Monday, March 9th, 2026: BWNA Board Meeting Agenda

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

Introductions, Agenda Approval, Guest Speaker (President Al Ellis presiding)

1) Taking roll: Introduction of Board members and non-Board member committee chairs
   Al Ellis, President, Tim Gillespie, Vice-President, Patti Koehler, Secretary. At Large Board Members, John Sandie, Aaron Breakstone, Angela Frome, Colin O'Neill, Susan Trabucco, Rob Lee, Tim Root, David Knowles, Tom Cuppernull. Committee Chairs:
   Board/Committee members with excused absences: Karla Lenox, Treasurer, Patty Nelson, Immediate Past President, Crystal Grainger, at large board member, Matt Grainger and Mary Roney, committee chairs.
2) Introduction of non-Board member attendees: Mary Jaron Kelley, Kathy Clevenger, Pete Conklin, Alison Stoll, Diane Charlton, Frances Moore, Charles Moore, Irene Liu, Steven Avery, Jim Karlock.
3) Board approval of agenda: Patti moved, Susan seconded, unanimous approval.
4) Guest Speaker + Q & A: District 2 Portland City Councilor Sameer Kanal : Councilor Kanal introduced himself as one of our three city councilors (including Elana Pirtle-Guiney and Dan Ryan). For the past year, he has been a member of the Labor and Workforce Development Committee, the Climate Resilience and Land Use Committee, and Co-chair of the Community and Public Safety Committee with Steve Novick. Committees are being reorganized. Beginning 4/1/26 he will remain on the Public Safety Committee but will also Chair a new committee called the Committee of the Whole which is involved in finance, governance and oversight and will be on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. He reports his focus has been on public safety issues with a big focus on the federal ICE response in our city. In response, the city council changed our sanctuary status from binding only on the Police Bureau to binding on the whole city government. Also working on a masking ordinance that goes to the committee next week. He then took questions from the audience including how much communication he has with fellow committee members from our district, concern regarding future funding for neighborhood associations, his views regarding pedestrian plaza's, specific safety issues on Fremont St including parking and infill. He was also asked about his opinion of the new form of government/number of city council members. If interested in further information, Tim Gillespie will be writing an article for the upcoming newsletter in which he goes into more detail.

Association Meeting and Governance Items

1.) Board approval of minutes from February general meeting (minutes taken by Angela Frome): John moved, Angie seconded, passed unanimously. Board approval of minutes from the two February "Public Plaza" special meetings submitted by Aaron with one amended comment. Patti moved, Angie seconded, motion passed unanimously. Patti requested $99 for the annual subscription for Otter ai transcription services. Rob moved, Aaron seconded, approved unanimously.

2.) Due to the absence of Treasurer Karla Lenox, Treasurer's report is postponed to April 13th. Al presented a bill from Mary Myers for $151.97 for new neighbor packet business discount inserts.

3.) Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods (NECN, District 2) report (Patty Nelson): Postponed due to Patty's absence.

4.) April 13th Elections Meeting: President, Treasurer, even-numbered At-Large positions (Al)
Al, Karla, Tom, Aaron, Angela and Rob are up for reelection.

5.) Board multi-thread e-mail chains: definition of "constructive" dialogue (Crystal Grainger):
Postponed in Crystal's absence.

Outstanding Action Items and Committee/Team Updates

1) Ad Hoc Plaza Committee report (Aaron Breakstone):
An email was sent to Board Members which includes detailed notes from both plaza meetings. They have put together an outreach report that includes detailed notes on the special meeting sessions which is part of a document that will be submitted to PBOT. Will share with the Board if desired. Aaron reports he and Mary had a very constructive meeting with Greg Reisman from PBOT who is the Plaza lead. They met at the site and discussed some of the considerations around configuration. Important takeaways, Greg thought that we would only be able to retain one of the angled parking spaces but needs engineer review. If saved he thought that could be posted as a 15 minute spot for Green Dog patrons. They are unable to shift the southern edge of the plaza a bit north as Andy at Blackbird had proposed. They could however, convert a few spaces in front of Sylvan Learning Center to a loading zone. He did say however, that it is not PBOT's standard practice to remove everything and revert it back to the original road. Aaron told him this would likely be a no-go for us. Greg got back to him several days later and said that the street could revert back. The difference would be in how the closure is effectuated. Typical they put in a series of large planters but they would not do that in this instance as they are too hard to move. We have had some discussion about this and have a few potential solutions. Also PBOT would not put up the more typical permanent signage. We could still paint the street. Unresolved is if PBOT would repaint diagonal parking lines if it was temporary. Greg also had a long meeting with Andy at Blackbird and has had several email conversations with Melissa at Green Dog. We would like to complete the sponsorship vote at our next board meeting. Mary Meyers (President of the BBA) reported that 80% of businesses surveyed approved with the stipulation that it is safe and local business felt heard. Susan asked about local resident input. Aaron responded that they focused this conversation with Greg on local business concerns but will ask Greg how local neighbors can continue conversations with PBOT. Discussion/concern was shared by neighbors regarding parking, large truck navigation on a closed thru street and safety concerns. Following discussion, the board voted to have a vote for or against the plaza at our next meeting on April 13th.

2) Transportation report (Colin O'Neill); Pedestrian Flag Project (Patti Koehler & Angela Frome): Colin shared that there are now two electronic speed signs on Fremont, and traffic counting on 42nd Ave. Angie shared that two more packets of flags will be installed once they have been waterproofed. Some of the canisters need tightening. Patti Reported we have enough canisters remaining to do two additional locations. Aaron has a drill press and has volunteered to assist with canister completion.

3) Events Committee report (John Sandie): Delayed last meeting until tomorrow due to illness. John moved that we approve $250 for promotional materials for the Neighborhood Yard Sale on July 11th, $500 for promoting the Garden and Art Tour occurring July 18th and an additional $300 ($500 has already been approved) for the Movie in the Park. Still trying to find a band that will perform but don't wish to spend as much as we did last year. Aaron seconded the motion which was passed unanimously. John reported that neighbor former

board member, David Whitaker, does an annual cleanup of the stairs on 44th Ave. If any one would like to assist that will occur on 3/21. Contact John if interested.

4) Communication Committee report (Michelle Rudd); Al moved we add PIRC (Portland Immigrant Rights Coalition) to our website Community Resources page, Tim seconded. Following discussion there was unanimous agreement to add it as a resource. Steve Avery (Communication Committee member) reported in absence of Michelle Rudd that the committee is making good progress exploring a website migration path to better align and streamline needs specifically around the community updates

5) Land Use report (Tim Root); Critical Energy Infrastructure Hub update (David Knowles): Tim reported he knows of no new developments in the neighborhood. There is a climate resilience and land use committee meeting on 4/12 to consider a resolution to focus on keeping the Inner East Side planning project moving forward, which he will try to attend. David reported that the Planning Commission will meet tomorrow to vote on recommendations to the City Council regarding the oil terminal.

6) Newsletter Team report (Susan Trabucco): Advertisement revenue has been declining "big time" but have a new advertisement in recent Newsletter from McFaden Construction.

7) New Neighbor Welcoming Project report (Al): Thank you to Diane Charlton for three new packets picked up, have four remaining.

8) Friends of Wilshire Park Committee report (Mary Roney): Al reported in Mary's absence. On the back of today's agenda he included a request for a letter of support from Portland Parks Alliance asking for an additional $3 million for Parks Capital Maintenance in order to have $10 million available in the next fiscal year to address the deferred maintenance backlog. We will discuss this at our next meeting.

9) Crime & Safety report (Patty Nelson); Beaumont Market update (Angela & David Knowles): Angie reports she has reached out several time to the owner of Beaumont Market but has not heard back. Have heard rumors that they may not be renewing their lease but do not know if these are accurate. David is not aware of any recent updates.

Upcoming General Meeting = **Mon., April 13th, 2026, 7:00 p.m., Sylvan Learning Center**

Adjournment. 8:36