

Madison South Neighborhood Association Virtual General Meeting

October 7, 2021

Chair Dave Smith opened the meeting at 7:00pm, welcomed all and noted that the meeting was being recorded.

The following were present:

Dave Smith	Doug Fasching	Stacy Bancroft	Pat Smith	Tristan Isaac
Rhonda Johnson	Ruth Hander	Heidi Jo Grubbs	Lisa Walsh	Laura Bouma
Bruce Dennis	Suzanne Dennis	Monique Smiley	KT (per Zoom profile)	

Absent Board Members: Ben Cutler, Will Heiberg

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Heidi Jo Grubbs made the motion to accept the minutes of June 3, 2021 as presented. **Stacy Bancroft** seconded; motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Rhonda Johnson gave the treasurer's report.

Following suggestion to update header and addition of the balance for July 2021, there was no further questions or discussion, **Stacy Bancroft** made a motion to accept the report as submitted; **Lisa Walsh** seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

NEIGHBORHOOD OFFICER UPDATE:

Our neighborhood officer **Rich Holthausen** was unavailable.

GUEST SPEAKER:

Multnomah County Commissioner Susheela Jayapal, Representative of District 2, North/Northeast Portland

Commissioner Jayapal shared that she has been serving on the commission for three years and stated her priorities:

- 1) **Dealing with the implications of COVID:** Public Health, Education, Vaccination
- 2) **Houselessness:** Commissioner Jayapal served on the Metro Supportive Housing Services Committee on a measure that passed in 2020 and will be working on next term with funds that have just come in.
 - Working on gaps in shelter: established the Arbor Lodge shelter in North Portland.
 - Working on safe parking locations for vehicles including RVs.
 - Immediate needs: include mobile showers and outreach teams
- 3) **Safety:** concerns about gun violence- hope to mitigate with wrap around services that address poverty and racism.
 - The commission allocated \$1 million for the DA to investigate and prosecute gun violence as well as getting guns off the streets.
 - Currently working with the Cully neighborhood to create more community events as the pandemic has frayed the social fabric.
 - Working on place-based coalitions to focus on community safety in neighborhoods.
- 4) **Youth Employment:** the pandemic has resulted in youth out of school and lacking activities.
 - Working on getting resources to give young people more options.
- 5) **Air Quality:** Development of "Wood Smoke" work groups to address this very unhealthy pollutant.
 - Has worked with State Representative Michael Dembrow on a \$500k grant to assist people currently dependent on wood for heat to transition to healthier heat sources.

For the next term, priorities will be:

Houselessness, Air Quality, Community Safety, Long-term Economic Stability, Entrepreneurship and Trade Training.

Commissioner Jayapal took some questions from the floor regarding houselessness.

- She believes Portland has a greater houseless population than Vancouver despite proximity because we offer more services. There is also a big difference in rent in the two cities. She believes there is little evidence to support the idea that people are coming here from other parts of the country.
- The goal will be to move people into housing for 3-4 years. Current economic and rent situations have contributed to the increase of houselessness. It is important to address immediate issues such as fire hazards, which are of great concern to neighborhoods. The Commissioner believes there will be a significant change for the better in the next 6-12 months.
- Regarding concerns that allowing houseless individuals to set up at the Expo Center is enabling, the Commissioner believes that housing is a human right, and this is an attempt to provide a safe place for people to be prior to getting into permanent housing.

In closing, Commissioner Jayapal invited neighbors to reach out to her with questions.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Chair -Dave Smith accepted nomination by Doug Fasching to serve another term; seconded by Ruth Hander

At Large/Land Use-Ben Cutler has stepped down from the Board.

Tristan Isaac accepted nomination by Ronda Johnson to serve; seconded by Lisa Walsh

At Large/CNN- Doug Fasching accepted nomination by Ronda Johnson to serve another term; seconded by Dave Smith

At Large/CNN – Ruth Hander accepted nomination by Ronda Johnson to serve another term; seconded by Doug Fasching

Bruce Dennis made the motion to cast a white ballot for the proposed nominees. **Doug Fasching** seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

CASCADIA ACTION:

Tristan Isaac reported that the City denied a land use permit for proposed expansion requested by Zenith Terminal, a fossil fuel storage facility in NW Portland. DEQ also cited Zenith for violations.

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION RENAMING;

Stacy Bancroft reported that she reached out to McDaniel High School to learn more about their process and learned that it was very structured and resource intensive. It was at times contentious with those who were opposed to the school renaming striking out at those in favor, so we should be mindful of that. It should be noted that students were very strong drivers of the process, which was a community-led group effort. The renaming of the high school was a year-long process with a lot of community outreach. Renaming the Neighborhood Association would be a long-term process. **Chair Dave Smith** asked if anyone present would like to chair such a renaming committee. As no one stepped forward, the issue was tabled for now.

SOLVE CLEANUP:

Stacy Bancroft reported that volunteers met at McDaniel HS/Glenhaven Park and embarked on a successful event. The Lumberyard donated lunch from Pizza Schmizza, as well as garbage disposal space. Les Schwab also stepped up for the latter. Stacy hopes to put on two more cleanup events in the near future.

CNN RESILIENCY GRANT:

Stacy Bancroft reported that additional funds became available from CNN, which were allocated to McDaniel High School (Families in Need Program- gift cards totaling \$500) and Jason Lee School (SUN Program- Grocery gift cards totaling \$500.)

LAND USE UPDATE:

Land Use Chair Ben Cutler has stepped down from this role and the MSNA Board. **Tristan Isaac** will be assuming this role.

CNN UPDATE:

CNN Chair Doug Fasching gave the following update:

- **CNN Small Grants Program** (\$20k available) is back this year with applications due in December. The Grants Committee will review submissions in December, with grants announced in February. Grant examples might include volunteer-led events like the SOLVE Cleanups. Ronda Johnson hopes to publicize the program this month and will send out mass emails to Boards in the coalition reviewing the grant process, which will include a mandatory Zoom meeting for those interested in applying. She will also be reaching out to Jason Lee School, Mainspring Community Services, JOIN and McDaniel High School to encourage their participation.
- **Land Use** Two meetings were held this summer, focusing on the following:
- **Safe Streets Program**, which focuses on ways to slow down speeding for the safety of bicyclists and pedestrians. In Madison South, barrels at 86th and Tillamook will eventually be replaced with moveable concrete planters by August 2022. This type of traffic mitigation will be implemented citywide.
- **Cully Neighborhood Association-** has implemented the Tax Increment Financing (TIF) program through Prosper Portland (formerly Portland Development Commission- PDC) These funds will be distributed by a TIF Board to groups including Hacienda and Verde. The goal is to revitalize Cully Boulevard and NE 42nd Avenue.
- **Trees for Life-** this organization encourages developers to increase the tree canopy in their projects. More information is available at [TreesForLifeOregon.com](https://www.treesforlifeoregon.com)

OLD BUSINESS:

- 1) **Board Meeting** is scheduled for **Thursday, November 4, 7 pm via Zoom**. Agenda items will include review of **MSNA Bylaws and Action Plan**. Stacy Bancroft and Heidi Jo Grubbs will work on a draft of the former to present at the meeting.
- 2) **Follow up on discussion in 2020 about adopting a family for the holidays**. Following discussion, **Stacy Bancroft** agreed to reach out to McDaniel HS, Jason Lee School and Mainspring to determine if they have a process in place for identifying families in need. **Pat Smith** will reach out to a few local non-profits like Catholic Charities, IRCO and Lutheran Family Services. Neighbor Suzanne Dennis mentioned the GAP Food Pantry in Madison South is putting together holiday food boxes. **Heidi Jo Grubbs** will reach out to McDaniel and/or the City to find out about the demographics of Madison South, as it was agreed that it was important to recognize the nuances of different cultures regarding the holidays.

NEW BUSINESS:

Dave Smith asked whether Madison South should have their own Zoom account; Ronda Johnson will discuss this with CNN Director Alison Stoll and connect with Dave following.

Bruce Dennis asked about the typical turnout for general meetings, as well as how neighborhoods usually communicate. There was brief discussion about the coalition and other neighborhoods.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business, **Doug Fasching** made the motion to adjourn the meeting. **Heidi Jo Grubbs** seconded; motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:53 PM.

The next General MSNA meeting will be held virtually on Thursday, December 2, 2021.

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Walsh