

SUNNYSIDE

Neighborhood News

June 2020

Holding the 2020 Sunnyside Neighborhood Board Elections

by Reuben Deumling and Christina Estime

We are planning to hold our annual board elections on Thursday, July 9th, at our usual meeting time of 7pm, two months later than we normally would. Other neighborhoods across the city are experimenting with ways to accomplish an election that conforms to each neighborhood's bylaws as well as avoids risks to anyone's health. We considered (1) a largely digital approach, (2) a hybrid video-conference-based election combined with a staffed ballot box, as well as (3) an outdoor venue using small adjustments to our tried-and-true in-person procedures.

Our hope and intention is to conduct our elections outside in the fresh air adjacent to S.E. Uplift's building at 3534 SE Main St. The parking lot and mini-park offer a good amount of space, and the proximity to the building makes staging this relatively straightforward.

The basic format will resemble a typical election where candidates briefly introduce themselves and the membership (anyone who lives in the neighborhood, owns a business here, or is the designated representative of a business or community group or organization located in Sunnyside) votes by paper ballot. The votes will be collected and tallied by our liaison from S.E. Uplift, Christina Estime, who has helped us with

past elections. We are excited to make this work and hope you will join us.

Candidate Statements

Jessie Maran

Hello neighbors. Thank you for considering me as a representative of the voices and perspectives of our Sunnyside Neighborhood community. I'm Jessie Maran and I live near the intersection of SE Cesar Chavez and SE Hawthorne with my mom, teenage son, and a flurry of cats. My professional background is in urban planning and I spend my spare time working in advocacy at the intersection of climate action and transportation. I am also serving on the Board of Southeast Uplift. In all things, my focus is on learning from my community through inclusive and respectful conversation.

The Sunnyside neighborhood is a vibrant mix that serves as home, workplace, destination, and a place to pass through--with so much going on, our neighborhood faces many challenges. I am currently running for the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association Board in order to support the conversations needed to develop a resilient and compassionate neighborhood community.

Dave Boush

I am running for reelection to the SNA board after one term. As the term ends, I am co-chair of the Safety and Livability Committee and the Board's representative to the Hawthorne Boulevard and Belmont Area Business Associations (HBBA and

BABA). I also participate in the Sunnyside Foot Patrol. Serving on the board has been both a pleasure and an education. It has allowed me to meet many neighbors who are committed to improving our city and encouraged a more detailed understanding of our problems and the way Portland works. Two years is barely enough to get started making a difference for the neighborhood. I urge current SNA Board members to run again and urge everyone to get involved on whatever issues motivate them.

Russell Rinaldi

I've been working on the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association for the past 2 years, initially as co chair, now as a member at large, and as the chairman of the Safety and Livability Subcommittee. I'm hoping we can move forward with the right balance of compromise. We can achieve workable solutions and represent

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

Safety & Livability Committee

Tuesday Jul 7, 6:30pm - 7:30pm

@ TBD

SNA Annual Membership Meeting and Board Election

Thursday, Jul 9, 7-9pm

@ SE Uplift (see article for details)

SUNNYSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

SunnysidePortland.org

board@sunnysideportland.org



Sunnyside's concerns to the city to get the available resources we need to affect change.

I believe we can effectuate equitable solutions, and I'd like to continue working toward that goal if I'm voted in for another two year term. We're strongest when we work together. Moving forward, I will continue to work for, and on behalf of my Sunnyside neighbors with the hope of improving the safety and livability issues we face. This is the majority of my purpose as being a member of this board.

Thank you for the first two years, and your consideration for another two.

Letter to the Neighborhood, Spring 2020

by Reuben Deumling

Well... these past few months certainly have been an unusual period. We thought we would take this opportunity to check in and see how everyone is doing, and also tell you a little bit about how the Neighborhood Association is doing and what we are up to.

Like other groups and institutions, we have had to figure out how to operate under these new and unfamiliar circumstances. Meetings, which for better or worse represent a good portion of what we do and how we interact, haven't really been feasible since early March. We have managed to connect via video conferencing, email and phone, but as many of you may have discovered, it isn't the same. The energy I get from being in the same room as others doesn't really happen with a bunch of flickering backlit rectangles arranged on a piece of glass in my lap. It is a technical marvel and useful, to be sure, but not the same.

We had to cancel our Annual Neighborhood Cleanup that was going to be our first time partnering with the Richmond Neighborhood, and several other events related to the May elections also had to be scrapped. This means less work, of course, but also missed opportunities to interact and play what we think of as our role in the community.

We haven't disappeared, however. We are still here, still meeting monthly, and currently planning a (slightly delayed) Neighborhood Board Election in July.

More about that in a separate article below.

How have you folks been coping? How have you weathered these dramatic twists of fate? Although we don't see as much or as many of you, we are assuming you are still out there. What is on your minds? As some have observed, these moments are also opportunities. Are there things you would like to see changed? New priorities? Things you don't want to see us go back to doing the way we had been? We'd love to hear from you, and have you join us at one of our upcoming monthly "meetings." Or run for one of the seats on our board. We are running several candidate statements in this edition of our newsletter, but that should not discourage you from throwing your hat into the ring as well. We would love to see new faces join us to help accomplish our goals and projects, both familiar and perhaps some ideas you have too.

If you want to drop us a line, you can always reach us at board@sunnysideportland.org

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT - Three ways shelter in place has invited us to get involved in our neighborhood

*By Sunia Gibbs
The Groves Church*

We are now several weeks into shelter in place. Our houses have become our workplace, school, cafe, bar, etc. There are plenty of challenges, from missing our favorite public spots to unemployment to losing people we love. Though we've likely now settled into some kind of rhythm that, for the moment, feels "normal", we are wondering what is ahead, how things have changed, how we've changed.

One positive effect from this experience is that staying close to home has illuminated our interdependence and connectedness with one another. Whether we like it or not, we are neighbors. And as it turns out, we need each other. We must figure out how to at minimum co-exist, and hopefully work together for the collective good.

Sheltering in place can produce deeper

engagement and investment right where we are. Here are three ways I see this showing up in this COVID19 moment.

First, now that we must be hyper-local we've been walking more. The slower pace allows us to notice the changes and shifts, maybe even things (and people) we haven't noticed before. For example, as I passed through the piazza at SE 33rd and Yamhill, I was curious about future plans for that public art space. That led me to a Google search and I eventually signed up to volunteer. What are you noticing? What are you curious about? How might that be a way to get involved in the neighborhood?

Second, while we must maintain a physical distance, we recognize our need for social connection. Recent statistics tell us we have been engaging less and less with our neighbors. However this moment might force some of us to engage with those closest in proximity to us - even if they aren't, let's say, our preference. This is good! We might learn about the ways COVID19 is affecting those different than us, we might be compelled to take action. We might begin to grow a deeper appreciation for those who work at the grocery stores and own small businesses. How can we support them as essential members of our neighborhood? And with those we already like and love, we've come up with creative ways to stay connected whether it's through distanced happy hours in the streets or online meet ups.

Third, recognizing our connectedness to one another as neighbors invites us to collaborate for a healthy, equitable, and flourishing community. Elections are coming up for the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association board, seats are empty. I personally hope we have multiple candidates and increased voter turn out. We have the opportunity and power to benefit from investing and engaging in our neighborhood. What can you imagine? What do you hope for? How can we create and build together?

Children, Teens & Adults LEARN AIKIDO The Art of Peace at Two Rivers Aikikai



Open to All


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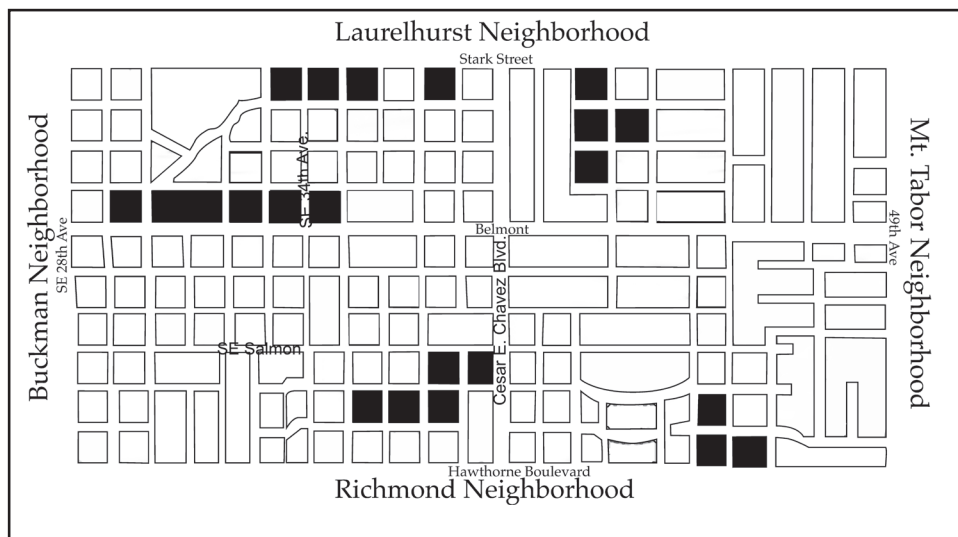
Delivery Help Needed!

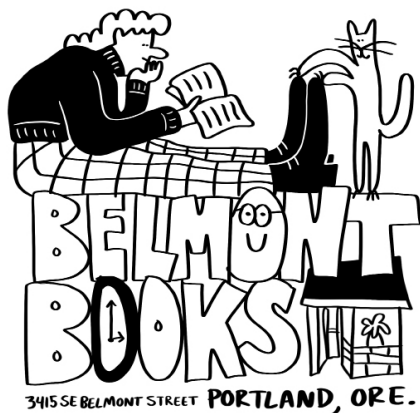
Each month, about 60 dedicated volunteers deliver the neighborhood news to every household and business in Sunnyside. When a volunteer moves away or gives up their route, we add these blocks to the “Gap Map,” which is printed on the back of each issue, showing where we currently need some delivery help.

Have you ever dreamed of having your own paper route? Join the newsletter delivery team! It's a great way to meet your neighbors, get some exercise, and give a little bit back to the community. Most routes cover one or two blocks and take about 20 minutes to deliver. The newsletters will be delivered to your door. If you're interested, please send an email to dianadeumling@gmail.com. And thanks to all the volunteers who bring this newsletter to our doorsteps each month!

Sunnyside Neighborhood “Gap Map”

Live near any of the blocks marked below? We need your help! Contact dianadeumling@gmail.com. to  Delivery help needed here volunteer for our delivery service.





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

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SunnysidePortland.org
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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@sunnysideportland.org. Many wonderful volunteer Sunnyside residents distribute the Neighborhood News.

NEED HELP ENROLLING IN MEDICARE?

I'm your local Medicare expert. Contact me to set up a personalized appointment.

Judy Litchfield
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Sunnyside Neighborhood "Gap Map"

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Delivery help needed here

