

Ardenwald/Johnson Creek Boulevard (JCB) Neighborhood Association Minutes for 02/08/05

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:36pm by Carlotta Collette, Neighborhood Association President, with 18 people present including: Sherri Campbell, Lisa Gunion-Rinker, Carlotta Collette, Matt Rinker, Nancy Matich, Kristen Wiener (SEUL), Marianne Colgrove, Marten Wilkins, Carol and Les Wilkins, Susan Stone, Rosanne Lee, Paul Shirey, Cheryl Ausmann-Moreno, Nellie Reinsch (Hillside), Keith Kinsman, Lorelei Young (Hillside), and Ellen from the Clackamas Review.

Neither Officer Krebs or Officer Nelson were in attendance at the meeting as Rosanne Lee from the Office of Neighborhood Involvement was attending to present information on neighborhood watches. Neighborhood crime reports will be provided by the Officers at the March Neighborhood meeting.

Carlotta called on Lorelei Young to present information concerning the bicycle grant she is proposing.

Bicycle Grant/Bicycle Safety Fair: Lorelei Young

Lorelei presented the bicycle grant that she is proposing for this year at the Hillside Housing Project. This same grant last year paid for kids in Hillside to have a bicycle safety fair, have pictures of their bicycles taken and numbers engraved on the bicycles to cut down on the number of bicycles that are stolen each year. One hundred bicycles locks were purchased as well, and Lorelei reported that no bicycle thefts have occurred since the fair. The grant also paid for a bicycle rodeo where fitted helmets were provided for the participating youth by a community cycling grant and the social services of Clackamas County. The grant can be anywhere from \$800 - \$5,000.

Last year Lorelei said they received about \$4,000 for bicycle programs throughout the year. Cheryl Ausmann-Moreno, who helps coordinate three girl scout troops, was very interested in having her troops participate in such events and Sherri Campbell stated that in the past our neighborhood has also coordinated bicycle safety events with National Night Out. She stated that the Bicycle Transportation Alliance will also donate or give away a free bicycle or bicycles at such events. Lorelei stated that for kids to participate they would need to come to the Hillside community for events maybe the first Tuesday in August or in July. Carlotta stated that it sounded like a good project to coordinate on, and also thought that through coordination we could maybe have 1, 2, or even three events this summer for all children in the Ardenwald/JCB and surrounding community. It was decided that Lorelei, Sherri, and Cheryl would coordinate efforts and plan for upcoming events this year and report back information to the neighborhood meetings.

Brief Announcements: Carlotta Collette, Neighborhood Chair

-Carlotta stated that there was a plan for a park at Arrow Heights at 52nd & Harvey Street. Portland will be creating a park in this area and is asking for volunteers to sit on the steering committee. Marianne Colgrove volunteered to attend on this committee with the first meeting on 2/22/05.

-Carlotta stated that Cheryl Ausmann-Moreno is already collecting toys and canned goods for next Christmas. The Johnson Creek Watershed Council (JCWC) has agreed to store items for next Christmas at their new building and co-sponsor the event having families come down the JCWC building for their Christmas goodies. Carlotta mentioned that there was an excellent garage sale in Lake Oswego every weekend that is run by two gentlemen and has great toys! She stated that she has spoken with these two fellows, and they have agreed to donate any of the toys they do not sell to our Christmas event.

-Carlotta stated that the Johnson Creek Watershed Council is having it's Watershed Wide Event on March 5th. Planting will be performed again on Steve Johnson's creek property. Our neighborhood was not invited to co-sponsor the event in our neighborhood this year, but anyone who would like to volunteer should go to their website to find out more information.

-Carlotta asked all attending neighbors to think about who they would like to have as their new neighborhood chair as elections will be coming up in May.

-Carlotta stated that Kristen, our liaison from SEUL, has completed the database entry for our phone tree and it turns out that we have over 300 phone numbers to call. Great job Kristen!!! She asked about how we would like to divide this list up so more people could be called and reminded of the neighborhood meetings the weekend before the meeting is scheduled.

-Carlotta stated that she will set up the first meeting for the Ardenwald/JCB Neighborhood Garden Tour committee. She has been contacted by Kathy Lehman, Ardenwald School Principal, about having the tour scheduled on the same day as the school plant sale on Mother's Day weekend.

-Marianne Colgrove stated that she is working on the Ardenwald/JCB Neighborhood website, and will have an outline and mock-up of the site for the next meeting to receive feedback from attending neighbors.

-Sherri Campbell stated that the Neighborhood Clean-Up Day event is scheduled for this May 7th from 8:30am to 1:30pm.

-Carlotta stated that she hadn't heard about the permit for moving plants in the Tideman/Johnson Park and that she would follow-up with Maggie about this project.

Portland Crime Prevention Services: Rosanne Lee, Crime Prevention Program Coordinator, Southeast Portland

Rosanne presented information to attending neighbors about how neighborhood watches are established and how to get people involved. She stated that typically neighborhood watches are done on a block-by-block basis and that meetings usually occur in someone's home. A police officer may or may not be in attendance at a meeting, but a crime prevention coordinator will be in attendance to offer training on home security, and other issues. These meetings typically discuss what issues or

concerns neighbors have on that particular block, and these meetings also help identify for neighbors what is normal on their block.

Rosanne stated that a telephone tree and block map is created. This block map and phone tree is filed with the crime prevention coordinator. She emphasized that telephone trees and block maps are important because it allows neighbors to call other neighbors to check on any canvassing or other strange behavior on their street. Rosanne stressed how important it is not to give out any personal information to strangers going door to door and asking questions.

She indicated that block captains are assigned and that each block has a captain who will meet with other block captains to discuss and share updated information concerning crime in the neighborhood. Block captains must fill out information forms for complete background checks. Block captains and involved neighbors learn how to report crime appropriately to officials, and how to follow specific rules in reporting crime. Aluminum, reflective, Neighborhood Watch signs can be purchased for \$15 - \$20, through the City of Portland, once a foot patrol is up and ready to go. Foot patrols are typically performed around businesses and parks. There are normally 6 people in a patrol and all members of a patrol group must also have completed background checks.

How patrols are structured and what boundaries they follow are indicated on the block maps. Foot patrols can be used to watch known drug houses and serve as the eyes and ears for the community and the police. Foot patrols do not allow dogs or children under the age of 18 to participate. Also no weapons of any sort should be carried by foot patrol members. A foot patrol weighs what it should cover, but many people perform this duty every day in a civic capacity.

Rosanne stated that either the Portland or Milwaukie Police could come out and provide training to citizens. Carlotta stated that she wasn't sure about how this would be covered and recommended that our neighborhood check with the city attorney before implementing any patrols. In closing Rosanne handed out a list of numbers to call and get assistance. She also handed out a Community Foot Patrol Manual and applications for block captain background checks. She also handed out her cards for everyone to call her if they have any questions about putting together a neighborhood watch.

It was stated that a neighborhood watch program could be carried out outside of the neighborhood association, and that individual citizens could get together on a more informal basis and form their own block watch maps and have Milwaukie or Portland Police come and give a talk on what to do and when to report crime. Sherri Campbell mentioned that there was a graffiti Clean-Up Kit in the basement of the Ardenwald School if graffiti is noticed in the neighborhood and people want to do something about it. Helpful websites such as kptv.methwatch was stated as a good site to inform citizens about what they should be looking for if drug activity is an issue in their neighborhood, and how to report this information to the police. Rosanne thanked the attending neighbors for their time and involvement in her presentation.

Fire District Annexation: What Does it Mean: Bill Conway, Captain, Milwaukie Fire Station

Captain Conway presented information concerning the upcoming May ballot measure that proposes to annex Milwaukie to the Clackamas County Fire District 1, and what that would mean for the citizens of Milwaukie. He asked everyone if they knew why the Fire District is pushing for annexation, and explained that currently fire and emergency medical service is provided to the City of Milwaukie under a contract. This contract between the Clackamas Fire District and the City of Milwaukie is currently negotiated at \$2.4 million/year. The citizens of Milwaukie pay the City for this service contract at roughly \$2.40/\$1,000 of assessed property taxes.

If annexation is approved, the City of Milwaukie will be included in the Clackamas Fire District Plan, and no changes will be made to the amount of money taxpayers currently pay for fire and emergency medical service. Milwaukie residents will also have a greater voice in how fire protection is provided in their community, and citizens will have a greater impact on fire management in the city because their voice would be included as part of the district, and not considered just a contractual obligation. Bill explained that annexation would also save the City of Milwaukie money on maintenance costs they currently provide for the Public Safety Building, and the Fire District would have to pay the City of Milwaukie to rent the Public Safety Building. Captain Conway emphasized that the taxes could not be raised without a vote, and that \$2.40/\$1,000 of assessed property taxes is the permanent rate for Fire District 1.

The Fire District's concern is that it can't plan for future growth and resources, and may have to renegotiate a contract with the City of Milwaukie, or it may decide in the future that it can only service annexed cities and not contracts which would leave the City of Milwaukie without fire & emergency medical service. Captain Conway stated that there were very few people against the annexation of the City of Milwaukie and that maybe the best way to present this measure is to have a City of Milwaukie firefighter here, and give a PowerPoint presentation concerning how the measure will work for the citizens of Milwaukie.

Some attending neighbors had questions for Captain Conway concerning how the Fire Districts Board is set. He explained that there are 5 board members who maintain 2 year appointments before they are rotated off. Other neighbors wanted to know how many citizens lived in Fire District 1, and how many fire stations were available to service this population. Captain Conway stated that there are approximately 195,000 residents and there are currently 15 stations. Some neighbors asked what would happen in the event of a fire, and wondered if Portland would respond or Milwaukie. Bill stated that there are no boundaries and that whoever gets to the fire or emergency first starts working. Typically there are 3 engines and 1 truck sent for any fire. Another neighbor asked what would happen if the fire district decided to have a rate increase, and how that would work. Bill explained that Measure 5 effectively froze the state tax levels. Currently Portland is \$2.40/\$1,000 of assessed property taxes and that Milwaukie currently is \$6.80/\$1,000 of assessed property taxes, and that tax levels cannot go above these amounts. The idea the Fire District will use to manage the increase in cost is by the increase in assessed property value.

Captain Conway emphasized that annexation would be a lot more secure for the citizens of Milwaukie than a contract. The Fire Districts goal is to be at any house within a 4 minute response time and that instead of having 3 men on a fire engine and 4 on a truck that there would be 4 men on a fire engine and 5 on a truck. In closing Captain Conway thanked the attending citizens for their time and emphasized that annexation would: 1)

not add taxes to property owners in Milwaukie because the City of Milwaukie would roll back it's \$2.40/\$1,000 of assessed property tax charge, and have property owners pay for the fire and emergency medical service through their county property taxes directly; 2) the fire station will stay the same and in the same place with the same service; and 3) that currently the Ardenwald/JCB Neighborhood is covered by 4 fire stations.

Land-Use Report: Les Wilkins, Ardenwald/JCB Landuse Planning Representative

Les reported that Norm Scott's proposal went before the planning commission on January 25th and was not denied, but also was not approved. The board extended the amount of time Norm would have to submit his proposal with some modifications to 120 days. The planning board did not approve the 3 attached houses as there were 8 variances requested. The commission felt that further modifications might make the proposal possible, however there was discussion concerning the public need, and about giving away public right of way without need. There was also discussion concerning the improvements to the streets and the sidewalk extensions.

In essence the planning commission did not want to deny the proposal, but felt that it currently required redesign. The application submitted was for a subdivision and this was determined to be not applicable. The attached single family units should be brought in as a planned unit development. Paul Shirey stated that there were also several neighbors in attendance who opposed the current development design of the property, and stated that they signed paperwork as requested by their neighbor, but felt that their neighbor had misinformed them of the entire nature of the development.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

See you in March and don't forget to volunteer for the Johnson Creek Watershed event on March 5th!

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