

CVNA Minutes Sept 3, 2014 7:00 PM - 8:30

Samantha Walker opened the meeting

Officer Caspar, Portland police: Nothing crime-wise in August. He responded to complaints about noisy parties on 2nd Ave and 4th Ave. and warned them of significant fines for future unruly parties. Please call Lewis and Clark or police to get some action going. A deer got stuck in swing set. Police responded and got it freed.

Officer Caspar has been on Portlandia three times. The new series starts in February. Call Central Precinct to arrange a “ride-along with cops,” through our neighborhood or through others.

It has been super quiet at the medical marijuana dispensary.

Gene Lynard: The meetings of SWNI Public Safety Committee, (James Nobles, Chair) are held the first Thursday of the month at 7 PM in the Hamilton Room of the Multnomah Center. Stefanie Adams, Crime Prevention Coordinator for the City of Portland is moving on to a position in city-wide communications. SW Portland had a fairly quiet summer with a few hit and runs, a few burglaries.

2500 individuals in SW Portland attended National Night Out parties last month. 130 people attended the Collins View picnic. We spent \$208, collected \$89. This is not sustainable. A suggestion was made to apply for a small grant to fund this increasingly popular picnic.

An inappropriate large plywood sign was reported to be in a Brugger St. Driveway. Someone will check and if it is still there, Samantha will contact Officer Caspar.

Cheri Ann Richards is very discouraged about the lack of discussion or progress on public transportation issues in our area.

There is a city-wide trend of infill, buying up lots, and subdividing them to build multiple houses. Because lots are larger in Collins View, there is a lot of this activity here.

Anna Browne’s Maplecrest neighbors commented on the large sizes of new houses in that area. Howard Bornstein will mitigate the visual impact of his new house with landscaping.

Mark Duntley, Dean of Religious and Spiritual Life at Lewis and Clark, is the College representative to Collins View Neighborhood Association, taking over from Tricia Brand. Mark has lived on Palatine Hill Rd for 16 years. He wants students to be educated to be good neighbors, not just good students. Charlie Ahlquist, Director of the Student Rights and Responsibilities Program, is in a position to assist with the student/neighbor issues. Anna Gonzales, Dean of Students, wants to set up a discussion group with Mark, students, and neighbors to address the ongoing situation. Meanwhile, Mark is creating a database of noisy party houses. He recommends getting photos of party car plates. Dana Fischer said that Lewis and Clark is an enormous asset to our neighborhood.

Davis Parchment and Samantha Walker, Collins View Nextdoor leads, want feedback on how they are managing Nextdoor. The challenge is how to encourage wide ranging discussions, maintain civil discourse, and restrain aggressive tones without policing or censoring conversations. SWNI is now on Nextdoor.

Dave Johnston, Land Use Committee: Some important things going on with the Proposed Comprehensive Plan for the city which came out in July. Comprehensive Plan Update (Portland Plan Implementation) is accessible at the website [<http://www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/57352>]. This is “Proposed,” not final. It is expected to change. A critical issue for us is Lewis and Clark College being designated as “campus institutional” instead of “residential institutional.” “Campus institutional” exempts institutions from going through the conditional use hearings before building or expanding campuses. It is something to get involved in. Get on the web page [above] to give comments. [*from the website*: The Proposed Draft will be presented to the City’s Planning and Sustainability Commission (PSC), a volunteer advisory group responsible for advising City Council on long-range planning decisions. The PSC will hold several public hearings where Portlanders can testify in person:

September 23, 2014 at 5 p.m. (Focus on Goals and Policies) 1900 SW 4th Avenue, Room 2500A

October 14, 2014 at 5 p.m. (Focus on Maps) Community location TBD, see www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/pdxcompplan

October 28, 2014 at 5 p.m. (Focus on Maps) Community location TBD, see www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/pdxcompplan

November 4, 2014 at 4 p.m. (Focus on Citywide Systems Plan and Transportation System Plan) 1900 SW 4th Avenue, Room 2500A

Portlanders may also submit feedback on the Proposed 2035 Plan online through the Map App or in writing to the PSC. After considering testimony and revising the Proposed Plan, the commission will submit a Recommended Plan to City Council in spring of 2015.]

The designations in the Plan are not actual zoning, just the highest level of intensity that they can be zoned. One of the big changes we see is the city’s focus. Under the old Plan the focus was on the livability of surrounding areas. This Plan is very focused on employment. The city is under pressure from the state to provide more employment. The city will enact final zoning later. The Sept. 23 Planning Committee Meeting won’t be the place to ask questions.

Walter Lamberti said “Read these minutes. The City of Portland is leading to the institutions. This is a big business.... We will lose the power to go to administrative court with the College. With the zoning changes we have no input as to building.”

Prakash Joshi: This was put for consideration from some interest group. The question is who put this up for the city to consider?

Samantha Walker: Our October 1 meeting will have more time for feedback and information on the Comprehensive Plan and changes.

Prakash Joshi, Transportation Committee: We have regular conversations with the city regarding synchronizing traffic signals on Terwilliger. There is a big correlation between traffic density and the College being in session or not. The College had a terrific transportation management plan in past. Currently it is not in place.

Most limitations are topography related. They are actually thinking of expanding or changing the roadway. Currently the only option is signal tweaking. Lights allow small batches of traffic to Taylors Ferry. The signals at 2nd Ave and Terwilliger and the one at Taylors Ferry and Terwilliger are the most difficult to manage in the city. The city needs to come and experience in person that both intersections are a failure. We need a camera so they can see traffic density and fluctuations, but that is a staffing issue. The priority of managing the traffic going south on Terwilliger is to keep the I-5 at Terwilliger off-ramp from backing up onto the highway. The Sellwood Bridge construction is not a factor, but traffic from Lake Oswego and West Lin is. There are many new houses going in and traffic comes through here. We can work with institutions like Trimet. We worked with them before. The city is a much tougher issue.

The Primrose St./Terwilliger intersection needs a flashing signal. Conversations are ongoing. The city would like to have twenty people per hour crossing Terwilliger between Terwilliger at 2nd Ave and Taylors Ferry. The city hasn't said whether bikers are to be counted.

Samantha Walker asked if Portland is considering a flashing left hand turn signal (left hand turns yield to oncoming traffic instead of waiting for next light rotation) to help with traffic flow. Beaverton did that, enabled by a change in state law that went into effect this past year.

Jim Diamond, Environment Committee: SWNI Transportation Meeting, Monday September 15th, 7PM, room 30 in the Multnomah Arts Center. There are multiple opportunities to get comments in regarding what the goals and policies in the Plan should include. Parallel with the Comprehensive Plan, the Transportation System Plan is being updated right now. General considerations are high crash corridors, pedestrian safety. For Collins View, the priorities are: the pedestrian crossing at Primrose St., a bike path to Lewis and Clark Campus from Taylors Ferry, and addressing the very dangerous lack of lighting at the Palatine Hill/Palater intersection. A suggestion was made to submit these proposals from the Collins View Neighborhood Association.

Jim will put the information on Nextdoor.

Fran Laird, Parks Committee:

Sept 28 - Sunday Parkways - walk or bike 6 miles traffic free - 11AM to 4PM
PortlandSundayParkways.org for route, and details.

Sept 30 - Portland Comprehensive Plan Workshop - Tuesday, from 7:00 to 9:00PM.

Oct 28 - Community Policing Reception - 7:00 PM Multnomah Arts Center Auditorium - Please contact me if you have any experiences with Officer Caspar or his peers that you would like related at the event.

Nov 18 - Portland Tree Policy Forum - no time yet decided – at Multnomah Arts Center - this will answer your questions on the new tree policy that is going into effect on January 2nd.

There is talk about slashing budget for SW Watershed Resource Center. It passed for one year and it is coming up again. Some voices want to put SW Watershed in the same category as Columbia Slough.

Go online [<http://www.fixourparks.org/endorse/>] to endorse “Fix Our Parks” for parks replacement grant.