

Homestead Neighborhood Association
General Membership Meeting Minutes

DRAFT

Tuesday, December 5, 2017

OHSU – CDRC 707 SW Gaines, Portland, OR

Meeting called to order at 7:02 sharp. Introductions. Minutes approved w/ one correction.

Presentation:

Janelle St Pierre: Nat'l Resources Ecologist, Portland Parks and Rec.

She works with various stakeholders and is here to give an update on Eagle Point planning. After acquisition of Eagle Point, PPR used "park stabilization funds" to get the site to a more natural condition (removing invasives, structures, etc). Thus far, it has been maintained as a natural area, but the site has potential for other uses. They have removed ivy and non-native trees, and stabilized the failing retaining wall with stones already in place (all native). The main portion of Eagle Point was purchased with city & Trust for Public Lands funds, but the neighboring plot (East of Eagle Point) was managed by Portland's Bureau of Transportation- the center of which is supposed to be permanently managed as a park, but it is all surrounded by right-of-way (including (only) the unpaved piece of Lowell Lane). There still is public right-of-way along the Lane through the entire plot, but it is no longer a street: it has been "half-vacated", so the half is public ROW, and other half is private. Milt asked that this be clarified, as apparently some neighboring property owners have stated that the entire ROW has been vacated and should not be accessible to the public... Janelle stated this is not true. In addition, there actually is one plot (on Condor) that may have development rights, and if developed, builders might need to traverse Park/PBOT property to get there.

Over past 2 years, PBOT's plot has been "transferred" to PPR for management (it took a while to write that agreement), and since then, there has been some mgmt of invasive trees. Moving forward, however, this will move slowly as there is no funding. Funding was requested for planning this last year (actually, funding was requested to develop a plan for all of Marquam Nature Park and Terwilliger/Eagle Point), but it had not been approved by the city.

Jackie asked how the NA could get more info, as apparently much has been planned/done and residents/NA were not aware. Janelle noted that any construction or trail that required a public process would definitely involve the NA in the planning. Bob asked if anything was planned now, and Janelle said that

multiple grants are in the works but that she is not a planner (she just manages plants). Susan noted that our NA and volunteers had helped plant ~1200 plants soon after Eagle Point had been acquired. She requested a copy of PPR's agreement with PBOT so that we could see the boundaries of the former PBOT plot more exactly. Janelle stated that the boundaries are marked with "Carsonite" posts. She also noted that there are a few "high profile" points along Terwilliger (one of which is at Eagle Point) as dedicated in the original Olmstead plan.

Jackie noted that a letter had been written a couple of years ago after an NA meeting to request a few amenities (water source, benches, etc), so perhaps that could be reconsidered, if planning is to move forward. Janelle encouraged us to communicate our needs to city park planners.

Janelle said that the current grant to manage ivy along Terwilliger is winding down (it ends at the end of 2018), but they have made quite a bit of progress particularly at Eagle Point. However, the PBOT portion of the property is still quite full of invasives (weed trees, ivy). Margaret asked about how to find out about any non-plant-related plans, Janelle suggested that we contact park planner Rachel Felice who works on the West side parks. Someone asked if folks along Condor that about the property have all been notified; and Janelle mentioned that she has spoken to all except one property owner.

Milt noted there are many developments happening along the edges of Marquam Nature Park, and he suggested that it would be good to plant some large-scale buffers (trees) as these are otherwise large-scale, many-story apartment buildings right along the trail. Janelle is aware of these developments, but nothing is currently planned there from a PPR perspective. If we have any concerns she encourages us to contact her or Rachel Felice. She can be reached at: 503-307-3426 janelle.st.pierre@portlandoregon.gov

Regular Reports:

Treasurer's Report: Aaron Clemons. No changes: balance is \$792. Sign cap fund still has \$90.

Land Use: Milt Jones. Two items:

1. Map refinement project (via PSC/city council): PSC had a work session earlier this month, and they agreed to accept the staff recommendation re: rezoning on Marquam Hill. Thus, part of what is currently CM1 adjacent to OHSU will become CM2, but part of the Marquam Hill Plan District. Thus, it will have similar rules to other CM2 zones, but not allow commercial (rented) parking: businesses can have parking for customers but not rent to commuters. They are their own new "zone" so their parking spots will not count towards/against the OHSU cap. The rest of the former CM1 would be RH with a 2:1 ratio, so higher rise residential. Typical RH 2:1 is 2 stories with a 3rd story set-back.

2. Residential infill project: Comment period is closed. Comments will be reviewed by staff and then go to City Council (who will make the ultimate decision). Milt thinks that this will be a huge issue moving forward, esp as many people don't know this is ongoing, and not many people he has encountered like this plan.

SWNI Board Notes: Milt Jones. SWNI approved a position on the residential infill... largely against the proposal.

Parks: Susan Egnor. At the SWNI mtg, there was some discussion of different projects on the city lists. Susan asks, since we just spoke about it, does our NA want to put a plan for Terwilliger /Marquam Park management on the list of city PPR planning priorities? Janelle adds that there is no overall plan for Marquam park (in terms of mgmt priorities, trails etc), and that Terwilliger needs an update. She also notes that PPR has been told to expect a 5% budget cut, so she's unclear about how anything might be funded, but if it is an NA priority, it is worth communicating that so it can be put on the list. Jackie and Susan note that Marquam Park is a much newer park, and doesn't already have a plan, and thus really is different than Terwilliger, esp since Terwilliger already has a plan that is well-relied upon. Thus she suggested that they be considered separately.

Michael notes: there has been some exploration of putting new stairs at the top of the Whitacre trail, and he fears if there is about to be a new plan, this might make this planning unwise, since any work towards replacing the stairs might end up for naught. Janelle notes that nothing will happen anytime soon.

A local family (Burkhardt) is interested in putting up a plaque in memorial of their recently deceased dog, and perhaps with a dog litter bag dispenser, up at the playground on Terwilliger. Jackie will pass along their contact info to Janelle to figure out how this might be processed and considered.

Membership/Outreach: Susan Egnor Invasive Blackberry Removal day - meet along Terwilliger, and transport will be organized to Casey eye. December 16, Sat, 9-12. Tools will be available.

OHSU Liaison: Michael Harrison Two items:

1. Marquam Hill Connector Project: OHSU has engaged some design consultants to help envision the SW Corridor to Campus connector, as it would likely have a major impact on the entrance/main entry point/gateway onto campus, both visually and in terms of traffic/peds flow. Their design firm (Mayer Reed; the same firm that helped design the Terwilliger plan and also has worked on SW Corridor Planning) is considering two main options- both an at-grade crossing and a sub-grade crossing. This is in some ways a tentative exercise, as this is all parks land, so it would still require all sorts of design approval processes to actually get implemented. That said, they are hoping to engage all stakeholders (e.g. Parks, PBOT, NA, OHSU, etc) to see if certain design elements might resonate and could inform a final plan. This process is just beginning and as plans are developed, they will come back to the NA get more feedback. To clarify: the consultants are really just looking at the area from the eastern curb of Terwilliger, and westwards. Jackie asks Michael if there has been any progress made on the Barbur vs Naito

alignment decision question... he says not yet. He also notes that there is a group of design students at U of O and U of P (architecture/engineering) who are interested in tackling this same question as a school project (the Barbur- OHSU connector), so they are gathering info, and might do some public outreach as well as they proceed.

2. SWIM (SW In Motion): Is an "active transportation" group, and they are examining new trail possibilities in SW Pdx, has met 2x. Michael is our NA rep to the group. SWIM just plans the trails, and the money would come from multiple sources. We might be able to leverage our meter district funds to help get things to happen in our NA. So we discussed him taking our list of trail priorities (approved at a recent NA mtg) to add to the list of trails for SWIM to examine.

New Business:

NO JANUARY MEETING - next meeting Feb 6, unless something urgent arises.

Meeting adjourned 8:40pm

Respectfully submitted

Eric Schnell