

## CVNA minutes Sept 2, 2015

**These minutes are posted on Collins View Nextdoor and collinsview.org**

**Meeting open at 7:00 PM**

**In attendance:** Bob Fischer, Denny Barnes, Dorothy Fay, Elise Delisser, Fran Laird, Gene Lynard, James Luce, Jim Diamond, John Miller, Mark Duntley, Maryellen Read, Maureen Diamond, Paula Robinson, Prakash Joshi.

**A Grand Alliance to Save Our Public Postal Service:** Jamie Partridge, an organizer with Communities and Postal Service United, accompanied by John Oliver, postal clerk at the Portland Main Post Office plant, and David Goldberg, community activist, spoke to us about the history and current situation of the USPS and asked Collins View Neighborhood Association to join the “Grand Alliance to Save our Public Postal Service.” ([www.agrandalliance.org](http://www.agrandalliance.org), [www.cpwunited.com](http://www.cpwunited.com), [www.savethepostoffice.com](http://www.savethepostoffice.com) ) John Miller made the motion to send the letter registering Collins View as supporter of A Grand Alliance. Maureen Diamond seconded. The motion carried with no objections. *[The letter was mailed Sept.8, 2015]*

Without any taxpayer funding, the USPS serves 150 million households and businesses each day, providing affordable, universal mail service to all – including rich and poor, rural and urban. The US postal service is self-supporting. Its revenue is generated by the sale of postage and services. However, in the last three years, half the postal processing plants have been closed (the processing plant in Salem went down two years ago; Pendleton processing went down in April); 82 are set to close; 5000 post offices are threatened with massive cuts (in Oregon 37 Post Offices are threatened now); rural post offices have been closed. Mail is being delayed and delivery standards have changed. Only one-third of US deliveries are now to the door. Postal service is using its own standards only 40% of the time now. Three-day across country delivery is now five days; six-day and door delivery are threatened; there is no first class special delivery now.

Are these facts economic based or are other factors playing a role?

- The US Postal Service is not broke. A congressionally manufactured USPS “crisis” imposed a crushing financial mandate (the Postal accountability and Enhancement Act of 2006) on the Postal Service that no other government agency or private company is forced to bear. Since 2006 the USPS has been forced to spend nearly 10% of its budget (\$5.5 Billion a year) to fund future retiree healthcare costs 75 years in advance. Without this unreasonable burden, the USPS would have had an operating surplus of \$600 million in 2013 and over \$1.4 Billion in 2014.
- Moneyed interests, who are big players in the private sector, want the profitable sections of postal services. Privatization is a big issue. Private Staples stores now operate an in-store postal service. Big shippers like Walmart and Amazon use UPS and FedEx for more profitable deliveries. They use USPS for rural and less profitable deliveries. Big mailers are giving profitable priorities to private shippers and giving USPS junk mail which floods USPS resources and only provides half the revenue of regular mail. This all adds up to higher costs and lower service.

- ☒ We need to put pressure on congressional management to improve our Postal Service.
- ☒ Prakash Joshi suggested that we, as customers, demand that major shippers give us a choice of shippers. The customer could opt to have USPS as the shipper.
- ☒ A Postal Protest will be held at the Portland Art Museum on Wed. Sept 23, 7-9AM

**The National Night Out Picnic**, co-hosted by Lewis and Clark, was a success. Weather cooperated. NET and friends of River View Natural Area volunteers hand delivered the invitations to every single mailbox in the neighborhood. Tryon Creek Grill donated all the great grill foods; Fred Meyer donated a gift card for purchasing condiments, and neighbors provided a delicious array of side dishes and desserts. Tables set up for NET, Backyard Habitat, and River View Natural Area information and handouts were kept busy with interested inquiries.

- ☒ Neighbors are encouraged to register for the Fred Meyer Community Rewards program to fund the neighborhood picnics, neighborhood emergency supply materials and other projects. [collinsview.org/community-rewards.html](http://collinsview.org/community-rewards.html)
- ☒ Maryellen will check out AmazonSmile for donations to Collins View. [9/5/2015: *The link, requirements and application were sent to SWNI. Sylvia's response was: "Collins View Neighborhood Association [does not] qualify because it is not an active Federal 501c3 charitable organization. If Collins View had a specific project they were fundraising for and establish a sponsorship account under SWNI we might be able to go that route]*

**The Neighborhood Association needs more people.** Several members said we need to be more forward thinking. The Minutes tell what has been done already. We need to tell people what we are planning to do ahead of time - a whole series of meetings on different things like emergency kits, Backyard Habitat, some theater, hikes, published ahead of time, even if they change before they come along. Have speakers, guests and projects announced in advance.

- ☒ An electronic calendar was suggested, as well as suggestions for future meetings.
- ☒ Markham Neighborhood is doing their meetings online. People can interact even from home. Communications committee SWNI is working on the license involved right now.
- ☒ Elise Delisser: Emails don't work. Try to personally invite a person to commit to come to one meeting. Whenever there is something going on in neighborhood, go and talk to people who may be interested. Ask what the interests are out there. Give us some info and then we can say "we took some suggestions back to the Neighborhood Association and here is an opportunity..."

The SWNI News is delivered to all 36,000 SW neighborhoods in July. You have to subscribe to get (free) issues.

**Lewis and Clark:** Mark Duntley: We have a position on the board for a student liaison, which has to be a part of the student government. Windy weather cancelled the August 29 ivy pull in River View Nature Area.

**The Campus Institution Zoning project** changes the college and OHSU's need to go through what is required today (a 5 year plan and neighborhood involvement), which will not be necessary. What is defined as "campus" and what is not considered "campus" is an issue. This project is driven by the institutions. Some neighborhoods have reached mutually happy relationships with their institutions. We don't have that yet. The project affects Collins View more than any other neighborhood. The college has plans for its properties, and we need to figure out what we are going to do as a community.

- ☒ We are very behind in this and we cannot wait, because Sept. 14 is the deadline for responses. A copy of draft was not made available until first week in Aug. Individuals should read the city staff recommendations. The bias of group that put this together and the bias of the city staff are evident. Individuals need to write.
- ☒ The huge issue is should institutions have blank check as to what they want to do with developing their property or should there be some kind of neighborhood involvement regarding some properties? A distinction should be made regarding what institutional properties are outside vs inside a campus proper.
- ☒ Neighborhood input is needed on projects like the proposed [and rejected] 400-people complex in the Maplecrest area that effect livability. It's not development on the campus proper that is at issue.
- ☒ Jim will put something on Nextdoor. Comments should go to [john.cole@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:john.cole@portlandoregon.gov). Read the draft. Make an individual comment. You need to go through the comment box for the meter to register your comment.

The next draft is going to be presented to city council in Nov. We should be prepared to talk about this next month.

**SWNI & Parks dates:** Fran Laird:

- ☒ Sept. 10, Thursday, 6:00-7:30, Java with Jules Bailey; Multnomah Arts Center 7688 SW Capitol Hwy.
- ☒ Sept 14, 9:00-11:00AM, SW Corridor Steering Committee talking testimony on tunnel to PCC Sylvania. Tualatin Police Dept, 8650 Tualatin Rd.
- ☒ Sept. 19 10:00-1:00 Community Document Shredding, 11318 SW Barbur Blvd; 503-245-6464
- ☒ Oct 3 9:00-12:00 Community Recycling Event, 6. 45 & California across from Gabriel Park
- ☒ Oct 29, 6:30 Community Policing Reception, Multnomah Arts Center 7688 SW Capitol Hwy.
- ☒ Nov. 7, 9:00-1:00 SWNI Fall Clean-Up, Portland Christian Center
- ☒ Nov. 18, 6:30PM: SW Neighborhood Schools TechConnect, Jackson Middle School

**Public Safety:** Gene Lynard asked for volunteers to staff Safety Vigils in Collins View. The feeling is that presence of volunteers and police who issue warnings heightens safety awareness at problem traffic locations. John Miller and Denny Barnes volunteered to staff intersections at Terwilliger and Taylors Ferry and Palatine Hill Road.

- A PBOT representative is scheduled to present the new “Vision Zero” initiative to prevent pedestrian and bicyclist injuries in the Portland Area at the Sept. meeting of the SWNI Public safety Committee.
- Let Gene know about nominees for “outstanding community leader” for the Spirit of Portland Award.
- There is a Community Policing reception Oct. 29.

**Transportation** Prakash Joshi: The wind-caused fire on Maplecrest was a downed power line arcing so hot that the fire involved tree trunks and went into the ravine. Because it was electrical fire, the firefighters had to wait four hours for PGE to turn the power off. Maplecrest was without power for the next 24 hrs. In the case of multiple emergency calls, PGE and other responders’ priority is to respond to the location that affects the greatest number of people. Collins View, because of its low population density, is way down on the list. This will be true in the case of a massive emergency caused by an earthquake for instance.

- The Terwilliger at Primrose crosswalk project is dragging. Collins View will ask SWNI to write a letter for our crosswalk and lights.
- The “No Trucks” sign on Primrose is ineffective. Medium size trucks are already on Primrose before they see the sign.

**NET** Bob Fischer 12-13 people will take the NET training in Sept.

- Our Collins View NET will have its next meeting on Tuesday October 6, 7 to 9 PM at St Mark Presbyterian Church (9750 SW Terwilliger Blvd, Portland, OR 97219). This will be our first meeting there. The meeting will be announced on Nextdoor.
- St Mark will be one of our primary neighborhood staging areas in case of a major emergency.
- Hayhurst NET has prepared a Disaster Preparedness program for SW neighborhood residents on September 29, 7 from 7:00 to 9:00PM at the Alpenrose Dairy - Opera House (6149 Southwest Shattuck Road Portland, OR 97221). Admission is free. They have lots of room.

**RVNA** John Miller: The River View Natural Area is in limbo, waiting for the final draft of its management plan to be discussed at one final PAC meeting on Sept 22. The perimeter trail, access to the area, and permitted uses will be spelled out in the plan, which will then go to city council for approval and implementation over a period of years.

- Fran was promised a copy of the plan “after Labor Day.”

- ☒ In the meantime, people walk their dogs off-leash and ride bikes, both currently non-permitted uses. Bikers also ride with lights at night. The ash remains of camp fires during the severe dry spell were documented.
- ☒ There is no budget for rangers, and yet the city found \$350,000 for an Off Road Cycling Master Plan (ORC-MP) study to determine proper places for mountain biking in the city.
- ☒ A single staff person is doing the ground work for the plan prior to issuing an RFP. The possibility of considering RVNA for off-road cycling was discussed on a recent KBOO radio show. So, many concerns will remain after any management plan is approved.
- ☒ No one in Collins view has been approached regarding the ORC-MP. Denny's communications with the city have been shut down.
- ☒ Maureen Diamond made a motion to authorize the Chair and officers to write a letter to demand Collins View have a representative on the ORC-MP PAC committee. The motion was seconded by Fran and passed by unanimous vote. The letter would be sent to Mayor Charlie Hale and Michelle Kunec-North [of the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability].
- ☒ John Miller suggested inviting Michelle Kunec-North.

**Student parking on Ridge Dr.** Dorothy Faye said six to eight student cars are being parked on Ridge Dr. There is not enough room for fire truck to get through.

**Macadam Ridge Development project** is a long process. It will eventually be changed.

**Meeting adjourned.**

Minutes submitted by Maryellen Read