

## **Monday, April 14, 2025: BWNA General Meeting**

Sylvan Learning Center, 4300 N.E. Fremont St. (or via *Zoom*)

### **Welcome & Introductions** (President Al Ellis)

- 1) Board members present: Al Ellis, President, Patti Koehler, Secretary, Karla Lenox, Treasurer, Patty Nelson, Immediate Past President. At Large Board Members; Aaron Breakstone, Angela Frome, Tim Root, John Sandie, Susan Trabucco, David Knowles
- 2) Board members with excused absences: Tim Gillespie, Vice President, Tom Cuppernull, Colin O'Neill, Rob Lee
- 3) Guests: Mary Roney, Chair of the Friends of Wilshire Park committee. Jim Karlock. Neighbor. Matt Grainger, Crystal Grainger, neighbors.  
German Jara and Connor Dejeu from the Portland Naked Bike Ride here to field any questions regarding this year's event on 7/26. Riders will meet in Wilshire Park at 5pm and will leave the park to proceed, on a still undisclosed route, at dusk. There will be a porta potty at the park for participants to use. A group of people will stay behind to clean up. They will come through the following day to clean up anything they missed the night before. This is an international event which happens in 37 countries. It is focused on body positivity, bike safety and is also a protest against oil dependency. There is another smaller organization called World Naked Bike Ride Portland. They are more protest focussed. Jamie Gardner and Susie Hunt Moran, BW Realtors here to discuss Pickleball event idea..

### **Association Meeting and Governance Items**

- 1) Approval of Meeting Agenda (Al): Eliminated Sam Balto's request for a vote on the Bike Bus Friendly Neighborhood Greenway Plot because PBOT informed him yesterday there was no funding to make this happen. Forwarded an email to the board which he sent out which you can read. Crossed out the Transportation Committee report as Colin is in Ireland. Patty moved, Angie seconded motion to accept the meeting agenda as amended. Approved unanimously.
- 2) Approval of March 10th Board Meeting minutes (Patti Koehler): John moved and Susan seconded approval of amended minutes.
- 3) Treasurer's Report as of 3/31/25:
  - a.) Cash in checking account: \$24,250.27
  - b.) Cash in Venmo account: \$1,660.03
  - c.) Outstanding bills: \$99.99 to Patti for transcription service. \$48 to John and \$31 to Susan for promotional fees associated with Doug Decker talk ( \$100 budgeted). \$359.88 to Jane Feinberg to pay annual fee for Adobe Creative Cloud software (up \$120 from last year).
  - d.) Checking account and NECN: Karla said the banking saga continues but things are moving forward. She requested Al and Patti stay after the meeting to sign necessary paperwork to establish accounts under our tax ID number. Al also needs to sign a copy of the bylaws that were adapted 12/24. Karla will be going to the bank this week and hopes to hand in all of the documents, establish our accounts and close out accounts that are still associated with CNN.
  - e.) Questions/Discussion: Discussion regarding Fiscal Sponsorship Agreement with NECN. Karla reports frustration with NECN as they have not replied to her email. Al stated Tim had

raised a concern about a line in the Fiscal Sponsorship Agreement that fiscal sponsors shall be reimbursed for its administrative and overhead costs. Patty suggested we put it on the agenda for next month to discuss and vote on. She also discussed ways other neighborhoods have modified the agreement.

- 4) Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods (NECN) report (Patty Nelson); Fiscal Sponsorship (Al): Patty continues to work with NECN and acknowledged that communication continues to be an ongoing concern which they are working on. NECN sent out a compliance report which listed us as outstanding for our board roster, bylaws and articles of incorporation. Patty will provide these items to them with our updated roster following tonight's election. They had an all day retreat on Saturday with a nonprofit attorney. The attorney noted that if we are an EIN, gross revenues in excess of \$5,000 need to be reported to the IRS. When asked about insurance coverage Patty stated that NECN has to provide insurance. However, with city wide budget cuts the city is not going to have funds identified specifically for insurance and it will fall back to the district offices to decide how to allocate the funds they do get, which is a concern. She also noted that several community centers are slated to close due to budget cuts.

#### 5) **Board Elections**

Officers: In absentia Al nominated Tim Gillespie for Vice President (Tim consented via email) and Patti Koehler for Secretary. At large positions: Al nominated John Sandie, Tim Root, Susan Trabucco and David Knowles. All nominated board members consented and were approved with unanimous vote. Al nominated Crystal Grainger to fill position number 7 and asked her to introduce herself.

Crystal was born and raised in a blue collar family in Eugene. Her family leaned in heavily to community and grassroots type of activity which lead her to wanting to fill this position. She attended school at UO, majored in political science and Spanish with a focus on public policy. She and her husband Matt moved to Portland in 2017 with their cat, Anya, and their dog, Frankie. They initially lived in the Concordia Neighborhood but moved to BW in 2022. She works at an environmental scientific research firm based in Upstate New York where she is the director of growth and innovation and spends a lot of time working with small scale farmers and food companies. In her free time she plays pickle ball, bikes, gardens and assists in local neighborhood events. She wishes to bring her passion and experience to the board. Crystal's nomination was approved unanimously.

### **Outstanding Action Items and Committee/Team Update**

- 1.) Dr. Elizabeth Safran event (Patti); Skidmore St. pickleball proposal (Jamie Gardner): The board had previously approved Geologist, Dr. Scott Burns to be one of our guest lecturers. Unfortunately he is now fully retired and no longer doing presentations. Dr. Safran is a Geologist at Lewis and Clark. Her passion is the Cascadia Subduction Zone (though she could also speak about the geological formation of Portland). Patti moved that we substitute Dr. Safran for our previously approved budgeted event with Dr. Scott which was slated for November and that she provide a lecture on the CSZ. Aaron seconded and following discussion the motion was approved unanimously.

Jamie Gardner and Susie Hunt Moran, realtors with Windermere Real Estate are passionate about pickle ball. They have run tournaments and play events in the past and wonder if we could join together for a community event. They would like to have four courts, initially Skidmore was considered but the street is not flat enough. A lengthy discussion was had including physical requirements,

possible spaces, and timing for advertisement in the for July/August newsletter submission date of June 1st. Insurance was also briefly discussed. Al moved that we support the concept but that this matter be referred to the Events committee. Patti seconded. There was unanimous agreement.

- 3.) New Neighbor Welcoming Project (Al): Only one new packet this month for 2831 NE 46th.
- 4.) Friends of Wilshire Park Committee (Mary Roney): Mary reported they had a walk through the park with Violet Davis from the Portland Parks and Recreation. She supervises over 40 parks. Due to city budget cuts, no funds for plants or projects. Will try to get sand/wood chips for kids playground. We are a low priority because our park is in good repair and incurs less vandalism than other parks. Mary reported FOWP needed to purchase the old domain name to continue its use for a charge of \$23.17. Al moved, Patty seconded the payment for the purchase of the name. Unanimous agreement. Next two meetings will be in the park at 1PM on 5/29 and 7/24.
- 5.) Pedestrian flag project (Patti, Angie Frome): Patti reported the flags are up at six locations. Kim, the owner of Beaumont Hardware, supplied the pipe, end caps and several of the clips. She wishes to donate the items and would like a receipt for her to use as a write off on her taxes. I explained we do not have the paperwork set up yet for donations but hope to in the near future. We will need to keep restocking supplies and would like to do several more crosswalks. There is a lot of foot traffic at 33rd and Alameda and also 42nd and Klickitat. Still have funds left from our original budget to use. Shout out to Angie's husband, Mike, for assisting us with this project.
- 6.) Land Use Committee (Tim Root): Tim reported one new cottage cluster going into Alberta and Cesar Chavez with four houses. Demolition at 4547 NE 34th.
- 7.) Events Committee (John Sandie): DOUG DECKER event was very successful. People reserved all tickets available on Eventbrite (150). Probably 125 people came. Beverly, a member of the Events committee, did a post event survey. 35 responses, will review at our next event committee meeting. Next event is the POLLINATOR TALK on 4/23 at the Mule Bar. Don't have a good count on this one, did not use Eventbrite. Have encouraged people to get food to eat to help support Mule Bar as they are not charging us for the space. MOVIE IN THE PARK will be 8/7. ANA splits the \$1,000 movie fee. Will make musical decisions tomorrow at the Events committee mtg. BLOCK PARTY is 9/12. Putting together a few changes based on feedback from last year to build on that success. Discussion/request for adding chairs/tables. ELECTRIFY NOW EVENT: Still working on details, target date of 9/16. As mentioned, DR. ELIZABETH SAFRAN: Sometime in November.
- 8.) Newsletter Team (Susan Trabucco): Susan had mentioned last time we may need to decrease pages because we lost a few ads but since then we gained three new color advertisers so we don't have to consider cutting. One is from Alberta which was a complete surprise. Have decided to use \$224 from \$500 discretionary budget to have all color this newsletter. It won't be every time but it worked this time. Added that she has heard Alder Commons is closing. Don't know what will be in that space.
- 9.) Website/E-Blast Committee (Rob Lee and Tom Cuppernull): Al reported Rob is stepping down from his role as Webmaster and from his responsibility for the email blast. He is willing to train anyone who wishes to step up. Following discussion, Matt Grainger volunteered to assume his responsibilities in this role.

10) Crime Prevention & Safety Committee; Sgt. Greg Moore (Al); Graffiti Cleanup (Angie): Al reported Sgt Greg Moore will be at our August meeting. Al would like it advertised in the July/August newsletter, encouraging people to suggest topics that he can address while here. Angela reported the next clean-up/beautification event will be Friday, June 13th at 9AM. Meet in front of Foot Traffic. Grabbers and bags will be provided by the City of Portland and Adopt One Block. There have been approximately 1500 bags of garbage collected from Fremont over the past 5 years, and greater than 550 tags removed. Largely, this Secretary would like to say, due to Angie and her husband Mike's efforts! They also requested and received two new garbage cans installed on the north side of the street.

At the end of the meeting Karla made a motion to designate Al Ellis, President, Tim Gillespie, Vice President, and Karla Lenox, Treasurer as our designated check signers with Beneficial State Bank. The motion passed unanimously.

**Upcoming General Meeting:** Monday, May 12th, 2025, 7:00 p.m., Sylvan Learning Center

**Adjournment: 8:35**