

Ardenwald/Johnson Creek (JC) Neighborhood Association Minutes for 03/08/05

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:33pm by Carlotta Collette, Neighborhood Association President, with 26 people present including: Sherri Campbell, Joe Campbell, Lisa Gunion-Rinker, Carlotta Collette, Dorothy Snowhill, Officer Kevin Krebs (Milwaukie), Paul Shirey, Nancy Matich, Kristen Wiener (SEUL), Marianne Colgrove, Marten Wilkins, Carol and Les Wilkins, Susan Stone, Cheryl Ausmann-Moreno, Jemilla Hart (Hillside), Melissa Ray, Rosemary Crites, Susan Shawn, Jan McManus, Ronald Palmer, Jennifer & Mark Smith, James Brost, Mark Hawthorne, and Officer Jeff Nelson (Portland).

Carlotta called on Officer Krebs to present his Ardenwald/JC crime report.

Officer Krebs' Report:

Officer Krebs had several reports for the attending neighbors. First Officer Krebs handed out the February crime statistics for our neighborhood. Last month there was one hit and run accident near Harrison and 32nd Street, no one was injured, 3 noise complaints, 2 abandoned vehicles found in Hillside, one criminal mischief report and one fraud report. These numbers were considered to be much better than January's crime reports, and more normal for our neighborhood.

Officer Krebs also handed out yearly report statistics for all the neighborhoods in Milwaukie. This report showed that the crime rate in Ardenwald was down 28% in 2004 when compared to 2003. The neighborhood with the highest crime was the Historic neighborhood with a total of 245 crimes and an increase in crime of 4.3%. Ardenwald fell somewhere in the median with 109 reported crimes and a 27.8% decrease in crime reports. The area with the lowest crime report was McLoughlin with a total of 26 reported crimes showing a decrease of 35% in criminal activity.

Officer Krebs also reported the total number of calls in the past year per neighborhood. Ardenwald was near the top with 3,283 reported calls followed by Lewelling with 2054 calls. The Historic neighborhood had the most reported calls of 3845 and the McLoughlin area had the lowest number of calls with 943.

In conclusion, Officer Krebs gave a recap of the Willow Court changes made in the past year for those neighbors new to the neighborhood, and answered neighbors questions concerning the fire engine and other emergency vehicles that rushed to Boyd Street on March 6th. Officer Krebs stated that there had been a suicide on Boyd Street, but had no other comments. He stated that there has been some land disputes at the very end of Balfour Street on the south side, and that neighbors in that area are calling the police frequently. An attending neighbor reported that she had seen cars speeding 40 mph or more on Filbert Street and wanted information on what a citizen should do in that situation except to yell at the car to slow down. There was discussion about having a speed counter or radar for a period of time, and Officer Krebs also stated that you can always call the police and report what you have seen so that if things escalate a record has been started and that with that record a police officer can be assigned to patrol the area more frequently.

Officer Nelson's Report:

Officer Nelson reported that on the Portland side of our neighborhood there were no reported crimes to report for January or February. Attending neighbors were very glad to hear that and asked if this included the Springwater Corridor Trail and the Tideman/Johnson Park areas. Officer Nelson stated that it did, and also informed neighbors that 2 all terrain vehicles (ATVs) will be assigned to patrol the Corridor and the Park this spring and summer. He stated they will be looking for graffiti and illegal campsites. They will mainly patrol west of 45th Street. One of the attending neighbors asked what citizens should do if they see strange activity while out walking in the park area. They wanted to know if there was a particular phone number to call to alert the police in the area. Officer Nelson stated that citizens should call the non-emergency Portland Police number and report the incident. Police will be sent to investigate most such reports. If there is a hostile situation that is threatening, police should be alerted immediately and the emergency 911 number should be used. An attending neighbor asked if anyone had heard more information about a woman that was found dead in Johnson Creek about 2 months ago. Most neighbors had not heard of this report and it was determined that the woman was an Alzheimer's patient who had wandered off near the Johnson Creek area out in Gresham. Officer Nelson concluded his report and he and Officer Krebs left the meeting.

Fire District Annexation Report: Mark Hawthorne and Kyle Gorman, Clackamas Fire District One Representatives

Mark and Kyle, without the help of a projector, presented a summary of what the annexation of the City of Milwaukie into the Clackamas Fire District One will mean to the residents of Milwaukie. They emphasized that the Clackamas County Fire District One is not tied to Clackamas County Government. The fire district started in rural districts that started binding together out of need. Currently it services a 193.5 square mile area with a population of 160,000 or more. The total budget is estimated at \$23.5 million and contains 15 fire stations, 168 employees, and approximately 50 volunteers.

Mark explained that the contract between the City of Milwaukie and Clackamas Fire District One will end in 2008, and will be up for re-negotiation at that point. There is no provision existing that stabilizes fire and emergency services beyond 2008 for our city. Mark emphasized that annexation will benefit Milwaukie citizens in many ways: 1) Milwaukie residents can serve on the fire district board of directors (*These are at large positions that serve 4 year terms), 2) There will be long-term stability for fire and emergency medical services in Milwaukie, 3) Milwaukie residents can vote on fire district issues as they occur.

Kyle stated that many citizens were under the false impression that if the City of Milwaukie is annexed into fire district one that property taxes will go up. He stated flatly that this is not true. The Milwaukie City Council must reduce the city's levy by \$2.40/\$1000 of assessed property value, and Milwaukie citizens taxes will stay exactly the same. This levy also cannot be increased without a vote from Clackamas Fire District One citizens.

Bill Conway, our neighborhood fire captain, came to the neighborhood meeting at this point, and emphasized that he has served at other fire stations in the United States, and that Clackamas Fire District One is one of the best. He stated that every piece of equipment, engine, truck, etc., has at least one paramedic trained in advanced cardiac

life-support, and that firefighters in the fire district have to at least be an emergency medical technician (EMT). He also stated that the fire district has a nationally recognized water rescue team, an urban search and rescue team, and that when citizens are part of a larger entity they receive such more specialized services. He also stated that because of the annexation, the Clackamas Fire District One will have to lease the Public Safety Building in our community and provide revenue back to the City of Milwaukie.

Sherri Campbell, asked about continued participation from the Clackamas Fire District One on 2 grants sponsored by our neighborhood: 1) Walk your Child to School Day and 2) National Night Out. Bill assured the attending neighbors that these types of community activities are just as important to the local fire station, and that they will continue to participate in all neighborhood activities. This brought up discussion about our neighborhood banner for these events and why it hasn't been recently placed across 32nd Street. It was determined that Portland General Electric (PGE) will not allow anything to be placed on the neighborhood utility poles. This brought up discussion about installing poles on 32nd like they have on McLoughlin, and put up a slow down banner like we had in the past.

Bill Conway stated that the goal of the fire district is to get the best information out to the community so citizens would know what they are voting on, so they could make their choice on May 17th. Attending neighbors suggested ways to get information out such as the Milwaukie Pilot, mailing lists, the Clackamas Review, flyers at Ledding Library, and the flyers at the Milwaukie Senior Center.

The attending neighbors thanked Mark, Kyle, and Bill for their time, and for being here in our community providing their excellent service.

North Clackamas Park: Susan Shawn, Friends of North Clackamas Park

Susan thanked the attending neighbors for allowing her to present the issues going on currently in her neighborhood. Susan presented the attending neighbors with a map of the site development plan that was put together by citizens and the North Clackamas Park Board back in the 1990's. She also described the current proposal from the parks and recreation board to put in 4 tournament youth softball fields, and 1 soccer field. The plan also currently proposes to keep the horse arena intact.

Susan stated that concerned neighbors are supporting active opposition to the current proposal, not because they don't want to see more baseball and soccer fields. The group supports upgrading and adding sport fields to the park. Susan explained that the difference is that the friends of the park oppose putting in tournament grade fields and what that will entail. Susan stated that the Friends of North Clackamas Park support a four leaf clover design, adding bathrooms, concession stands, lighting and a portable PA system. What they don't support is the need for tournament grade fields at North Clackamas Park, the lack of parking for all the fields as currently designed (46 parking spaces per field when the standard is 70), the increased traffic flow with no study showing how this will be managed, and overflow parking spilling into the surrounding neighborhood. She also stated that some neighbors were also greatly concerned about the noise and light pollution, but Susan felt that the main problem that this design entails will be traffic management. Currently Rusk Road from Highway 224 is the main road into the park and a small, narrow, unpaved road, Kellogg Creek Road, is the only other

outlet on the other side of the park. It was determined in the meeting that no one is currently caring for road maintenance on Kellogg Creek Road because the Clackamas County, the City of Milwaukie, and the Park District all believe they are not responsible for taking care of it.

A neighbor of Susan's in attendance at the meeting, Rosemary Crites, also explained that neighbors were also concerned about the quality of life issue of having tournaments on the weekends that go from 10:00am to 10:00pm.

Susan stated that the current tournament baseball field design at the park will cost \$3 million dollars. Susan explained that no master plan process was provided, no image of what will be achieved was provided, and that not all stakeholders were included in the beginning of the design process. She stated that there have been several hearings, but the county and the parks board don't seem to hear that many people are in opposition to the tournament field aspect of the plan. Susan was also concerned because while the plan currently includes keeping the horse arena, it will provide no upgrading or upkeep of the facility. Many horse riders have informed Susan that the horse arena isn't used more because everyone knows that it isn't safe to ride horses there. There are gopher and mole holes that could greatly endanger horses and their riders in the arena floor.

One of the attending neighbors is a baseball player who plays at the North Clackamas Park fields, and he explained that he just wanted somewhere safe to play. He said that currently the fields were in a bad state, and that mole and gopher holes make it dangerous for players to run around the fields. Susan stated that she agreed with him and felt that they do need to be upgraded and made safe, but asked if he felt that tournament fields were what was needed. He responded that he didn't really think so, but felt it should be discussed more thoroughly. Susan said that even though baseball players and others had stated that they didn't need stadium lights that cost \$181,000 that the parks board was pushing the lights forward.

In conclusion, Susan stated that she felt that the design should include improvements to the roads, the sidewalks, and the parking areas in the park. Susan feels that clear communication resulting from a round table discussion between, park users, ballplayers, neighbors, the City of Milwaukie, Clackamas County, and the Parks and Recreation Board should occur to get at all sides of the issue and bring resolution to the community. Susan wanted her phone number included in the neighborhood minutes to encourage people to call her, and get more information or get involved. Susan and Eric Shawn 503-659-9338.

The North Clackamas Parks Plan will go before the City of Milwaukie Planning Committee on April 12th.

Susan again thanked attending neighbors for their time and neighbors thanked her for sharing her information.

Hillside Residential Art Fair: Jemilla Hart, Hillside Representative

Jemilla thanked attending neighbors for their time and first talked about Lorelei's information from last month concerning the upcoming bike safety fair. Jemilla wanted

everyone to know that Hillside did get the grant, and that Ardenwald neighbors who volunteered to be part of the event should contact Lorelei to narrow down the date.

Jemilla then discussed the highly successful art event, sponsored by a grant that the Ardenwald Neighborhood Association gave to the Hillside Housing community last year. It was a series of art workshops that ranged from photography, to scrapbooking, to ceramics. Residents even produced a theatre production that really brought the community together. Residents could work on projects that they were interested in and also enjoy looking at their neighbors creative projects. Last year our neighborhood association sponsored the event and Jemilla asked if we would be interested in supporting the event again. The grant last year sponsored \$750 of the event and was matched by fundraisers by Hillside, and a matching grant from the Regional Arts and Culture Commission. Sherri Campbell asked if a report of volunteer hours had been submitted to the City of Milwaukie for the grant and Jemilla stated that it had been done. A motion was made to approve the funding, and attending neighbors voted to approve funding for the Hillside Arts Project again this year.

South East Uplift Report: Kristen Wiener, SEUL Liaison

Kristen greeted all the attending neighbors and presented the top 3 goals for the 2005 Neighborhood Agendas Campaign.

Goal 1: Improving traffic management in neighborhoods. To join the workgroup contact Steve Hoyt at steve@southeastuplift.org or 503-232-0100 x21.

Goal 2: Improving the quality and design of infill housing. Fill out the "Design Ideas for New Multi-Family Development and Rowhouse questionnaire, read the whitepaper: www.portlandonline.com/planning/index.cfm?c=34024, or contact Jacob Brostoff at jacob@southeastuplift.org or 503-232-0100 x21

Goal 3: Increasing resources for diversity and outreach. Contact your commissioners and express your support for the Diversity and Civic Leadership project to increase engagement of under-represented Portlanders in the neighborhood system, attend the next Diversity and Civic Leadership Committee meeting on Monday March 7th at 3534 SE Main Street in Portland, help us plan our spring neighborhood forum with neighborhood associations and under-represented groups on Wednesday March 9th at 10am at Central Northeast Neighbors 4415 NE 87th Ave., or contact Steve Hoyt (information located in Goal 1).

Kristen also stated that SEUL will be presenting a theft prevention seminar on March 29th from 6:00pm - 8:00pm at the SEUL at 3534 SE Main Street.

Kristen also had handouts with various infill designs and asked neighbors to fill them out so developers will have suggestions concerning what are the 4 most popular designs desired by community members. This is important because some designs chop down all the big trees in an area, and other designs allow big trees to stay. If you would like to fill a survey out go online to: www.portlandonline.com/shared/cfm/image.cfm?id=73659 to access a packet of designs, and fill out information.

Neighborhood Website Update/Presentation: Marianne Colgrove, Ardenwald/JC At Large Representative

Marianne handed out an outline of the neighborhood website proposal. She presented attending neighbors with various options and asked for feedback concerning what neighbors would like their website to include. Marianne stated that the first task was to determine what our name will be. Neighbors decided that www.ardenwald.org would be fine, and felt that the \$8.50/year to keep that domain name was a good deal.

Marianne then talked about the web page design and stated that the design was the easy part, but that coming up with material was a bit harder. Attending neighbors suggested having separate sections on the web page such as: a minutes section, a board member section, a calendar section with upcoming events noted and marked, a section for announcements, a miscellaneous section, a historic community section - maybe even have our historic house tour on the site. This brought up discussion about having photographs on the website, and if it would be appropriate to have photographs up without a person's permission. It was determined that we must get an okay from any neighbor whose picture or house picture may go on the website. There was also discussion concerning traffic on the website and size of pictures and if this would work on slower computers or slower modems. Neighbors suggested having an alternative text only page or a page with thumbnail pictures instead.

Marianne concluded her presentation by asking if anyone knew of a good hosting service and Ronald Palmer said that he had information that he could share with her after the meeting. The cost for having a host is typically \$85/year and neighbors also thought that the website could also be part of a grant for getting the word out about the events in our neighborhood and community.

Neighborhood Garden Tour: Lisa Gunion-Rinker, Neighborhood Secretary

Lisa updated the attending neighbors on the decisions made concerning the garden tour to date. The volunteers working on setting up the garden tour have met twice and determined that the best date for the tour will be on Saturday May 14th from 10:00am - 4:00pm. Lisa stated that since the garden tour will be a fundraiser for the Ardenwald After School program, it will be done in conjunction with the Ardenwald School Plant Sale. Neighbors and parents who have ordered plants for the plant sale will pick them up the same day of the garden tour.

So far 6 gardeners have agreed to participate in having their gardens open for the event, and they will be on hand to answer questions and talk about their gardens. The gardeners are: Elise Albert, her garden was featured last year in the Oregonian's Home and Garden Section, Jean Johnson, her garden has been featured in Better Homes and Gardens, Carlotta Collette, has a large woodland garden along with perennial and vegetable gardens, Steve Johnson, PSU is in the process of developing a medallion garden on Steve's property, and we're hoping Steve can give a conservation talk about Johnson Creek and the importance of using native plants in your garden, Susan Demorest, and her lovely perennial garden, and Charlotte Rhyne and her alpine rock garden. We have one more, but it has not been confirmed yet.

Lisa reported that the group of volunteers working on the project decided that, this being the first year of the event, donations will be accepted on the morning of the event

between 9:30am and 12:00pm, and tables will be set up in front of the Ardenwald School to check people in and get them started on the tour. It is a conveniently sized tour with all gardens located between 36th and 42nd street. The only hang up being traffic on Johnson Creek Blvd. A brochure with descriptions of the gardens by the gardeners, a map with their location, and information about notable plants will be given to people interested in attending the tour. The tour will be self-paced and Lisa stated that a donation of \$5 is being requested when brochures are handed out. Volunteers will be on hand to help direct people on the day of the event. A third meeting has been scheduled for tomorrow night.

Land-Use Report: Dorothy Snowhill, Ardenwald/JCB Landuse Planning Representative

Dorothy reported to the attending neighbors that the Safeway Store on King Rd and 40th is not going in as planned. The Deringers, owners of the property, told Dorothy that they are in the process of renegotiating the contract with the Safeway Headquarters in California. They will know for sure by April 1st if plans will proceed. Dorothy stated that the Deringers have indicated that if Safeway doesn't want to build there, they will find a replacement. There was discussion about Trader Joes going in instead. One of the neighbors asked if the drop off by King Road will be fixed while re-negotiation continues. Paul Shirey, City Representative, stated that a contractor will be out there to fix the drop off by the end of March.

Carlotta added that the Lents-Sewer Crossing project will not be happening this year. There appeared to be some problem with contract reviews and this will give us extra time to identify and move plants next December and January. Marianne Colgrove also noted that the Tideman/Johnson Park is still stated as being part of the Eastmoreland Neighborhood.

Announcements: Carlotta Collette, Chair of Ardenwald/JC Neighborhood Asso.

- 1) Make sure to send Carlotta or Jason names of volunteers you would like to nominate for all the work they have done in the past year. A volunteer recognition event is scheduled on April 19th at 5:30pm at City Hall, and will be held to honor volunteer nominees.
- 2) Our neighborhood Clean-up Event will be on May 7th from 8:30am to 1:30pm. If you would like to volunteer at the event please wear some good gloves and some clothing you don't mind getting dirty. There will be pizza and soda provided during lunchtime on the day of the event. The neighborhood is looking into having coupons for recycling computers or having a recycling fellow from Reed College take computer monitors and parts away.
- 3) Milwaukie and other cities will be included in a Portland research plan to provide a blood substitute to victims at the scene of automobile accidents and other traumatic incidents. The research is being performed to see if a blood substitute will help stabilize victims more quickly will they are enroute to an emergency room.
- 4) There are potentially two more advisory committees that are in the development stage. Neither is chartered yet, this is being worked on. One is a Youth Commission and the other is an Arts or Culture Commission. If you are interested in either of these committees you should voice your interest to Jason Wachs at the City of Milwaukie.

- 5) Susan Stone reported that our neighborhood sign is ready to go up at the entrance to our neighborhood on Johnson Creek Blvd. Susan will talk to Paul Shirey about where the sign can be placed.
- 6) Carlotta will follow-up with Jason about Ardenwald sign toppers or banners and will bring this information to the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05pm.

See you in April and don't forget to volunteer for the Neighborhood Clean-Up event on May 7th!

Lisa Gunion-Rinker
Ardenwald/JCB Secretary
503-659-7807
(wk) lisa.gunion-rinker@med.va.gov
(wk) gunionri@ohsu.edu
(hm) rinker@hevanet.com