

City of Beaverton
Neighborhood Association Committee Meeting Minutes

NAC: Denney Whitford / Raleigh West

Date: May 13, 2021

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

Meeting start time: 7:03 pm (via Zoom); the recording will be posted on the DW/RW webpage and YouTube.

Beaverton Police Department report: Officer Haugen reported crime statistics in our area, and thefts have gone up through all of Beaverton. Catalytic converters are being stolen for the precious metals inside them and there has been an uptick in stolen vehicles. This may be partly due to the jail only holding people who commit certain kinds of crimes, so more people are just receiving a ticket and being released. The department also seeing more mental health issues, no doubt related to the stressors of the last year and a half. A captain is retiring, which will open up promotions within the department.

The department is joining with many cities in the area in partnering with local mental health clinicians to respond to mental health calls. The Sheriff's office has invited BPD to join their drone team; drones can be used in critical situations to get people the help they need safely.

There's an online tour of the new Public Safety building on the BPD website. Officer Haugen would still like to host us in person once that's available.

Officer Haugen is a school resource officer at several local schools. He is back in the schools with students now, working with the Beaverton School District and private schools in the area.

He's frequently asked if BPD goes down to Portland during the riots, and no, they don't. Ernie asked if the department has anyone monitoring Next Door, and no, no one is actively monitoring it.

Ron asked if the tour of the Public Safety Center would include a walk-through of the EOC (Emergency Operation Center) area, and Officer Haugen said yes—it's super cool and one of the nicer parts of the building.

Officer Haugen noted that feedback for the department is always welcome, and the NACs are a good conduit for information about what's happening in the community.

Tualatin Hills Parks & Recreation District report: Holly Thompson presented on behalf of Jaspreet. Summer registration is open and going well; they're seeing high demand, but they have fewer offerings than a typical summer (but more than last year). THPRD is hiring part time employees such as summer camp leaders, park maintenance, and lifeguards. They're hosting a virtual job fair next Wednesday from 3:00-6:00 pm.

THPRD has a ton of volunteer opportunities are available, especially for youth age 14 and older to help them get their service hours. One-day and ongoing opportunities are available for youth and adults.

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THPRD has partnered with the American Legion for a Remembrance Walk on Memorial Day. Send a photo of someone you want to honor through their Facebook or Instagram pages and it will be posted around Memorial Park.

This Saturday at Vose Elementary, THPRD is hosting La Primavera Con Familia y Amigos / Spring with Family and Friends. The purpose is to get public feedback on a new park going in near Allen and Lombard. If you stop by and give feedback on the park design, there are vouchers for local businesses in that are located in the area.

Last month, THPRD received a YMCA grant for \$64k. The grant had to be used by the end of June, but they mobilized quickly and got 160 youth on their financial aid list enrolled in summer camps.

Mobile Rec is out in full force every day, and it's free to participate! This is a beautiful time of year to visit trails and nature parks, and it's a great time for bird watching and wildflower viewing. There will be a public meeting on May 20th about the Beaverton Creek Trail alignment work.

The district is still figuring out what the latest guidance from the governor will work. All summer events this year will be smaller in scale, focusing on more events that are neighborhood focused. They expect to have another drive in bingo event, as the last one was a big success.

Raleigh and Somerset West pools are open for the season. Conestoga is open now but will close in July for important maintenance work. The splash pads are opening soon, and they expect them to be heavily used, especially since the City Park fountain will be closed for maintenance.

Visit THPRD.org for more details.

Neighborhood Review Meeting: Travis Walsh and Rich Brooks presented on behalf of Far West Recycling, 10515 SW Allen Blvd. seeks a conditional use permit to shift a wood truss fabrication facility into a metal recycling facility using an existing structure.

This is a 2.4 acre site with two existing buildings and several smaller storage sheds. It is zoned industrial, and their proposed use is allowed according to city code. They are adding new car and bicycle parking and landscaping. The site's primary use will be metals recycling; all sorting and compacting will happen inside the building. Their traffic impact analysis showed an expected decrease in trips to and from the site.

Far West Recycling was in Beaverton off Denney Road, then moved to Tualatin, and they are looking to get back into Beaverton. This facility will be strictly metals and a small amount of electronics recycling. Trucks bring the materials to the facility and it's immediately brought inside the building. They don't do any smelting and don't take any garbage or waste. There will not be stacks of metal in the open yard; everything will be in the building. The proposed use is more as a warehouse than a fabrication facility (as was there previously). Referring to Officer Haugen's comment about catalytic converter thefts, Rich noted that Far West is aware of this issue and works with the police when they see suspicious activity.

The owner currently has no plans to take recycling for anything other than metals; there are other Far West facilities that take additional items. Several people noted that the old Far West facility on Denney is missed by the community and we would like to have additional recycling options in the area; Rich will take this back to the owner. The smaller second building on the site is subleased to a card dealership and that will not change.

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Presentation: Traffic Control Program for Residential Streets: Rick presented concerns about the Traffic Commission's policy for determining which streets will receive traffic calming. Several NACs have wanted to add traffic calming but the Traffic Commission process didn't allow those projects to proceed as they hoped, so BCCI is looking at how the City might revise the process.

The current process starts with a complaint about excessive speeds. The City has many options for addressing speed issues and works with the neighborhood. The current process requires 67% of homeowners (one vote per household) in the affected area to vote for the project, and non-votes (non-returned ballots) are assumed to be "no" votes. This has made it very difficult to get traffic calming projects passed.

Based on feedback from the NACs, BCCI is asking Traffic Commission to review this policy. (Ernie clarified that Traffic Commission has already reviewed the policy several times, most recently in March, and decided not to make a change because there was not a clear solution to the problem; he recommended that BCCI come to Traffic Commission with a proposal.) The feedback shows that people are in favor of only counting the ballots that are returned and using a simple majority for passage. Non-votes would not be counted.

Do we know why people don't vote? There's a reason people don't vote, and we should know more about what that is. Ernie noted that the votes are a matter of public record, so perhaps people don't want their neighbors to know how they voted.

Tracy thought the 67% threshold was probably too high, but expressed concern that excluding non-voters might be disenfranchising a lot of people for reasons we don't understand well. Is it hard to vote? Do the ballots come in a way that makes sure they get noticed? Can people vote online? Do the ballots come in different languages? Also, she isn't sure that the people on NACs are speaking for the majority of residents (based on her many years on the NAC board). Does the City investigate root causes of the traffic issue? Yes, they do, and they also consider the future effects; speed bumps don't get installed on streets right next to each other if adding them on one street pushes volume to the next street over.

Sheri asked who gets a ballot in the case of a rental. Both the property owner (who may not live in the area) and the tenant get a ballot. Each household gets one ballot, so what happens if a household is divided on the issue? Ernie noted that once something like speed bumps are added to a street, it can be very difficult to have them removed. Tracy wondered if the current process was actually working as intended.

Ron asked if the City had looked at other municipalities to see how they handle this. Ernie believes that Jabra (Traffic Engineer with the City) has some information about this.

Rick will take this feedback to BCCI and work on a recommendation that can be brought to Traffic Commission and City Council.

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

City Manager finalists: A virtual event to meet the finalists occurred right before this meeting. The event included remarks from each of the finalists as well as answers to questions submitted on various topics. A survey will be distributed to the community to assess preferences, and the City Council expects to

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appoint the final candidate this summer. The recording will be online soon, and there's also a survey available: www.BeavertonOregon.gov/CityManager.

Free tax help extended: CASH Oregon and Metropolitan Family Services will continue to offer free tax preparation and filing services through Thursday, July 15 to Beaverton residents—please share this if you know anyone who needs this help. The IRS extended the tax deadline to May 17. Assistance will continue after the deadline starting May 27, with services offered Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays. Learn more at www.cashoregon.org and call 503-966-7942 to make an appointment.

City Council Meetings are moving to 6 pm (from 6:30 pm) while the current state of emergency is in effect, starting with the May meeting. Some roundtables may start at 5:30; visit www.BeavertonOregon.gov/citycouncil for agendas and additional meeting information.

Board business:

- **BCCI report:** Rick noted that in addition to the report above, BCCI has focused on the election.
- **Treasurer's Report:** Sheri reported that we had a \$500 deposit from the City in March. We received \$0.27 dividend in both March and April.
- **Minutes from February:** Sheri moved to approve the February minutes as posted; Rick seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment / New Business: Ernie still has the old sandwich board signs for the meetings; we didn't update them when we moved to Garden Home Rec Center. What do we need to do with them now that we're meeting virtually? Lani suggested that we could update them to show that we're now meeting on Zoom. Or, Ernie can drop them off at the City and they'll reuse them. We can also order new weather proof signs that can be more easily updated.

In-N-Out Burger is hosting a community meeting webinar on Zoom on May 20 at 6:00 pm. Go to the CPO3 website for more information: <https://www.co.washington.or.us/CAO/CPO/CPO3/meetings.cfm>

Meeting end time: 8:29 pm.

Next meeting: June 10, 2021 (if we have agenda items)