

## SUNNYSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION SunnysidePortland.org board@sunnysideportland.org

## Last Month's News. This Month's Plans

By Ash Hester, SNA President

#### Endorsement Policy, Inner Southeast Action Follow-Up, and New Meeting Structure

On Oct. 14th, the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association had a very productive board meeting. The board voted on a new endorsement process which we will work into the SNA bylaws and post to the SNA website in the coming month(s). Vincent Dawans, SNA Treasurer, provided a very thorough financial report of the SNA funds. A vote passed giving committee chairs the authorization to oversee budget spending for committee's finances (with clear limitations). The organization hosted Doug Klotz from Inner Southeast Action! to follow up his September presentation on the petition to "Save the Fred Meyer Hawthorne Pedestrian Entrance!" Fred Meyer has reopened the Hawthorne Blvd. entrance. If you'd like to support ISEA's efforts to ensure that the doors stay open, you can sign their petition at change.org (Save the Fred Meyer Hawthorne Pedestrian Entrance!). Lastly, we have restructured our monthly meetings. Starting in November, the general meeting will be from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m., followed by the board meeting from 8:00 - 9.00 p.m.

Join us at our November's SNA general meeting when Johanna Brenner will talk to us about the Portland Committee on Community-Engaged Policing (PCCEP). An article is provided in this issue which further speaks on the endorsement request. The November meeting will be on Thursday the 11th. Meeting details and the agenda will be posted on the SNA website (sunnysideportland.org) on Monday the 8th. We encourage you to join us and get involved with your local community. Civic duty is a lot of fun!

## Sunnyside Piazza Update

## By Ash Hester, SNA President

If you haven't recently walked, strolled, or driven on 33rd Ave. and Yamhill St. be sure to visit soon. A wonderful team of volunteers came out on the first weekend of October to help us paint the new Sunnyside Piazza design. The SNA wants to give a big shout out and thank you to Will Grim and James Brackenhoff from First Forty Feet (@firstfortyfeet). They were key in helping us coordinate, design, and bring back to life this 21 year old city landmark. It feels great to have the lively painting back and we hope it brings a bit of joy and playfulness to all that pass by. A huge thank you to everyone who participated in the process - from coordinating, donating, and painting. Your acts of service are what makes a community thrive. Piazza images are posted on the SNA website to view.

### **Upcoming Meetings**

Meetings are being held virtually. Check sunnysideportland.org one week in advance for a Zoom link and agenda.

**DEIA Committee Meeting** First Tuesday of the month 6:30pm - 7:30pm (November 2nd, December 7th)

**SNA Board and General Meeting** Second Thursday of the month 7pm - 8pm, General Meeting 8pm - 9pm, Board Meeting (November 11th, December 9th)

SNACC Meeting Third Thursday of the month 6:30pm - 7:30pm (November 18th, December 16th)

### Portland Committee on Community-Engaged Policing Recommends Changes to PPB Core Patrol Services

By Johanna Brenner, Representative from the Portland Metro People's Coalition (PMPC)

At the request of Mayor Wheeler, the Portland Committee on Community-Engaged Policing (PCCEP) conducted a study of the Portland Police Core Patrol Services, which is what the majority of the police force does (respond to emergency non-emergency calls, conduct or preliminary investigations, enforce traffic and criminal laws, etc.). PCCEP studied many hours of public testimony, working sessions, and community surveys in order to develop their recommendations for how Portland's Core Patrol Services could be improved. PCCEP voted unanimously on their recommendations on May 25, 2021.

Coordinating Committee of the Portland Metro People's Coalition recommendations are bold, but also practical. They include:

1) Expand Portland Street Response to the entire city;

2) Increase the number of unarmed Public Safety Support Specialists who are trained in de-escalation and knowledgeable about services for people in crisis;

3) End racial profiling at traffic stops and begin the process of developing a new body of unarmed officers to handle most traffic enforcement; and

4) Develop restorative justice interventions for youth and increase community resources for violence intervention programs. These recommendations will improve public safety while freeing the police to spend their resources on addressing serious crime, such as gun violence.

At a Work Session on July 27, 2021, the City Council chose not to act on any of these recommendations nor did they establish a timeline for when they will decide to act. It is now up to us, the community, to make our voices heard if we hope to see these important changes enacted.

So far, Southeast Uplift and four neighborhood associations have endorsed these recommendations. If you would like to learn more about the PCCEP recommendations, please attend the November 11th Sunnyside NA meeting. Johanna Brenner from the Portland Metro People's Coalition (which is supportive of PCCEP's recommendations) will explain them in more depth. A summary of the PCCEP recommendations is available at (www.portlandoregon.gov/pccep/ article/783958).

# Public Trash Cans Coming to Sunnyside and the Southeast

By Vincent Dawans, SNA Treasurer

New public trash cans are finally making their way to Sunnyside, based in part on the surveys conducted earlier this year. Based on preliminary information about 10 cans will be located on Hawthorne every 2 or 3 blocks between SE 30th and SE 50th. On Belmont, cans will be located at SE 30th, 34th, 37th, Chavez and 45th. On Chavez, cans will be located at Stark, Belmont, Taylor, Main and Hawthorne. Locations are preliminary and might be slightly adjusted as trash cans are installed.

### Sunnyside Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility (DEIA) Committee

#### By Ash Hester, SNA President

The DEIA Committee reviewed the outreach templates which are still a work in progress. The committee will spend the next few meetings in an educational format reviewing DEIA materials to align on building a Culture Values Statement. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, Nov. 2nd at 6:30 p.m. Virtual meeting details will be posted on the SNA website on Monday Nov. 1st. We look forward to new attendees and welcome ideas on ways to build a more diverse, equitable, inclusive, and accessible community.

#### **Emergency Preparedness**

By Jan S Molinaro, Co-Chair, Sunnyside Prepared!

#### November Preparedness Tips

On the FEMA preparedness page November is 'winter weather preparedness.' Hmm. It's a broad term for what we all need to do to make it through the mostly rainy months here in the Pacific Northwest.

Even though my husband and I have lived here for over 9 years, it is very different from our preparedness efforts back in the Chicagoland area. In November, our neighborhood snow blower, which was stored in our garage, had been checked over and sent out for maintenance, if needed. In the early fall.

We found our snow shovels and windshield scrapers and stored them in our cars. Our neighborhood street signs were re-read so that we knew when alternate street parking would take place so that the snow plows would come and clean our street. If we didn't pay attention, our cars could be towed or worse – the snow plow would move around the cars that weren't moved – often moving the mounds of snow in front of our driveway.

When we moved to Sunnyside we were shocked to find out that street cleaning was rare (or never) and that neighbors' cars parked on the block never had to be moved. Never. Whaat?

So, what does November preparedness look like in Sunnyside?

#### Here are some tips:

\* Remove leaves not only from your sidewalk but from the street in front of your property, including under your cars. We have lots of pedestrians and bikers and we should make it safe for them to get to where they need to be.

\* Get a snow shovel and use it to remove the ice and snow from the sidewalk in front of your home. Clear the steps leading to your front door so that our mailperson/ delivery people can safely navigate.

\* Help clear the street drains so that the ice and snow can safely get to the sewers. Here is how to locate and clear street drains safely: www.portlandoregon. gov/transportation/article/319667 If you are reading the printed newsletter, you can google "Stormwater Drainage/Street Care/City of Portland, Oregon" and you will find tips there. \* Continue to bring foodstuffs to the Sunnyside Free Food Resources, located at SE 42nd and Taylor on the north side of the street, near our beloved chickens. Feed the chickens while you are there with the quarters you brought along just for that reason. And, while you are there, drop a book or three in the Little Free library. It's a great community support spot.

Questions, tips, thoughts? Email me: jan@sunnysideprepared.com

### Community Cares (SNACC) Committee Updates

By Emily McCadden, SNA Director at Large

At the last SNACC meeting on Thurs. Oct. 18th, we discussed conducting a needs assessment of the shower program to gather feedback from the people who use the showers to learn what is working well and what isn't. The shower program is also organizing another clothing drive to provide requested winter gear for the houseless community. The date and location to be determined. There wasn't much to report on trash removal, other than that the same areas continue to be a challenge. There was some talk about investing in longer term solutions, which the group agreed was important to revisit. The committee will also finish the work needed to launch the "Get On The Sunnyside" communication plan. Some members then signed onto (zoomed over to?) the South Tabor Neighborhood Association meeting. Tremaine Clayton and Britt Urban shared information about the work they've been doing with Portland Street Response (PSR). This program will be expanding starting November 1st to include East Precinct. which covers Sunnyside east of Cesar Chavez Blvd. Next Mireaya Medina and Babatunde Azubuike from "Black and Beyond the Binary Collective" facilitated a conversation about how their organization could collaborate with neighborhood associations to reimagine community safety. We encourage anyone who is interested in these efforts to attend our next SNACC meeting on Thursday, Nov. 18th at 6:30 p.m. Meeting details will be posted on the SNA website the week of Nov. 15th.



## Sunnyside Neighborhood Getting to Know Your Neighbors

By Nathan Howard, SNA Member at Large

#### Q&A with YogaChefJess

On a recent sunny autumn Friday, Leslie and I walked through our favorite food cart pod—The Bite on Belmont at 43rd and Belmont—to find that a new restaurant had arrived: YogaChefJess.

The food cart A-frame showed a variety of delicious-sounding meals. We became more excited the longer we reviewed the menu. The ingredients and creations sounded mouthwatering and—to Leslie's delight—everything was plant-based.

Leslie and I, along with my parents—who joined us on the outing—ordered about half the menu which rotates weekly. After the first couple bites, we were sold. And I thought to myself, Sunnysiders have got to know about YogaChefJess.

Jess, who lives in the Powellhurst-Gilbert neighborhood, is a deeply passionate professional chef and yoga instructor. Her mission for over 16 years has been to help people create healthy habits through quality eating and meditation.

In addition to her cart at The Bite on Belmont, YogaChefJess provides meal subscriptions, nutrition consulting, yoga and fitness instruction, cooking demos, and other holistic services. (Check out her website at yogachefjess.com.) Her meal subscriptions include lunches and dinners that are premade, plant-based, and free from gluten, soy, and refined sugar.

## Alrighty, YogaChefJess. How long have you lived in Portland?

**Jess:** I've lived here for six years. I'm from North Carolina. I noticed that Portland

was more catered to my lifestyle as a yoga instructor and plant-based foodie.

## Had you visited Portland before moving here?

Jess: No, I didn't visit. My cousin lived out here, needed a nanny, and asked if I wanted to be a nanny for them. I thought, "Okay, but if I go out there, I'm probably not going to come back." So I just sold everything and moved out here. Then a year later my cousin moved away! But I love it here.

#### You had a catering business before this. What led you to opening this physical restaurant?

Jess: I do still have a catering business. I just needed more space. Even though this is still a small space, it's a little more space than what I'm used to to create my meals and stuff. We built a kitchen for my business, and now we have this too.

#### How long have you been open? We noticed that you took the spot of Dinger's Deli which we used to frequent.

Jess: This is only my fourth week! So I'm really good friends with Brian, founder and owner of Dinger's. He was like, "I want you to be here. I love what you do. I'm burning out. They need really good food and you're the best replacement for me."

## What do you love about having your cart in Sunnyside?

**Jess:** It's alive. I really like the location here and the neighborhoods. I love how people are often walking by. There's enough going on this side of the street [north side of Belmont] that people are passing by, walking their dogs and stuff.

## Okay, so one month in, how does it feel?

Jess: It feels pretty good. Jumping into anything is a roller coaster. But it has been a good roller coaster. You know, I didn't fall out of the ride. Nothing fell off. The wheels are still attached. We're slowly going up. We're in a hole, but we're not sinking in the hole (laughs). I do have a couple of people that come and help me, but it's mostly me.

## What's one fun fact about Yoga Chef Jess?

**Jess:** I did my yoga teacher training in Thailand. It's a 500 hour certification. While the first was in Thailand, my second yoga teacher training was here in Portland. l've learned various styles such as Hatha, Bikram, Integral, Astana, Anusara.

\*Go visit the restaurant YogaChefJess at 4255 SE Belmont Street or sign up for a meal plan and more at yogachefjess.com.

### SNA Volunteer Webmaster Request

By Matt Lembo, SNA Director at Large

Sunnyside Neighborhood Association is looking for a volunteer to help manage our Wordpress-powered website. You would be responsible for basic content and administration only; no hosting, domain management, code editing or server interaction is required. You will be asked to create a few posts and pages per month including meeting minutes, agendas and committee information, and manage a Google Calendar. Newsletter articles are NOT part of this job and will continue to be handled by the NL team. Training and support, as necessary, can be provided by an experienced professional. This is a good opportunity to dip your toe in the civic waters, learn a little about websites, and meet some fun and interesting neighbors. If interested email board@ sunnysideportland.org to learn more.

# SNA Newsletter Coordinator Request

#### By Ash Hester, SNA President

Sunnyside Neighborhood Association is looking for a volunteer to take the reins as the Sunnyside Newsletter Coordinator. The role is a monthly project management opportunity to facilitate workflow processes of rounding up article submissions by the targeted deadline, draft a work-in-progress document for the copy editor to review, and sign off to the newsletter format coordinator who sends the monthly issue to the printers. This is done with Google Shared Drive and Google Docs. This is a great opportunity for someone looking to get involved on a local level, aspiring journalist and communications professional especially, or for an individual who would like to get involved and connect with awesome folks in the community. All ages are encouraged (15 years+). If interested email board@sunnysideportland.org to learn more.

