

Monday, October 13, 2025: BWNA General Board Meeting (7:00-8:30 p.m.)
Sylvan Learning Center, 4300 N.E. Fremont St. (or via Zoom)

Welcome & Introductions (President Al Ellis)

- 1) Board members and Committee chairs present: Al Ellis, President, Tim Gillespie, Vice-President, Patty Nelson, Immediate Past President, Patti Koehler, Secretary. At Large Board Members, John Sandie, Angela Frome, Colin O'Neill, Susan Trabucco, Rob Lee, Crystal Grainger, Tom Cuppernull, Matt Grainger
- 2) Board members and Committee chairs with excused absences: David Knowles, Karla Lenox, Aaron Breakstone, Tim Root, Mary Roney
- 3) Neighbors: Peggy Ellis, Polly Webber, Michelle Rudd, Diane Charlton, Jim Karlock, Cathy McCarthy (Concordia Board member).

Association Meeting and Governance Items

- 1) Approval of Meeting Agenda (Al): Patty moved, Tim G seconded, passed unanimously
- 2) "Land Acknowledgement" was presented in honor of Indigenous Peoples' Day. Tim G gave an insightful and appreciated presentation about the Native American Tribes which lived in our region at the time of the Lewis and Clark expedition.
- 3) Approval of Sept. 9th Board Meeting minutes (Patti Koehler): As amended, John moved, Angie seconded, passed unanimously.
- 4) Treasurer's Report (Al, substituting for Karla)
 - a.) Cash in checking account: \$20,622.26
 - b.) Cash in Venmo account: \$1,839.32
 - c.) Outstanding bills: To Susan for rental of Concordia Community room for upcoming board retreat. Patti is awaiting Karla's return for Block Party bill
- 5) Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods (NECN) report (Patty Nelson): Patty reports that the discourse continues at NECN. A Grievance and complaint committee has been formed. Nothing formal to report.
- 6) Board Retreat: (Al) Board retreat is set for Sat. Nov 15th at Kennedy School from 9-2. Had made a reservation at Mule Bar but they double booked us. Susan was asked by Al to check out Kennedy School which was available for \$25/hour. Will book for 6 hours total at a cost of \$150. Al will discuss total budget with Karla when she returns and will let us know how much money we will have remaining for food. He nominated Angie and Patti to work on food options. Al discussed agenda items that he currently has planned and asked for feedback and other suggestions.

- 7) Policy Matter: Should BWNA endorse ballot measures, and if so, via what procedure(s)? Al received a request that we, as a board, back the upcoming Parks ballot measure. A discussion followed but no decision was made. Al agreed to put it on the upcoming Retreat agenda for further discussion as our current policy statement does not specifically address this issue.

Outstanding Action Items and Committee/Team Updates

- 1) Block Party review (Patti/John); Events Committee (John): Patti reported that the block party was very well attended. There were four food carts (up from two last year) and everyone reported they had good sales. pFriem Beer gave away 625 cans of beer, vs 500 last year and ran out of beer at 7PM. Beauberry ice cream was busy the entire event. The music was well received with no complaints of it being too loud. There was a complaint that you could not hear The Royal Blues when they sang so we will look at that for next year. The tables and chairs were not full but they seemed to be a very good addition. A post block party meeting occurred with Laurie Webber (who had done all of the paperwork/permitting duties), Ann Angola (who was in charge of the kids play area) and Patti. We are in the process of compiling a booklet that will describe the steps and time frame required to put on the block party in the hope that the responsibility for organizing the event will eventually be handed off to others. Next year's event is planned for Sept. 11th which is the first Friday after Labor Day. Thank you cards for our sponsors were provided for the Board to sign. Total sponsorship came close to \$2,200.

John reported a small crowd attended the Electrify your house event at the Mule Bar. The Cascadia Subduction Zone talk will occur on Nov 13th at Fremont United Methodist Church at 7PM. Currently there are 65-70 people registered with a max of 150. The events committee with the help of Michelle Rudd and the website team is looking at volunteer coordination, how to link people to their specific interests. It's an ongoing work in progress. Still working out details regarding a possible recycling event early winter 2026 and a collaborative event with the Center for Positive Aging regarding a senior resource day. Lastly, a city initiative to create temporary community gathering plazas was discussed, just in the information gathering stage, no formal proposal has yet been made.

- 2) Beaumont Market Update (Al, Angie, David): Angie reports that they sent a letter to the Oregon Beverage Recycling Cooperative (OBRC) putting together data and a synopsis of all of our concerns asking what their process was for receiving a recycling bin as they had heard it could take 10-12 months. Members of OBRC visited the store in person and reviewed the options with the store manager as the Beaumont market team decides the pathway they

would like to pursue. The good news is on Sept 22nd they gave the market their official approval to start the work. Now they are waiting on the property owner to approve the final process as the market does not own the property. OBRC reported that once they have the proposal signed it will take 2-4 weeks to build equipment and then they wait for city permits which can take some time. Commissioner Dan Ryan, who has been involved in supporting this project got in touch with the permitting office asking them to expedite the paperwork when complete.

- 3) Transportation Committee (Colin); Colin further described PBOT's neighborhood plaza initiative which was a temporary program for the past few years in response to COVID but is now a permanent program. Basically BWNA would be responsible for suggesting some locations that would be good candidates. It would be a section of street closed to most traffic for the summer (though some have become permanent). Cathy McCarthy from the Concordia Neighborhood Association described the process they undertook to make a plaza that is now permanent on the corner of NE 30th Ave and Killingsworth. It was a collaborative effort between the Association, PBOT and restaurants that abutted the space. A discussion followed. Colin proposed putting together a public platform ad hoc committee to further explore options and provide the board with a recommendation. Rob seconded Colins proposal, all agreed.

Colin reports he has spoken to PBOT several times in the past about putting up speed readers in the neighborhood. The guy he has been working with took it to his leadership and they have been asked to put together a series of plans and what it would look like to have speed readers and other safety signage in certain parts of neighborhoods. It's a first step with a long way to go, lots of issues including maintenance, equity etc to work out.

Colin also spoke with his contact (Rick) at PBOT regarding the middle schooler who was hit by a car when he was on his bike crossing Fremont from a yellow curb ramp installation across from Starbucks. PBOT does not have crosswalk marking on those yellow curb ramp installations and car's can park right next to them limiting sight lines for pedestrians and drivers. Rick has promised to look into the site lines there and other spots on Fremont where there may not be good sight lines.

- 4) Land Use Committee (Tim R); No report in Tim's absence.
- 5) Friends of Wilshire Park Committee; No report in Mary's absence.
- 6) New Neighbor Welcoming Project Report (Al); Thanks to Crystal and Matt who took son of the 10 packets and to Jamie Gardner who took 4.
- 7) Website/E-Blast Report (Matt Grainger): Matt states they are getting the volunteering information on the website and the form has had a little bit of

action for signups. Also continue to add signups to Mailchimp. Jane Feinberg has been great at getting people added who sign-up to get involved at our live events. Matt has been calling the E-blast the Community Update as he feels E-blast is a little dated. Jane was also really helpful in getting the last update out to our email list.

Jim Karlock asked Matt about a problem he had when looking at our website for tonight's meeting information. Matt acknowledged problems may occur due to the browser one is using or the age of one's software. It's a difficult problem to solve.

- 8) Newsletter Team Report (Susan); The new newsletter is shaping up to be lovely with great articles and writers. Giving the block party one and a half pages. Will talk about finances with the newsletter at the retreat.

Upcoming Board Meeting: Monday, Nov. 10th, 2025, 7:00 p.m., Sylvan Learning Center

Adjournment

8:35