

SUNNYSIDE

Neighborhood News

January 2019

Neighborhood News

By Sean Watkins, Sunnyside Neighborhood Association Co-Chair

On December 13th, the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association welcomed Lorraine Henriques as an interim board member to complete Eric Solorzano's tenure. We will miss Eric's work with the board, and we will miss his steady hand and hard work in producing this newsletter every month. Lorraine brings her own experience as a past board member, and we are very lucky to have her wisdom and insight as we move through 2019.

Here are a couple of important takeaways from December's SNA board meeting:

The Safety and Livability Committee meeting will be held on January 8th, 2019 instead of January 1st. The location and time remain the same – at the Sunnyside Community House (SCH).

In February the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association board will host a Safety and Park Watch training session presented by the Crime Prevention Program of the Portland Office of Community & Civic Life (OCCL). It will be held on Saturday, February 9th from 5:00-7:00 p.m. at 3520 SE Yamhill Street. There is more information on our website: <https://sunnysideneighborhood.wordpress.com>

Most of the evening was taken up with a lengthy discussion about how to begin crafting a Good Neighbor Agreement (GNA) between the Sunnyside Community House and Sunnyside residents closest in proximity to the building.

Although OCCL won't be involved with the negotiation and writing of a GNA, Southeast Uplift's Christina Estime presented information to OCCL regarding best practices and guidelines for neighbors and businesses as GNAs are worked through. Christina pointed out that the best GNAs are based on neighbor-to-neighbor relationships, open dialogue, getting to know parties, a collaborative process, and bringing realistic expectations and implicit biases to the discussions. Sticking to the issues and compromise seem to generate better outcomes than one-sided decision-making and aggressive language.

Pressing issues the GNA hopes to address include accountability at the Sunnyside Community House, the location, hours of operation, and proximity of the porta potty to both the park and SES on 35th Avenue, storage of personal belongings left unprotected out in the streets, confusion regarding the City/County response to trespassing and dangerous activities, and security/oversight of the facility during hours when it is closed.

We are one of 95 neighborhoods in SE Portland trying to solve one small portion of an extremely complicated issue. Concentrating on the process is more important than the contract itself. There have been several good neighbor agreements drafted over

UPCOMING EVENTS | JANUARY

3rd – Tech Help, 5:30-7:30 p.m. @ Belmont Library*

6th – Resume Help, 3-5 p.m. @ Belmont Library*

6th – Tech Help, 2-4 p.m. @ Belmont Library*

10th – Tech Help, 5:30-7:30 p.m. @ Belmont Library*

12th – Edible Native American Plants, 1-3 p.m. @ Belmont Library*

13th – Tech Help, 2-4 p.m. @ Belmont Library*

20th – Resume Help, 3-5 p.m. @ Belmont Library*

February

9th – Safety and Park Watch Training, 5-7 p.m. @ 3520 SE Yamhill Street*

* See articles for details

MEETING SCHEDULE

Meetings at Southeast Uplift unless noted

Upcoming Board Meetings

Thursday January 10th & February 14th, 7-9 p.m.

Safety and Livability Committee

Tuesday January 8th & February 5th, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Land Use & Transportation Committee

Tuesday January 8th & February 5th, 7:30-8:30 p.m.

Graffiti Clean-up

2nd & 4th Saturdays, weather permitting. Call 503-235-5047

Sunnyside Foot Patrol

Every Monday, 7 p.m., Meet at Sunnyside School basketball courts

SUNNYSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
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the years. Some are still in use, some have been rendered moot, and some that were drafted long ago that have been forgotten. Sunnyside neighbors and the Sunnyside Community House can use the Foster Powell GNA as point of reference. We can consult with those who are involved in similar processes. In the spirit of cooperation and collaboration, the Community House will support the solutions that the community comes up with as much as possible.

On a final note, from everyone on the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association board I'd like to extend to everyone on our streets, in our restaurants, bars,

Sunnyside Community House

By Pat Schwiebert, Member at large, SNA

Dear Friends,

"I'm great...you know why? God gave me another day to walk this earth and watch." Jeremy tells me this every morning when I ask how he's doing. He helps me unlock the Sunnyside Community House and often is thankful for a breakfast sandwich I have stocked in the fridge. I hear Jeremy in my head any time things feel hard. "...walk this earth and watch..." and remember that the work, while hard, is inevitably good and it is somewhat miraculous that we get to spend these moments together. We are so pleased to tell you that the steady healthy heartbeat of our work continues to be the Hard Times Supper and the work of our Homeless Ministry in the basement of 3520 SE Yamhill Street. In this season, or throughout the year, will you please support our work?

In addition to celebrating the 38th year!!! of Wednesday evening suppers – where between 120-150 folks come for good food and conversation – we are also now open four afternoons each week and many mornings too. This allows our community to know there is often an open door to come in from the rain, a warm cup of coffee, a shower, a kind word, or just a place to rest. We do what we can with an amazing array of volunteers and are always looking to do more. This year, we calculate that we have offered more than:

18,000 plates of warm food

2,500 showers

20 nights of emergency weather shelter

bookstores, shops or parks, a Happy New Year!

Here are some ways to stay connected with the SNA Board and learn more about what is happening in the neighborhood:

SNA Website: <https://sunnysideneighborhood.wordpress.com>

SNA Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/SunnysidePortland/>

SNA Nextdoor: <https://nextdoor.com/neighborhood/sunnyside2--portland--or/>

Hosted a 24 hour toilet

Provided additional dumpster and refuse options

Orchestrated an active clothing, blanket, sleeping bag exchange, wherein thousands of articles have come and gone from our closets and laundry room

Added a small computer lab with donated computers

But more than anything tabulatable, we have offered community. We have become a family. We know each other's names and stories and dreams. We remind one another, regardless of where we come from or where we are going, that we are all in this life together. We try to say yes to the many humble requests of help and model the joy that kindness can bring to everybody. Recently we took a survey of our folks at the Hard Times Supper. One question we asked was "What's one thing you'd like your housed neighbors to know?" Answers came back like: "I'm trying.", "I like to work.", "I wish you asked me my name.", "I've had a hard time but I'm still happy." or "We're not all addicts and alcoholics.". We read these reflections with tears in our eyes.

We know these statements are true and we see it every day. It is heartening to know that our simple efforts to meet our neighbors exactly where are is making a difference and we want to do more. We are days away from beginning work on a long-awaited bathroom remodel that will give us a second shower. This increased capacity is our most asked-for need and



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we are excited to be able to say yes more often. Sometimes five minutes of hot water is all a person needs to rediscover a little peace and hope.

Additionally we have need of some roofing repairs, some plumbing upgrades, and repairs to our gymnasium (a true neighborhood treasure) that will all help us keep this amazing building – the true sanctuary that we know it already is for so many of us – open and vital.

The Hard Times Supper and all the associated work at building relationships and community, doubtlessly help those being served, but also those doing the serving are changed in the act. Love only grows more love and we invite you to join us. If you have it in your budget to support us financially, we will put every dollar to good use in support of the

building and the people who call it home. Checks to "Metanoia" are tax deductible and cherished (There is more information at this link: <http://18thavepeacehouse.org/content/welcome-18th-ave-peace-house>). Ongoing monthly donations can also be established and help us to know our sustaining budget for a year at a time. Smaller one time donations can be made through our website at www.sunnysidecommunityhouse.org and are ever so appreciated in any dollar amount. If you prefer to write a check and mail it, you may send it to Sunnyside Community House 3520 SE Yamhill Street, Portland, OR 97214.

If you do not have the means to support us financially at this time, consider if you have any skills or connections that might help us meet our repair goals. Do you know a great roofer, plumber or contractor? Do you have an extra fridge or freezer that you no longer need? Do you want to join us in cleaning the Sunnyside Park on behalf of the church any time? Do you want to volunteer at the winter shelter? If so, please be in touch with us.

We are always grateful for any support in any form that you can offer.

All the best and Happy New Year,

Pat Schwiebert and John Mayer

You can contact us via email (Pat@tearsoup.com or Johnmayer@gmail.com) or phone (Pat @ 503.706.7853 or John Mayer @ 503.382.9607)

Sunnyside Prepared! is changing our way of helping you be prepared in 2019 !!!

By Jan Molinaro, co-chair Sunnyside NET Assistant Team Leader (ATL), Sunnyside Prepared! (a committee of the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association)

Please see our Sunnyside Prepared! updated website for details: <https://sunnysideportland.org/committees/emergency-preparedness/>. Everything you need to know to schedule a workshop with us is on our site.

We look forward to supporting your continued emergency preparedness efforts.

Before you schedule a workshop with us, I highly recommend that you check out our new and improved website and look at all

the online resources that are there for you. There is plenty you can do with your family and neighbors right now.

Our mantra and mission are the same: Be Prepared, Not Scared!

News from the Belmont Library

By Megan McDaniel

There's a lot happening in January at the Belmont Library! Here's a small sampling of the programs and classes we'll have available. Visit www.multcolib.org/events to learn more.

Everybody Reads 2019 celebrates the work of Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie with the novel *Americanah* for adults and the essay *We Should All Be Feminists* for high school students. A Nigerian-born artist whose influence spans continents and genres, Adichie has received acclaim as an author, poet, playwright and speaker.

Extra copies of *Americanah* will be available in January 2019 at all neighborhood libraries and e-books will be downloadable from the library catalog. Beginning in January 2019, enjoy one of the many free programs exploring the themes of Adichie's work, like a talk on the neuroscience of bias, a musical celebration featuring Nigerian talking drum, or a book discussion at your neighborhood library. Visit <https://multcolib.org/everybody-reads> or your local library branch for more information

and program times.

Upcoming library programs:

Sunday January 6, 3-5 p.m.; Sunday January 20, 3-5 p.m.

Resume Help

Do you need some help with your resume? Are you unsure about your choice of words? Struggling to describe your accomplishments? Come meet with an experienced volunteer for one-on-one help. If you have a paper copy of your resume, please bring it along. First come, first served.

Thursday January 3, 5:30-7:30 p.m.; Sunday January 6, 2-4 p.m.; Thursday January 10, 5:30-7:30 p.m.; Sunday January 13, 2-4 p.m.

Tech Help

Do you have technology questions? Meet one-on-one for 30 minutes with a friendly, knowledgeable Tech Helper who will help you find answers to questions about

mobile devices, websites, downloading, e-readers, getting started with tech, and more. If you need help with a smartphone, iPad or tablet, please bring it with you, along with your username and password, or we may not be able to help.

Saturday January 12, 1-3 p.m.


Edible Native American Plants

Have you ever wanted to know which berries are edible when you're hiking? Or what other plants are edible and how to use them? Take this opportunity to learn about traditional Native American food plants like huckleberry, cedar, sweetgrass and other plants used for basketry and medicine. First come, first served.



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The Sunnyside Neighborhood News is published monthly by the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association.

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Any opinions expressed, unless specified, are not necessarily those of the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association or its board. Sunnyside residents are welcome to submit articles for consideration that concern neighborhood issues, by emailing newsletter@sunnysideneighborhood.com. Many wonderful volunteer Sunnyside residents distribute the Neighborhood News.

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Piano Lessons
 by Amie Rose



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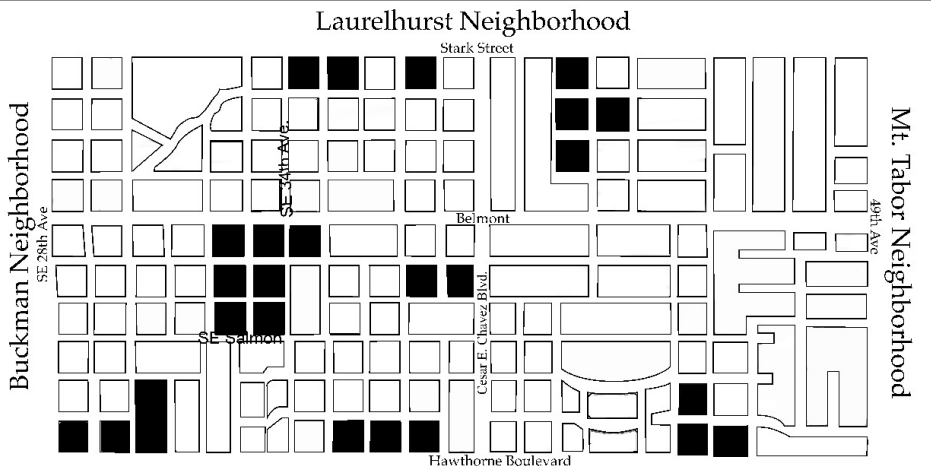
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Sunnyside Neighborhood Map

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SNA Meetings @ SEUL