

Ardenwald/Johnson Creek Boulevard (JCB) Neighborhood Association Minutes for 06/13/06

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:36pm by Cheryl Ausmann-Moreno, Neighborhood Association President, with 19 people present including: Joe Campbell, Lisa Gunion-Rinker, Carlotta Collette, David Aschenbrenner, Nancy Matich, Kristen Wiener (SEUL), Ron Palmer, Carol and Les Wilkins, Katherine Anderson, Joleen Wiley, Annie Kirschner, Catherine Goode, Lori Hauskins, Derrick [REDACTED], Mike Rush, Angela McKee & Lizzie.

Officer Krebs, Norm Scott, and Michole Jensen all came in after the call to order was completed.

Cheryl started introductions, and when Dave Aschenbrenner, Hector-Campbell Neighborhood Chair, introduced himself he made two brief announcements to the group. The first announcement was in regards to the park on 37th and Monroe Street. He stated that both benches have been installed in the park and it is now complete. This park was a project with grant money from both the Hector-Campbell neighborhood and the Ardenwald/AJC neighborhood. He said that he would be losing the fellow who has been mowing and maintaining this corner park as he is moving out of the neighborhood. The second announcement revolved around having a left turn lane light on Oak Street and Highway 224. Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) has stated that a left turn lane light at this intersection is not necessary. People attending the meeting remarked that this was a very busy intersection with a high number of auto accidents. Dave asked the neighborhood to voice their concerns and send a letter to the City of Milwaukie. He advised that the letter be sent to either Brenda Schleining or Mike Swanson and that the neighborhood ask that the letter be forwarded to ODOT from the City. An attending member asked Dave to attend the next Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) and bring this subject to their meeting on the 4th Thursday of June. There was a motion to send a letter to the City from the neighborhood in favor of having a left turn lane light at the intersection of Oak Street and Highway 224. The motion was seconded and all members voted unanimously to approve this motion.

Dave left the meeting to spend some time with his family, and the introductions were completed. Officer Krebs and Norm Scott entered the meeting during the rest of the introductions.

Cheryl called on Officer Krebs for his May police report.

Milwaukie Police Report: Officer Kevin Krebs, Neighborhood Liaison

Officer Krebs handed out his monthly neighborhood crime map and announced that May had been another slow month for crime in our neighborhood. There were a total of three noise complaints and one property call reported for the month. Not included in this report was the break-in at the Ardenwald Elementary School two weeks prior to the Neighborhood Garden Tour. The kids that were responsible for the break-in were found and they were doing community service the morning that the second break-in to the Ardenwald School was found on the morning of the garden tour, May 20th. Five laptop computers were stolen and Officer Krebs reported that the second break-in was still under investigation. There was also other excitement in the neighborhood this past month when a person called the police to report that a pipe bomb had been found at the

Ardenwald Elementary School. It was confirmed that a homemade M80 bomb was found on the Ardenwald School grounds, but it was thought to have been left over from last years July 4th Celebrations. Nevertheless, the Portland Bomb Squad was called in, and the media came in their helicopters after someone contacted channel 12 news. Officer Krebs stated that this was way overblown, but when something like this is found, it is better to make sure that no one is harmed.

Officer Krebs said that school would be out soon and to expect a little more mischief in the neighborhood as kids use up their restless energy. An attending neighbor asked Officer Krebs what he thought about locking up the Ardenwald Park porta-potty during the evening hours. Officer Krebs felt that it was a good idea to lock it up as they are prone to vandalism such as knocking it over and burning. Another attending neighbor raised concerns about finding that some of the neighborhood convenience stores are selling weapons over the counter. Items such as knives, numb-chucks, switchblades, and drug paraphernalia were all found being sold. Some stores also sold cigarette lighters that looked like guns. Officer Krebs reported that it is legal for these items to be sold, but they are not legal to carry. The neighbors concern was that selling these types of items in our neighborhood shows that the businesses don't really care and are out to sell items that make money. Officer Krebs stated that roach clips cannot be sold to minors, but that they can be purchased legally by an adult. He also stated that there is nothing illegal about selling lighters to kids either. Another neighbor suggested that the neighborhood should enter into a good neighbor agreement with all the neighborhood convenience stores. It was suggested that we invite owners to a meeting and ask them not to sell certain items and show some give and take on both sides. Another member felt that letters from the neighborhood should be sent to the stores to ask them for their help as this is an issue that the neighborhood could work on. Other concerns raised by neighbors was the selling of fortified alcohol in the stores and the larger size of the containers that were allowed to be sold. It was discussed that a good neighbor agreement had been in place with the Johnson Creek Market, but that the owner thought the agreement was only good for one year and was selling fortified alcohol after that period ended. A motion was made to form a committee to prepare letters, work on this issue, and send delegates to the stores to discuss this issue with the owners. Cheryl and Ron volunteered to start working on this project.

Before Officer Krebs left the meeting another neighbor asked if he was involved with the traffic plate readers and if he knew the results of speeding that were found on 40th Street. Cheryl stated that Officer Mark Dye works with the plate readers and that she would be in touch with him this month. Everyone thanked Kevin for his time and wished him a goodnight.

Public Safety Advisory Committee: Cheryl Ausmann-Moreno, Neighborhood Chair

Cheryl announced that there are 3 openings for this years Citizen Police Academy. It is a 13 week course that starts in September and goes through December. It helps citizens gain a better understanding of what a police officer environment is like, and enlightens citizens about things such as police issues, safety concerns, and stresses.

Cheryl stated that an ex-police officer has applied for the PSAC member-at-large position. He is a reserve officer and the PSAC is very glad to welcome him to the board.

Cheryl reported that there are still insurance concerns with the speed check traffic sign that was purchased with grant money from all the neighborhoods. Currently the City of Milwaukie is taking a look to see if they can take over the insurance issues. Cheryl is the contact for this sign in the Ardenwald/JC Neighborhood.

At this point Carlotta, neighborhood member-at-large, and Milwaukie City Council Member, announced that the meetings concerning the Sellwood Bridge have begun this week. The various committees have been formed, and the Milwaukie Representative is Jim Bernard. If you would like information concerning the Sellwood Bridge meetings, please contact Mike Pullen at: mike.j.pullen@co.Multnomah.or.us

Neighborhood Land-Use Report: Les Wilkins, Land-Use Chair

Les presented information to attending neighbors concerning the 5 or 6 houses that will be built on the west side of 32nd Street near the intersection of Tacoma Street, 32nd Street, and Johnson Creek Blvd. Recently there have been signs stating that 32nd Street will be closed between JCB and Sherrett Street during the placement of a sewer line. No dates have been included on these signs. Attending neighbors living near the closure area have not been notified, and were concerned about the closing of 32nd Street. It was felt that the City of Portland had not included this information previously.

Les stated that this platt had been reviewed last January after the City of Portland had already permitted the property to be leveled and readied for development. The neighborhood looked into what was being done with this property after neighbors raised their concerns about people living in the houses not being able to get onto 32nd Street because of traffic, and the closeness of the 3-way intersection. The Ardenwald/JC Neighborhood was not notified of this development by the City of Portland prior to the clearing of trees from the property. Michole Jensen, member-at-large, has contacted the City of Portland and is trying to find out more information concerning the closing of 32nd Street.

Attending neighbors living on 40th Avenue brought up their concerns regarding traffic. Parallel parking on this street has not working since the street was widened, and people's cars parked legally are being hit on a regular basis. A traffic plate reader had previously shown that cars are speeding down the street at speeds in excess of 70 miles per hour. Another big concern for these neighbors is that because of how the sidewalks and mailboxes have been placed, neighbors have to go out into the street to retrieve their mail. This poses a dangerous problem for residents. They stated that there has been discussion with Brenda Schleining and Paul Shirey to work towards a resolution of this issue, but currently this resolution has been placed on hold. It was proposed that a letter be drafted and sent to neighbors on 40th Avenue to see how many people have been affected, and start working on a solution to this problem. Attending neighbors from other streets suggested that a block meeting be organized for 40th Avenue neighbors to find out if these are issues for everyone and if there are any other concerns that need to be addressed. It was stated that this project was funded by a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).

An attending neighbor asked if there was a justification for the "skinny" house that was being built on the corner of Drake and 40th Avenue. Neighbors stated that owners of the property had actually purchased two lots back in the day, which are now being divided and sold. The new "skinny" house being built was actually a lesser evil as the developer

asked for a variance to make a much larger house on the corner which would have brought the house width out to the sidewalk of 40th Avenue. This variance was denied by the Planning Commission when several neighbors attended the Planning Meeting and voiced their concern about the safety of having such a large structure so close to a street corner.

Les announced that at the June 27th Planning Commission Meeting there will be discussion concerning the Safeway gas station ordinance.

Treasurer's Report: Joe Campbell, Treasurer

Joe reported on this years grant money and what it has recently been spent on. \$400 for a Milwaukie Band Uniform, \$1650 for the Summer Reading Program Books, \$230 for books for pajama night. He also reported that the Secret Garden Tour raised \$1276.15 for the Ardenwald Elementary School and that now we need to decide how much money we want to use for the summer concert series. Joe proposed that we use \$1200 of our grant money for the concerts and start fundraising for the rest. Carlotta asked that \$1500 of grant money be dedicated for this project so that the sound equipment is covered at \$300/ concert with 5 concerts this August. The motion was made to use \$1500 of grant money for the sound equipment at the concerts, and the motion was seconded. All attending neighbors unanimously voted to approve this motion. In conclusion Joe reported that the neighborhood has \$7,405.19 in our general fund.

SouthEast Uplift Report: Kristen Wiener, Neighborhood Liaison

Kristen reported that there will be an annual leadership training on Saturday June 24th from 9:00am until 2:30pm at the PCC SE Center located at 2305 SE 82nd Avenue in the Tabor Building, Room 139/140. Seven workshops will be going throughout the day and lunch will be provided for free. There is still space available to register. For more information or to register, please contact Kristen at 503-232-0010, ext. 313.

The suggestion was made the we link the Ardenwald website to the Milwaukie Pilot and the SEUL newsletter. This may already have been done, and Marianne, webmaster, will be asked about the linking.

Miscellaneous : Cheryl Ausmann-Moreno, Neighborhood Chair

At the May leadership meeting leaders were asked to discuss at their June neighborhood meetings whether people would be in favor of renaming the Milwaukie Center to either the North Clackamas Community Center or the North Clackamas/Milwaukie Community Center. This name change has been brought forward by the Milwaukie Center Board. Half of the board would like to update and change the name so that people see it the center as a more regional meeting place. An attending neighbor suggested that a better name would be North Clackamas Center at Milwaukie, but this name was not one that was to be considered by the Milwaukie Center Board. It was determined that there were 13 people still in attendance at the meeting who were Ardenwald/JC neighbors and could vote on this issue. A motion was made to approve the name change to the North Clackamas Community Center. One neighbor voted to change the name of the Milwaukie Center to the North Clackamas Community Center, 11 neighbors voted to not change the name, and one neighbor abstained from the vote.

Most people voting against changing the name felt that Milwaukie has original history here in Oregon, and that changing the name of the center takes away some of it's roots and history. Other members felt that it would cost too much to change the name. A motion was made to approve the name change to the North Clackamas/Milwaukie Community Center, and all 13 voting neighbors voted not to change the name of the Milwaukie Center.

Cheryl announced that Katie Mangle, Planning Director for the City of Milwaukie, regrets not being able to attend our neighborhood meetings, but can't because the Planning Commission meetings are the same night as our neighborhood meetings. She emailed about the possible new school at Ardenwald, and wanted the neighborhood to know that Brett Kolver is the liaison for this project. He can be reached at 503-786-7652 or kelverb@ci.milwaukie.or.us.

Miscellaneous Discussion: Norm Scott, Ardenwald Neighbor

Homeowner Norm Scott presented his plans for his 2 acre parcel of land near the SpringWater Corridor Trail in the Ardenwald/JC Neighborhood. First he gave a little history about his prior proposal which was to divide his land and build 2 duplexes, and another single dwelling family home on the property. This has raised concerns with many neighbors and the City of Milwaukie and now Norm is looking at the possibility of not building on the land, but having the City purchase the wetland area for a park. This may be possible if a metro-wide parks bond measure passes this up-coming November. He stated that would mean about 4 acres of wetland down by the Roswell Pond. His concern currently is that right now, until he finds out if the bond measure will pass, he must move ahead with the prior proposal to build on the site. The City of Milwaukie would like Mr. Scott to remove his fence which is currently built on the public right of way. Mr. Scott would like to keep the fence until it is determined that the property must either be built on or turned into a park. One of the attending neighbors stated that she walks the SpringWater Trail with her family 3 or more times a week, and that having the fence up actually helps not only screen the house, but also protects children and pets from falling down the hill. Many neighbors felt that having the fence remain in place as a safety feature for the corridor was a good idea for now. Ardenwald/JC neighbors attending the meeting supported Mr. Scott in keeping his fence.

Ardenwald/JC Summer Concert Series: Carlotta Collette and Ron Palmer

Carlotta and Ron gave a quick update of the summer concert line-up. So far we have: 1) Dr. Jazz and Nurse Ethel; 2) The Dents; 3) Sellwood Middle School Marimba Band (not confirmed); 4) The Polka Beats; & 5) Reggie Houston.

Angie & Lizzie McKee asked that the cheerleading squad be allowed to sell food at the concerts as a fundraiser. They would like to also sell snowcones & drinks everynight. Ron asked if anyone knew if the Milwaukie Band that lost some of it's band instruments in a bus fire had had the instruments replaced. It was determined that insurance and many donors had already ensured that the students had their instruments replaced. Angie said that the cheerleading squad currently has a large debt to cover as the previous cheerleading coach had left with the uniforms and the money they had raised previously. Lori Hauskins asked if the Ardenwald Elementary School PTO could sell popcorn at the event. She also suggested that perhaps the neighborhood should set a policy in place on who can fundraise at various events and maybe set a rotating policy.

It was determined that Lori and Angie would coordinate their efforts and neighborhood concert flyers would also include the cheering squad menus and etc.

Katherine Anderson asked that people from the neighborhood contact her about our national night out concert and she will help get us registered with the Crime Prevention Program. It was determined that Lisa and Marianne would get this set up shortly.

Ardenwald/Hector-Campbell Summer Reading Program: Annie Krishner, Summer Food Program

Annie came to the meeting to talk about the summer lunches that are sponsored by the school district and run by the federal summer food program. These lunches will be provided at Lewelling Elementary, Lot Whitcomb Elementary, and Ardenwald Park. Lunch will be provided Monday -Thursday from 12pm until 12:45pm daily. The lunch schedule will run from 6/19/06 until 8/17/06. The Recmobile will also be coming two times per week along with the summer reading program. Annie asked neighbors to volunteer to supervise and entertain children. Anyone such as musicians or people with arts & crafts interests are asked to come to the events and help out. Free activity will be provided until 2:00pm. Annie also asked for help with door hangers for the event. She will be knocking doors in the neighborhood to help get the word out. Annie also has a banner with information about the event. It was suggested that Kathy Richards be asked if her fence could be used for this sign.

Since we don't have scheduled neighborhood meetings in July or August it was suggested that we try an informal potluck get together at the same time as our normally scheduled meeting for summer fun. No agenda, just food and beverages. Everyone should come and bring their favorite picnic dish!

The meeting was adjourned at 8:56pm.

See you on July 11th at Ardenwald Park, 6:30pm for neighborhood potluck fun! If anyone has a crochet or bocce set please bring them along!

Lisa Gunion-Rinker
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