

Ardenwald/Johnson Creek Boulevard (JCB) Neighborhood Association Minutes for 11/09/04

Before the meeting was called to order Carlotta Collette, our neighborhood chair, was warmly congratulated by all the neighbors attending the meeting for winning an elected position as a new Milwaukie City Council Representative! Congratulations Carlotta, we know you will represent us well!!!

Carlotta also paid homage to Lillie Moore, recently deceased, an upstanding and outstanding citizen of Milwaukie, and someone we can all be proud to have called our neighbor. We'll miss you Lillie, but remember you always!

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:34pm by Carlotta Collette, Neighborhood Association President, with 21 people present including: Sherri Campbell, Lisa Gunion-Rinker, Joe Campbell, Carlotta Collette, Dorothy Snowhill, Paul Shirey, Nancy Matich, Kristen Wiener (SEUL), Havilah Ferschweiler (SEUL), Marianne Colgrove, Officer Kevin Krebs, Matt Rinker, Susan Stone, Norm Scott, Paul Roetger, Scott Clement, Maggie Skenderian, Dave Yamashita, Cheryl Ausmann-Moreno, Eric Griswold, and Rita Lynn.

Carlotta called on Officer Krebs to present this months report.

Officer Krebs Report:

Officer Krebs gave his report to the attending neighbors. He stated that the Milwaukie side of the Ardenwald/JCB neighborhood has been very quiet again this month with only two thefts reported, 2 abandoned vehicles reported, and 2 criminal mischief instances reported.

He did want everyone to be aware that we are having an increase in daytime break-ins in the neighborhood. Recently there have been 3 break-ins in the first week of November that won't show up on the Oct. report that he presented at tonight's meeting. Break-ins have occurred on 28th near the Springwater Corridor Trail, near Providence Milwaukie Hospital, and over near 60th street. The thief (vies) have been entering homes by the back of houses and apartments as this is less likely to attract attention between the hours of 9:00am and 3:00pm. People should be on the alert that as we near the holidays this kind of break-in is likely to increase. To deter a break-in at your house or apartment make sure that all doors and windows are secured with a brace or device of some kind that does not easily allow the window to be lifted out. Too often burglars enter homes through windows that slide and are easily lifted out of place. Be alert! If you see someone acting suspiciously call the non-emergency police number and let them know about any suspicious activity in your neighborhood.

Officer Krebs also reported that there is a Brother Speed Club Member that is flying colors in our neighborhood. He advised neighbors living in the area to be alert and report any suspicious activity to him. He said that if there are a large number of bike riders coming into the area that the neighborhood should let him know. Many neighbors attending the meeting were concerned about this, and asked Officer Krebs many questions about biker activity in the area. He reported that currently the area mainly has Gypsy Joker bikers. He stated that they mainly get their money by selling speed to

support their club. The Brother Speed Club doesn't do that. Officer Krebs also stated that currently there are no Hell's Angels known to be operating in Oregon at this time.

Nancy Matich gave a follow-up report about her stolen purse. She stated that police had arrested an individual with her credit cards and other information. This individual also had the information and credit cards of 15 other people when he was arrested. Nancy was told that she will be subpoenaed to come to court and testify before a grand jury. She was surprised because police stated that many people won't come and testify once they know their information has been recovered, and that they don't realize or don't care that their testimony is what is needed to bring harsher penalties to these sorts of crimes. Discussion about identity theft and what really needs to be done to get criminals off the streets ended Officer Krebs report.

Officer Nelson was unable to attend the neighborhood meeting this month, so a report was not given for the Portland side of the neighborhood.

Update on the Sewer Crossing in Tideman-Johnson Park: Maggie Skenderian, City of Portland Environmental Services Program Coordinator for the Johnson Creek Watershed

Maggie attended the Ardenwald/JCB Neighborhood meeting this month to update the neighborhood on the sewer pipe that crosses Johnson Creek. She introduced the project to the group by giving a little historical information about the pipe. The pipe is a 5 foot diameter concrete pipe that was built in 1922. Historically the pipe was 5 feet below the Johnson Creek streambed when it was laid. Currently the pipe has been exposed in various areas due to soil erosion. The most obvious place to view this erosion is by the bike trail and 45th area as you are walking South towards Tideman-Johnson Park. The outside of the concrete pipe has also been eroded in some of these exposed areas. This pipe carries about 20 million gallons of sewage during the rainy season and 6 million gallons of sewage during the dry season. The sewage is coming from the Lents neighborhood area and other nearby areas. So far the inside of the pipe is maintaining its integrity as viewed by small cameras that were inserted into the pipe to look for any damage or fractures in the concrete. Needless to say it is very important for our neighborhood to understand what would happen to our park area if the pipe should fail.

Maggie wanted to discuss the design and the safeguards that will be put in place to ensure that this project has the least impact on Johnson Creek and it's wildlife. She explained that there are only certain windows of time when work activity will be allowed in Johnson Creek. This is the low flow time from June 1st to Sept 1st when it would be least harmful to fish. All permittees working on the pipe project will be meeting beforehand to ensure that the work process will be efficiently and collaboratively completed in a succinct manner. This project is also being timed to coincide with the 3 Bridges Project. There was concern raised by the neighborhood that there may be a need to close the Springwater Corridor Trail between 45th Street and the Eastmoreland Raquet Club for set intervals while work is being completed on the pipe project. The hope is that detours and routes will be available to cover these set intervals. Maggie completed her portion of the presentation and introduced Scott Clement to discuss the engineering and implementation of the project and what it will entail.

Scott Clement, City of Portland Environmental Services Supervising Engineer started his portion of the pipe presentation by discussing the different designs that had presented to

our neighborhood in the past. The design our neighborhood is viewing will be the 3rd design that has been created. Scott stated that the main goal of this project is to repair and save the sewage pipe without damaging the Johnson Creek Riparian system. Scott described the steps that would be put in place to ensure that the sewage pipe does not fail; 1) To grade the streambed and raise the elevation of the creek itself by two feet for a 1600 ft length and 2) To reinforce the outside of the pipe with layers of rebar and concrete. To complete these two steps terrace materials form the edge of the stream will be used to raise the streambed by 2 ft for the 1600 ft length. This terracing will mean that 26-27 large trees will have to be removed. These trees will then be used to help build cascades or vernal pools to help deflect the erosion power of the flowing water in Johnson Creek. These pools will be built to mimic nature and give fish and wildlife a better habitat. I asked for an average of how far the terraces will be cut back into the meadows, but did not receive an answer to this question. What I was told was that the widest point of the cut back into the meadow would be 40 ft. Several of the neighbors present asked many questions and because there was great concern raised, it was determined that an excursion would be planned on 12/18/04 at 10:00am to view the area where the changes would take place. Anyone who would like to attend this excursion is welcome to come and get a better understanding of the design for Johnson Creek where it flows through the Tideman-Johnson Park. A good meeting place for those who would like to attend would be at 45th and JCB near the restroom area in the parking lot for the Springwater Corridor Trail. Neighbors who have worked on several native plantings along this stretch of Johnson Creek discussed the possibility of having a native plant moving party for all those small plants that could be saved. Scott introduced Dave Yamashita to discuss the improvements that are also proposed to be made to the Tideman-Johnson Park in the completion phase of this project

Dave Yamashita, Portland Parks and Recreation Senior Planner introduced a design that will designate Tideman-Johnson Park as a Natural Resource Park. He stated that plants and wildlife habitat areas will have priority, and that Portland Parks and Recreation is concentrating on how to protect and manage this natural resource area for the future. Dave showed the attending neighbors a map of the various areas the park will have, and discussed some of the basics such as what materials the soft surface trails and all weather trails would be made from, where viewing areas would be throughout the park, and where marshy areas would be off-limits to people to keep safe the rare species of plants such as the sessile-flowered trillium. He described an area down near the 2nd bridge where people would be able to get down to the water, but that a low fence would be positioned along other areas of the creek to protect the banks of Johnson Creek from foot traffic erosion and also allow native plants to grow and later maintain the banks and shade the creek. Dave also talked about the eradication of non-native species such as Himalayan blackberries and ivy along the southern edge of the Tideman-Johnson Park to regain some of the meadow that will be lost to the terracing.

Again, if you would like to get more information about the current design/plan for the sewer pipe in the Tideman-Johnson Park, please attend the planned excursion for 10am on 12/18/04 at 45th and JCB in the Springwater Corridor Trail parking lot near the restroom area. Wear your raingear if it's wet! (*Remember that is the morning of Milwaukie's Solstice gathering down at the boat ramp to view the Xmas ships and celebrate the season.)

Building at 28th Avenue and Brockhorst Avenue: Norm Scott, homeowner, and Paul Roeger, Civil Engineer

Norm Scott, homeowner of the property at 8555 S.E 28th Ave and Brockhorst Ave, attended the neighborhood meeting to present a proposal that would divide his 1 acre property into 5 parts. This proposal is in a precursory state and has not come before the city council or been presented to the planning department as of yet. One part of the property would contain his home where he would prefer to stay, another part would consist of a 7000 square foot lot and have a single home placed on this property. The rest of the property would contain the other three lots which would each be approximately 5,000 square foot "narrow" lots with structures that would each share a wall like the townhouses near the Sellwood Middle School over near 15th Street. These structures would all have sewage pumps that would pump sewage up to the main sewer on 28th Ave. This system is currently what the homeowner is using since the septic system on his property went out approximately 5 years ago. This property is over near the Roswell Pond wetland area and the Springwater Corridor Trail. There is the potential to use some land in this area as a park.

Many of the neighbors present asked questions concerning the architectural design of the new wall-sharing structures. Paul Roeger, civil engineer and friend of Norm Scott answered that the structures would be 2 story with a daylight basement, and would keep with the cottage style feel of our neighborhood. Another neighbor asked if these properties would be sold as homes or would become rental properties. Norm stated that he was 90% sure that they would be homes and not rental properties. Another neighbor questioned whether or not Norm intended to sell the property to a builder or would build the lots himself. Norm stated that he has several builder friends that would help him, and he would prefer to be involved in the building project himself since he would be living nearby. Another neighbor asked Norm if he would have a homeowner agreement that would limit where people who purchased the properties would be able to remove trees or build garages and sheds. Norm thought that was a good idea and stated that only a few trees on the current property would need to be removed during the construction process.

Norm and Paul thanked the neighbors attending the meeting and recused themselves from the room. The neighbors attending the meeting decided that our land use representatives, Les Wilkins and Dorothy Snowhill should plan to view the property and meet with Norm before the neighborhood sent a letter of support to the Milwaukie City Council.

Ardenwald/JCB Xmas Party: Carlotta Collette, neighborhood chair

Carlotta opened discussion concerning our upcoming neighborhood Xmas party on 12/14/04 starting at 6:30pm (our normal neighborhood meeting night with a little more emphasis on fun and festivity). Last year we honored all the wonderful neighbors who made our historical walking tour such a fantastic event, and presented them with signs for their yards. It was truly a great time, and really brought a large group of our community together! (This year being so busy for many of us, we are hedging more towards a neighborhood event this coming spring with a garden tour...we'll keep everyone posted.) The Xmas party is potluck and everyone in the neighborhood is invited. The event will be held in the Ardenwald School cafeteria, and we hope to see many of the wonderful people that we have met and worked with throughout the years.

Pajama Night: Carlotta Collette, Neighborhood Chair

Carlotta also reminded everyone about our upcoming pajama night event on 11/18/04 at 7:00pm in the Ardenwald School Gymnasium. This is a fabulous event where parents, children, and everyone comes to school in their pajamas to drink some hot chocolate and read stories from books purchased by our neighborhood from the City of Milwaukee neighborhood grant program. (The little ones attending even get to take books home.) Don't miss it!

Community Safety Board Member from Ardenwald: Carlotta Collette, Neighborhood Chair

Carlotta announced that Cheryl Ausmann-Moreno has accepted the position on the Community Safety Board as the Ardenwald/JCB representative. Congratulations Cheryl, we wish you the best and know that you will represent your neighbors well!!

Southeast Uplift: Kristen Wiener, Ardenwald/JCB SEUL Liaison, and Havilah Ferschweiler, SEUL Representative

Kristen was introduced as our new SEUL neighborhood liaison. Kristen then announced that SEUL is having it's holiday volunteer recognition party on December 3rd from 6pm - 9pm at the Brentwood-Darlington Community Center 7211 SE 62nd, between Flavel and Duke. This is an exciting volunteer recognition social to thank volunteers for all the work they do for their communities. Havilah reminded everyone attending that they may nominate hardworking neighbors for awards. Dorothy Snowhill nominated Les Wilkins in recognition for all his hard work as a land use planning representative. Kudos to Les for all his hard work!

Havilah and Kristen also reminded everyone that they need to vote by November 22nd on the 3 priority goals that SEUL should focus on for the upcoming year. Carlotta said they people should email her and that she will submit all the votes to SEUL. Welcome Kristen!

Johnson Creek Watershed Council: Sherrie Campbell, Neighborhood Vice Chair

Sherrie announced that the JCWC has contacted her about signs for the Tideman-Johnson Park. Due to the lengthy meeting it was decided that this issue would be discussed on our 12/18/04 tour of the Tideman-Johnson Park area.

Eastmoreland Garden Now Open: Sherrie Campbell, Neighborhood Alternate Chair

Sherrie reminded everyone that the Eastmoreland Garden opened on 10/30/04 at 27th and Bybee. To see pictures of the new garden go to: www.eastgarden.org.

Ardenwald/JCB Website Update: Marianne Colgrove, At Large Member

Marianne updated everyone on our website options. She said that we could have a website with our neighborhood name on it for about \$8/month. She said that we really only need to outline what we would like to have on our website. Carlotta felt that this would best be determined by a small working group. Carlotta, Marianne, and Cheryl

volunteered to work on an outline and would present this at a later neighborhood meeting.

42nd Street Open House: Paul Shirey, City of Milwaukie Engineer

Paul announced that there will be an open house on 12/15/04 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm at the Ardenwald School Cafeteria to view and discuss plans for adding sidewalks along 42nd Street between Johnson Creek Blvd and Olsen. The open house will be very important in getting any neighborhood concerns to the city in time for review and discussion. (Remember the last-minute emergency actions that were taken to ensure protection for the trees on 40th and King....)

Ardenwald Neighborhood Sign Update: Susan Stone, City Council Representative and Neighbor

Susan stated that we could get our neighborhood sign up on 32nd as early as this week. She said that the person who refurbished the sign would put it up as soon as we would like. It was decided by the assembled neighbors that the sooner it was up, the better. Neighbors attending the meeting also discussed the need for better visual outline of the crosswalk on 32nd Street near the Providence Milwaukie Hospital. It is a heavily used crosswalk and it is hard to see people when they are walking across at night. Ideas that were discussed were lines that produced an optical illusion so that the area near the crosswalk looked like a speed bump. Other ideas were to have bumps or scoring added to make a noise to slow people down as they approached the crosswalk. Another idea was to have reflectors embedded in the road on the approach to the crosswalk to give added visual value at night.

At the end of the meeting there was also discussion concerning the senate bill for the school speed zones and the signage costs. Paul Shirey stated that it would cost approximately \$5 or \$6 thousand dollars to replace the microchips that regulate the lights. It was determined that fines will be higher in the 20mph zone when lights are flashing. Paul also stated that the lights will only be flashing during school hours and when children are present. Susan Stone felt that this senate bill was a disservice to streets like 32nd where children must cross the road to get to school on a regular basis, the speed is normally already zoned at 25 mph, and the traffic at all hours of the day is extremely busy. She said she will seek special dispensation for 32nd Street.

At the very end of the meeting, Nancy Matich handed out fliers for our own community theatre troupe the New Century Players. The troupe will present Frank Capra's legendary holiday film, 'It's a Wonderful Life'. Showtimes will be December 2nd and 3rd at 7:30pm and December 4th at 2:00pm and 7:30pm at the J.C. Lillie Auditorium at Milwaukie High School. For reservations or more information, go to www.newcenturyplayers.com or call 503-880-2911. Tickets will also be available at the door. (\$8 for adults and \$5 for seniors and students)

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15pm.

Have a very Happy & Healthy Thanksgiving!
(Only 37 more shopping days before Xmas...)

Lisa Gunion-Rinker

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