THRPD's holiday gift drive. Tracy moved to give Sheri \$250 to spend at her discretion for THRPD's holiday gift card program. Sherry seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Sheri will work with Jaspreet on how we can support local businesses with this effort. Jaspreet thanked us for participating and asked that we spread the word. For questions about the program, contact Jaspreet at [jchahal@thprd.org](mailto:jchahal@thprd.org).

Rick asked about a problem with cars trying to drive on the bike path that connects 5<sup>th</sup> Street to the Raleigh West neighborhood. Ernie noted that Jabra in the Traffic Engineering department can decide to put up signage if they believe it's needed. Rick will send the details to Lani who will forward them on to Jabra.

In-n-Out Burger is putting in a new location but we didn't hear anything about it. They're going into a location that was previously a restaurant so they didn't need any zoning changes, but traffic in that area (it's near the new Chik-fil-A) is a concern.

**Meeting end time:** 8:11 pm.