

Brooklyn NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

May/June, 2021



**Brooklyn Neighborhood
General Meeting
Wednesday, May 26, 2021
Virtual Meeting at 7pm**

IT'S NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD ELECTION TIME!

There is a common link for all of us in the Brooklyn Neighborhood: **WE LIVE HERE!**

A great neighborhood like ours can only stay that way if people get involved. The only prerequisite for a board member is attendance at two board meetings prior to acceptance and a willingness to work together for the good of Brooklyn. Time commitments are about 2-3 hours per month. All 9 current board members are up for re-election, and there are 2 additional positions open.

Agenda

**Brooklyn Action Corps Board Elections
Grant & Project Updates
Survey Results
Diesel Project
Community Message Board**

To subscribe to the Brooklyn Happenings emails, go to <http://brooklyn-neighborhood.org/subscribe-to-our-email-list/>

Update on Neighborhood Haul Away and Clean Up Day

Due to the pandemic, the event is postponed until this coming fall. It will be on a Saturday from 10 am to 2 pm. Stay tuned!

Brooklyn Neighborhood Survey 2021

The Brooklyn Neighborhood Survey was conducted via Google Forms and included in the March print edition of the Brooklyn Newsletter. The survey was open from March 1-21st online in English and Spanish. The paper responses were sent to the BAC via mail or returned to one of 4 businesses that hosted survey return boxes. Those boxes were in place March 1-19th. The businesses that hosted survey boxes were The Brooklyn Pharmacy, Rose City Coffee Co., Coco Donuts and Artist and Craftsman Supply.

Summary in Brief

There were 151 total responses, all in English. Approximately 38 responses were on paper and entered into the google survey. We awarded 4 \$25 gift certificates to local businesses. The winners drawn were: Andrea Gall, Linda Walker Trenholm, Pamela Statz and John Ott.

84.8% percent of respondents have heard of the BAC, 53.6% of respondents have attended a meeting. If they have not attended, they are new, or lead busy lives or have conflicts with the meeting times.

The most popular volunteer and social events were #1: Ice Cream Social, #2: Block Parties, #3: Movie Night and #4: Clean Up Day.

What changes would benefit Brooklyn the most?

1. More Businesses- mostly on Milwaukie, some on 17th
2. More Restaurant Options
3. Attention/Help for homeless, especially housing
4. Litter Pickup/Trashcans
5. River Access.

For a complete summary, go to the BAC website at <https://brooklyn-neighborhood.org>.

A big THANK YOU TO EVERYONE that took the time to fill out the survey.

Calendar of Events

BAC Board Meeting
Wednesday, May 12, 2021
Virtual Meeting at 7 pm

Neighborhood General Meeting
Wednesday, May 26, 2021
Virtual Meeting at 7 pm

BAC Board Meeting
Wednesday, June 9, 2021
Virtual Meeting at 7 pm

BAC Supports the Clean Diesel Effort

by Wesley Ward

In March, the BAC General Meeting referred action to the BAC Land Use Committee, on three clean diesel bills which reviewed them favorably and signed letters to our legislators and the House Energy and Environment Committee.

All three bills are opposed by major industries. Two of the three bills are moving from that Committee: HB 2479 and HB 2814. A third bill, HB 2674, has died. It would have levied taxes on diesel truck tires and fuel, and a "privilege tax." These focused taxes would have added millions of dollars to the existing Clean Diesel Engine Fund to help truck owners retrofit or replace old, polluting engines. As this is an essential part of the clean diesel effort, we hope it will be revived as soon as possible.

Passage of the remaining active bills would continue the state's uncertain and halting efforts to clean up diesel exhaust. HB 2814 calls for a DEQ study of diesel pollution from "indirect sources," including construction sites, ports, and freight centers. We may have to push to ensure that DEQ specifically includes our neighborhood railyard. That study would conclude next September with possible recommendations for the Legislature. Diesel equipment and trucks at construction sites produce about 70% of Portland's diesel pollution.

HB 2479 would add "Black Carbon" (AKA "soot") to Oregon's list of greenhouse gases (GHG). As an aerosol, black carbon is 400-1000 times more powerful than CO2 as a climate change forcer. Although its effects are short-term compared to CO2, diesel trucks and other sources constantly add to the atmosphere's load of damaging black carbon. Accordingly, cutting diesel exhaust will directly benefit the climate as well as public health. If this bill passes, DEQ will track black carbon from diesel and wood smoke and recommend measures to reduce it.

Our Representative, Rob Nosse, continues to support clean diesel measures. To make sure these two bills get passed, please contact Sen. Kathleen Taylor, member of Senate Committees critical to these bills, and thank Rep. Nosse. Sen.KathleenTaylor@oregonlegislature.gov (503-986-1721); Rep.RobNosse@oregonlegislature.gov (503-986-1442).

Friends of Brooklyn Park Update

As Summer Nears, Friends of Brooklyn Park is Getting Ready

We are excited to announce that our beloved Summer Youth Program will be returning this June and will run through the end of August. The program will operate Mon, Tues, Thurs, and Fri, Noon - 8pm. Masks will be required (also provided) along with hand sanitizer, and reminders to wash your hands and keep socially distant when possible.

We have almost reached our fundraising goal for this year's program: \$21k out of \$27k. Thank you all for your continued support. We have raised over \$7500 for the summer youth program through the "Blue Bag" BottleDrop campaign. Please visit our website for more info about how to participate. You can also get blue bags and info at Brooklyn Pharmacy and Rose City Coffee.

Brooklyn Center Suites will be hosting a Friends of Brooklyn Park Rummage Sale, Friday, June 25th (time TBD) and Saturday, June 26th, 10am - 4pm in their parking lot. More information of what and how to donate will be available on our website and our social media pages soon.

For more information, check out Friends of Brooklyn Park website: www.friendsofbrooklynpark.org



Community Safety Line

(previously Crime Prevention) is 503-823-4064

Call to Safety

is the domestic abuse support hotline. The phone is 503-235-5333. It is a 24/7 free, confidential, support line for domestic abuse and sexual assault survivors.

Brooklyn Neighborhood News

is published bi-monthly by the BAC. To contact the Brooklyn News, call the helpline or email the newsletter at brooknews@brooklyn-neighborhood.org

Community announcements, local events and press releases are accepted on a space available basis. Closing date for the newsletter is on the 15th of even-numbered months. This newsletter is edited and designed by Marie Phillippi.

Thanks to Young and Joung Kim at Bob's Handy Pantry



Young Kim

Every other month, Young and his wife Joung, allow the BAC to bring in 3 big boxes of newly printed Brooklyn Neighborhood News and set them right inside the door so the volunteer deliverers can pick them up whenever it fits their schedule. They have been doing this for years and the Brooklyn Neighborhood is extremely grateful.

If you happen to go into the Bob's Handy Pantry (right across the street from Brooklyn Park) please thank them for their generosity.

Groceries for Grout a Big Success!

In March, the BAC completed a successful fundraiser for "Groceries for Grout," a program that provides assistance to food-insecure families at Grout Elementary School, which serves the Brooklyn neighborhood as well.

With donations of individual neighbors totaling \$800.00, and a \$500 match from the BAC, Brooklyn raised a total of \$1,780.00 for this event!



Thanks to everyone that contributed a van filled with food and hygiene supplies.



Brooklyn Community Food Pantry

The Brooklyn Neighborhood Association is seeking to establish a free, community food pantry in our neighborhood! This can be a total community effort in supporting, establishing and stocking the pantry. We are currently in need of property that is easily accessible and visible from the street to place the pantry. This requires a Brooklyn neighbor who owns their property or has owner permission to establish a food pantry.

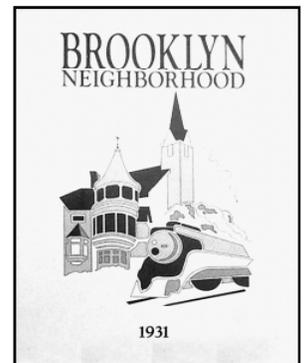
We need your help! If you would like to host a free food pantry or know a neighbor, business, or organization that might, please email us: board@brooklyn-neighborhood.org
For more and multilingual information about this system and to see a map of pantry/fridge locations visit: www.pdxfreefridge.com

Brooklyn Historic Plaques

Have you admired the Brooklyn historical plaques on homes and businesses throughout the neighborhood? Have you thought of adding one to your OWN home or business? Now you can!

The Brooklyn Historical Society will provide the plaques for \$30 each. The plaques are identical in design and color to those already in existence, except for the date, a custom script, if desired and a new coating.

If interested, please email Guy Berliner at chair@brooklyn-neighborhood.org



Important Information

There have been a lot of break-ins, thefts, etc. in our neighborhood lately, as reported on Nextdoor Brooklyn. We need to make sure these are reported, even if it's the next day, it is important. Please take the time to call the Non-emergency number and give them a description of the crime. Non-emergency: 503-823-3333. There is also a number for Community Safety: 505-823-4064 and Central Precinct: 503-823-0097.

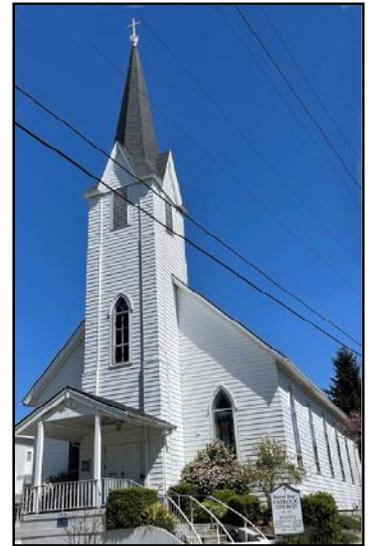
Out and About in Brooklyn Sacred Heart Church (1901)



The towering Gothic Revival style Sacred Heart Church is one of the most recognizable landmark buildings in the neighborhood. In fact, it is one of the three images on Brooklyn neighborhood banners, along with a period steam engine and the equally recognizable Johan Poulsen House. The Sacred Heart Parish was established by the Catholic Archdiocese in 1893, and included all of SE Portland south of Division Street, extending from the Willamette River all the way east to the city boundary. The original Sacred Heart buildings were located on the east side of Milwaukie Ave between Cora and Boise Streets. Sacred Heart Church was built on that site in 1901. In 1910, a much larger vacant site was purchased by the parish and in 1911 the church was moved uphill (reportedly by a team of horses) to its current location on the corner of SE 11th Ave and SE Center Street. By 1914, three more buildings, a rectory, school and convent were built just to the north of the relocated church along SE Center St. Two of those buildings remain today. For years, locals have referred to this area of Brooklyn uphill from and west of Milwaukie Ave as Benedictine Heights.

The connection between the Benedictine priests and sisters of Mt Angel and Sacred Heart Church in Brooklyn was foundational and continuous for over 100 years. The most notable Benedictine parish priest was Fr. Gregory Robl, son of German immigrants and one of the first graduates of Mt Angel Seminary. Fr. Robl served the parish from 1903 to 1945, a pivotal time in the growth and development of the neighborhood. As immigrants poured into the neighborhood at the turn of the twentieth century, it is said that Fr Robl would find work and lodging for these newly arrived families, many of them Roman Catholics from Germany and Italy. He also used his neighborhood knowledge and influence to help Catholic families find housing close to the church, and thereby join his growing 'faithful flock'.

The continuity of appearance and high visibility of the Sacred Heart Church building is a visual reminder of the important social role of the church. Comparing the appearance of the newly relocated church building in 1911 to a recent photo 110 years later, one can appreciate the preservation of the architectural character and the continuity of the place and space of the Sacred Heart Church.



This article is another installment of a regular feature spotlighting the history and architecture of the Brooklyn neighborhood by architectural historian and Brooklyn resident, Eric Wheeler.

Brooklyn's Graffiti Problem by Daryl Phillippi

Graffiti has existed since ancient times, with examples dating back to ancient Egypt, ancient Greece, and the Roman Empire. Graffiti vandalism is becoming more common in the Portland area due to closed businesses with more unattended walls. Graffiti has usually been looked at under the theory that 'graffiti begets more graffiti.' It indicates the community is losing control, and the graffiti, like the crime, can spread like a disease. The best way to control it is to remove it as soon as it is identified. The vandals will eventually give up on that particular building or surface because they get their "highs" from others seeing their work. It follows that if no one gets a chance to see it, they will move on to other 'canvases.' Some graffiti can be very offensive, threatening to some groups or individuals, or racially abusive.

The photos are good examples of individuals becoming involved. The Poulsen house area has been hit hard with vandalism for many months. Now it is cleaned up as soon as possible. Whoever is responsible for this action, BRAVO and a job well done! In most cases the eradication is quicker than the vandal can put it up.





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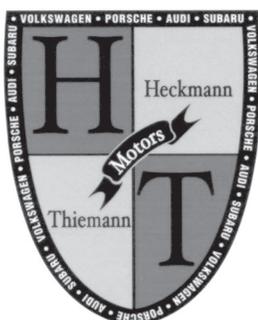
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