

Ardenwald-Johnson Creek NDA Minutes for 1/8/2008

The meeting was called to order at 6:35. There were 16 people in attendance:

Joe Campbell, Treasurer
Greg Chaimov, Milwaukie City Council
Marianne Colgrove, SEUL Delegate and Webmaster
Bryan Dorr
Lisa Gunion-Rinker, BMAL
Gavin Hales, City of Milwaukie
Kim Hutchinson
Michole Jensen, Transportation
Kelly Kindrick, Portland Police
Roshella New, BMAL
Joe New, BMAL
Ronn Palmer, Chair
Paul Shirey, City of Milwaukie
Scott Spears, Land Use
Marten Wilkins, BMAL
Carol Wilkins, BMAL
Jill Younce

Police Reports

Officer Kindrick, Portland

Officer Kindrick distributed a map of reported crimes in Southeast Portland in the last 30 days. Most reported crimes were some sort of theft. Car prowls have been a long-standing problem in SE Portland, but there was a significant uptick, especially in Eastmoreland. Often there is a seasonal increase in car prowls in December, though it is not common in a residential neighborhood. It seems like the work of one individual or group, but they have no suspects. There was one burglary in Ardenwald.

Announcements (Ronn Palmer)

The land purchase for a park on Balfour is moving along but still pending.

There has recently been a story in the news about problems with a residential treatment facility in Cornelius. This could have very easily been our situation in Ardenwald. Be sure to thank the Mayor and City Council for their efforts to move quickly and address situation by purchasing the property.

Ronn introduced Greg Chaimov, our new city councilor who was appointed to replace Carlotta Collette. There will be an election will be in early March

Treasurer's report (Joe Campbell)

Not sure what was spent on the holiday party and there might still be people who want to be reimbursed. If so please give Joe your receipts

There is \$6,255.60 in treasury. That includes \$250 for boys & girls club that has been promised

Ronn agreed to contribute \$250 from the Ardenwald-Johnson Creek to the Milwaukie Christmas tree fund. No objections were raised.

Secretaries Report (Marianne Colgrove)

Not much to report as we didn't have a meeting in December. Kathy Fry, the elected secretary, has a new job, making it difficult to attend meetings. Lisa and Marianne have been taking notes in her place. Probably we should move to formally elect a secretary if Kathy needs to resign.

A problem was reported with the November minutes on the website, which Marianne will fix.

SEUL report (Marianne Colgrove)

Marianne reported on the Portland Comprehensive Plan (also known as the Portland Plan and the Comp Plan), which is just getting underway. The planning will take place over a couple of years, but early planning is already underway and we may need to act quickly to have input on how the process will work. This may be an opportunity for us to have input into long-term issues that could affect our neighborhood, such as the transportation classification of Johnson Creek Blvd. and the development of the old Goodwill site at Tacoma & McLoughlin.

If anyone has any questions about these or other issues of importance to our neighborhood, Ronn Palmer encouraged people to contact him directly at ronnpalm@comcast.net

Transportation (Michole Jensen)

The Milwaukie Transportation System Plan adopted unanimously by Council. There was no light rail meeting in December, but one coming up on Thursday. Question: Is the light rail route through SE and Milawukie set? No, nothing is set, including the bridge, alignments, terminal point, etc.

Ronn asked about Sunnybrook extension, which will be a high volume feeder to 224. We need to monitor that development. Paul said we could get Gary Parkin from the Milwaukie Transportation department to brief us on the subject or provide information.

Paul Shirey (Milwaukie Liaison)

Thanks to all the NDAs for contributing to the tree lighting at city hall. They were able to purchase LED lights which are much more energy efficient. His staff contributed time to replace the old lights with the new ones.

Budget season is starting. There's a budget committee which will meet in April. One of the challenges is sufficient funding to match federal transportation funds. We fund transportation principally through gas tax receipts. Tax receipts have gone down 40 % in the last decade, but costs have gone up 40%. Some areas of the state have had larger growth, so they're receiving more of the state tax revenue. This has really cut into dollars for capital projects. This is not to be confused with the street surface maintenance program, which is a separate, special fund.

Question regarding street maintenance — Kelvin, Balfour & 29th are all in really bad shape - is there some way to move streets up the priority list?. Priority is based on traffic volume, and cases in which street surface is at risk but the sub-structure is still solid. The cost of maintenance is much lower on streets that still have a solid base. King road is scheduled for next summer. There is also a pot-hole crew that hits immediate problems.

If you see something really bad, feel free to report it to Paul at shireyp@ci.milwaukie.or.us. You can include pictures if you want to.

On streets without curbs they have to do shoulder maintenance, but they can't do it this time of year. As with potholes, they are complaint driven.

Sometimes 32nd school zone light is flashing in the middle of the night. Who do we report that to? Milwaukie pays the county to maintain the street light schedule. Report problems to the City and they'll take it up with the county.

Land Use (Scott Spears)

Will be working with Marianne to get more land use information onto our website, so people can be more informed. He is also working to collect all the binders that have been created over time and consolidate them into a living document that can be used by the committee going forward

Ronn reported that Ardenwald school project is underway. They are preparing to break ground in early June. Plans are for the school to open in fall 2009.

Milwaukie's new Transportation website (Gavin Hales)

There is transportation info on the Milwaukie site, but it is spread all over the place. Now that the TSP is done, they're working to improve transportation communication. It will now be consolidated into one space, by late next week. The web address will be <http://www.ci.milwaukie.or.us/milwaukie/transportation/transportationhome.html>.

There will be info about current transportation projects in Milwaukie and regional projects that will affect Milwaukie, pedestrian information, bike maps, downtown parking map, walking trails, direct links to Trimet and other transit organizations; transportation policy and planning. There is also contact info related to street maintenance and bike lane maintenance. It will be accessible from Milwaukie city home page. If you have suggestions for content, please send them to Gavin.

Greg Chaimov

Councilor Chaimov asked "What is the city doing wrong that it should be doing better? What are they doing well that they should be doing more of?" This led to a wide-ranging discussion on a number of topics

Animal Control Anything about changing rules related to animal control? There are no laws controlling the number of animals or exotic animals, which has contributed to problem situations such as "the rabbit lady." What are we going to do? Not sure, but Greg will find out.

Residential Treatment Facility The neighborhood really appreciates the work the city did to purchase the land and prevent the residential treatment facility. Private companies are working as non-profits, but state is encouraging this because of problems with the state hospital. Anything we can do to change landuse codes so such a large secure treatment facility will have a much harder time moving into residential areas? We can't make a decision based on what kind of people are there. But can change the code so the type of facility must be much smaller. Will probably be a several month process.

Who to contact at root of the problem? It is the Federal Fair Housing Act that governs what municipalities can restrict. Earl Blumenauer or Darlene Hooley are two people to contact at the federal level. There is also state legislation that is involved since that is the source funding the move toward placing the criminally insane in residential facilities. Ronn will try to get Carol Tomei at one of our meetings.

Riverfront Park Why is Riverfront park taking so long to finish? The design process is underway, but there is currently no funding for it.

Bike Lanes When will bike lanes on JCB get re-striped?– up near 45th Brookside the striping is pretty much gone. Not sure if it's Portland or Milwaukie as it's right on the jurisdictional line. The county is paid to do the striping, but it can't happen until summer.

What's Sunnybrook? Group of involved people from county, state, fed looking at ways to fix the Railroad, Linwood, Harmony intersection. There is a safety issue but also a clogging issue. One alternative would be a substantial widening of Harmony. Several residents of Linwood neighborhood are very unhappy with that solution. Another option would involve a bridge to improve traffic flow. One is to do nothing. A 4th is to leave Harmony but widen 82nd and 84th to funnel more traffic onto 224 and off of Harmony. Not yet determined whether 4th alternative will be included in the study.

Train Crossings When will construction start? The first piece is funded through a CDF block grant for 27th & Oak pedestrian improvements. Permitting is in process and construction is scheduled for fall of 2008. Quiet zone portion of \$85 K short, but Council approved it, pending their ability to come up with the funds in the next budget cycle.

Transportation capital funding Michole pointed out that Milwaukie sort of gets a "double-whammy" – growing suburbs take more of the gas tax dollars but they also create more traffic through our city. Consensus is that gas tax is not a good way to go, but it's not clear what would be best (and feasible to fund). Lynn Peterson would be a good person to come talk about transportation.

Kelvin & Balfour traffic volume and noise is tremendous. The amount of traffic has skyrocketed in the last two years. Bicycle traffic is also up significantly and the street is really dangerous for them. It is the end street from the 29th street bike path. Gavin will take up the issue with the Transportation Department.

Friends of Tideman Johnson Lisa announced Friends of Tideman Johnson work party will be Saturday January 26th. We've had some really successful work groups with a mix of neighbors and other volunteers.

Health Fair OHSU student nurses association want to work with us, OHSU & Providence to put on a health fair, probably at the Ardenwald school. More info will follow.

Adjourn

moved, seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 8:23

Submitted by Marianne Colgrove, January 20, 2008