

January 2013 BAC General Meeting “Public Forum” Notes

The BAC Board asked attendees to voice their comments, concerns, and aspirations for the neighborhood.

Bus Access:

Judy Litt was concerned about how TriMet bus service would change with the new lightrail coming in. Jennifer Koozer replied and told her that the 9, 17, and 19 would use the new bridge. There is still an issue with people who now will need to walk farther to catch those buses.

Fruit Tree Gleaning:

Someone was interested in fruit tree gleaning in the n'hood and someone mentioned that there's an organization called the Portland Fruit Tree Project that already does this.

Parking Issues:

Someone mentioned that street parking near US Bank is very limited during the day. Jennifer suggested that if they have a business they can contact the Streets Division and apply for short-term parking signs.

Foot Patrol:

Judy mentioned that graffiti is an ongoing problem and wondered about the status of the Foot Patrol. I responded that we need a dedicated coordinator to make it happen. Since that meeting, both Matt McComas and Rev. Meiko from the Buddhist Temple are interested in participating/coordinating.

Leaf Pickup Service:

Someone was wondering why we don't have leaf pickup service. We mentioned that we were passed over as one of the n'hoods in the leaf program, but then again, we also are not being asked to pay extra for it. People seemed satisfied with that answer.

Zoning/Comprehensive plan. Several attendees mentioned the need for zoning changes along SE Milwaukie, and Judy agreed to look up the dates and get back to the board about the input sessions for the draft Comprehensive Plan. Matt Wickstrom from the City has agreed to come to our March board meeting to help the n'hood navigate the process and improve our odds of making a successful appeal for a zoning review.

NERT Team (N'hood Emergency Respond Team):

Several suggestions were made on the issue of emergency preparedness: Adele mentioned that there is a 6-week training program with the fire department to train NERT members. We need to get a list of who are our current NERT team members. There is a map that specifies that Brooklyn Park is the n'hood gathering place in the event of an emergency, but that information is not well know. There was a request that we dedicate an upcoming general meeting to emergency

preparedness and invite appropriate community members to speak about various components of safety and preparedness. It was agreed we need more n'hood members trained as NERT members and that we need to make emergency information more readily available.

Brooklyn School/Winterhaven:

People asked about the status of opening up Winterhaven to the neighborhood. Matt McComas indicated that the issue was in a holding pattern with the district that more advocacy is needed.

Brooklyn Community Kiosk:

Don brought up the issue and the fact that we might have a renewed opportunity to establish a kiosk with the new lightrail construction happening and new blood in the n'hood. Mike agreed to bring in the Kiosk file so we could go over the hurdles and decide if we want to take another shot at getting one installed.

Access to the River:

Don gave a brief history of the effort to get the City to make good on its historic promise to provide safe, convenient access to the Willamette River bank in the n'hood. Aaron Maples agreed to do some additional research on the issue and perhaps be a coordinator to revive the effort.