SUNNYSIDE Neighborhood News December 2021

SUNNYSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

SunnysidePortland.org

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Last Month's News. This Month's Plans

By Ash Hester, SNA President

Holiday gathering, endorsements, and December's SNA meeting guest

On November 11th, the Sunnyside Neighborhood Association welcomed some new faces to the general meeting and held an open forum to discuss a neighborhood holiday event. We decided to meet on Saturday December 18th at 6 p.m. to walk the Peacock Lane holiday lights event. Event details are in a separate article.

Johanna Brenner from the Portland Metro's Peoples' Coalition spoke about the Portland Committee on Community Engaged Policing (PCCEP)'s recommendations to City Council and asked for the SNA's endorsement, which we gave. The November issue has an article by Johanna with details (sunnysideportland.org/tag/newsletternov-2021/). The Board discussed a response letter to support SE Uplift's (SEUL) bylaws amendment. The letter will be sent to the SEUL Board during the next SEUL Board meeting for consideration. The vote for the SEUL bylaws amendment will be held on Monday, December 6th. Lastly, the SNACC Committee will be hosting a clothing drive on Saturday, December 4th. Event details on when. where, and what to donate are posted on both the SNA website (sunnysideportland. org) and Facebook page (facebook.com/ SunnysidePortland).

We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming December meeting on Thursday the 9th. The SNA will be hosting Oregon State Representative Mr. Nosse who will provide legislative updates and lead a Q&A. Meeting details and the agenda will be posted on the SNA website (sunnysideportland.org) on Monday the 6th. The General meeting is from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. with the Board meeting to follow directly after from 8:00- 9:00 pm. We encourage you to participate in local civic duty and join us with making Sunnyside, Southeast, and Portland a thriving community.

Peacock Lane Holiday Lights Event

By Ash Hester, SNA President

The Sunnyside Neighborhood Association (SNA) is co-sponsoring this year's Peacock Lane holiday lights event that runs December 15th through January 1st 2022, from 6 p.m. - 11 p.m. Come join the SNA on Saturday, December 18th at 6 p.m. (where Peacock Lane and Belmont St. intersect) to walk the holiday light show. We'll begin the tour at 6:10 p.m. We encourage you to dress in warm layers and wear a mask. Looking forward to gathering together.

Upcoming Meetings

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

DEIA Committee Meeting

Tuesday, December 14th 6:30pm - 7:30pm

SNA Board and General Meeting

Second Thursday of the month General Meeting: 7:00pm - 8:00pm Board Meeting: 8:00pm - 9:00pm (December 9th, January 13th)

SNACC Meeting

Third Thursday of the month 6:30pm - 7:30pm (December 16th, January 20th)

Emergency Preparedness

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

Mise en place and e-prep

Almost all my conversations with friends here in PDX are centered on food and emergency preparedness. Having moved here from the Chicagoland area, the food here, all of it, tastes fresher and more vibrant. My weekly outing to the PSU farmers market reinforces the idea of eating, and shopping locally — supporting farmers year-round and eating through the rainbow of foods sold there.

So, what do e-prep and mise en place have in common?

For me, it's the mindset that the more prepared we are, the better our lives and those of our friends and family and neighbors. And, the meals we cook will taste better because we have prepped ahead of time so that we have all the ingredients we need measured and waiting BEFORE we actually cook or bake.

Emergency preparedness in this time of COVID may seem unimportant or unnecessary. I disagree. We have all learned to be more in the present moment. We check for our masks before we go out in public and probably check the hours and guidelines necessary to enter and shop at local stores, restaurants and food pods. It's worth the bother, always. Hopefully, we all use what we have learned during these pandemic times to make ourselves more resilient in the future.

We are all more prepared for a disaster than we think. The skill sets and learnings we have acquired will serve us well in the future if we use them going forward. Find an e-prep buddy and help each other. Engage your kids in this work.

Questions? Comments? Need support in getting prepared? I have the time and the resources to support you. Email me: jan@sunnysideprepared.com

Sunnyside Neighborhood Community Cares (SNACC) Committee Updates

By Emily McCadden, SNACC Co-Chair, SNA Director at Large

The SNACC committee began its monthly meeting debriefing what we know following recent sweeps of houseless neighbors from Laurehurst and Sewallcrest parks. We will meet in two weeks to discuss ongoing conflict resolution and transformative justice strategies to strengthen relationships between housed and houseless folks in Sunnyside. In the long term, we hope that strengthening these existing relationships will help us advocate for greater City investment in providing services to houseless people, instead of sweeping camps. We will also be moving forward with a needs assessment survey of the Sunnyside shower program in early December. Finally, we will begin exploring fundraising and leveraging the giving season to solicit donations from the community to fund other projects, like paying houseless volunteers for the work they're doing for the community.

We encourage anyone who is interested in these efforts to attend our next SNACC meeting on Thursday, Dec. 16th at 6:30 p.m. Meeting details will be posted on the SNA website the week of December 13th.

Give to the Shower Program *By Hannah Wallace, SNA Vice President*

As the holidays near we're approaching the one year anniversary of the Sunnyside Shower Program. This year we have sponsored several vaccine events, instituted a vaccine mandate, and conducted a de-escalation training for the volunteers. In the coming months we are conducting a needs assessment of our regular clients to see how we can improve the program in 2022. We gratefully accept donations to keep our volunteerrun project going. You can donate on website (sunnysideportland.org/ donate) or via Zelle to treasurer@ sunnysideportland.org. Please specify the Sunnyside Shower Program. Thanks!



Masa

By Trang Ho and Trang Sharbaugh, Founders of Masa

Trang Ho and Trang Sharbaugh, two residents in SE Portland, founded Masa with a mission to propel regenerative agriculture into the mainstream. masafresh.com is an online marketplace platform for locals to sell and buy fresh goods directly from one another. Imagine, you can browse a map of local fresh goods grown or produced around your neighborhood and buy products directly from the source.

With the focus on building a network of sellers and unique offerings in each neighborhood, the team is inviting you to join Masa seller referral program at masafresh.com/invite. Participants will earn a dozen local fresh eggs for every new seller referred!

Who can you invite to sell on Masa? Think of any local small-scale farmer, gardener, forager, and artisan who is passionate about growing and making fresh goods. A neighbor who has more fruit from their garden than they can consume? A friend who loves propagating plants and saving seeds? A colleague who raises chickens and sells eggs to co-workers? They are welcome to join the community. Sellers must follow our product guidelines (read more at masafresh.com/faq), and shoppers can share their experience with the community via ratings, reviews and pictures. Together we can build the community we love.

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

By Ash Hester, DEIA Chair and SNA President

The DEIA Committee met with the founders of MASA and provided local resources to help spread awareness for their developing business. We continued conversations on DEIA language and began a workshop series for DEIA training. Conversation to develop a presentation to share at a future SNA

general meeting is in the works. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, December 14th at 6:30 p.m. Virtual meeting details will be posted on the SNA website on Monday December 13th. We look forward to new attendees and welcome ideas on ways to build a more diverse, equitable, inclusive, and accessible community.



Sunnyside Neighborhood Getting to Know Your Neighbors

By Devin Brown, SNA Member at Large

Q&A with Sophie Wice-Budner and Oona Fife

Sophie Wice-Budner (left) and Oona Fife (right) are fifth graders at Sunnyside Elementary School who have known each other since kindergarten; they've both lived in Sunnyside since they were babies. The past two years have been full of unexpected challenges for them: learning to navigate Zoom, Seesaw and other online platforms; months of not seeing their friends in real life; and having to wear masks everywhere they go. But like many kids across this country, they've shown patience and resilience. (And also a little frustration.)

What's the biggest difference between school in-person and school on Zoom?

Sophie: [School in person] is way less frustrating.

Oona: Much, much less frustrating.

Sophie: On Zoom, it's really hard to learn, because if you don't have perfect internet, it's glitchy. Even if it's like only a little bit glitchy, it will just all of a sudden be really glitchy.

Oona: I think it was Seesaw that we were using. It did not work that well.

Sophie: I did not like Seesaw at all.

Oona: It's much easier how we're learning now—from a teacher telling us what to do instead of reading off something.

Did you have a lot of empathy for your teachers?

Oona: It looked very hard; they looked stressed out.

Do you think you learned what you were supposed to learn in fourth grade?

Sophie: No.

Oona: No.

What do you think you missed?

Oona: A lot of stuff!

Sophie: We're having to review math, like long division. We didn't use the math packet because we weren't in person.

Oona: We were supposed to use this specific math packet and algorithm, but we didn't get to do it. But I would say we still learned enough because my teacher was just really good, in my opinion.

Neither of you had used Zoom before the pandemic. How did you know to mute yourself and how to raise your hand?

Sophie: We didn't know anything at all about electronics. We just had to figure it out and try our best. There were some people that didn't learn.

Oona: Some people had their mics on when they're, like, yelling to their mom about something.

Sophie: It was really distracting.

Did you ever have the experience where you're on Zoom and everyone's trying to learn and someone's little brother or sister would come on?

Sophie: Oh yeah, totally.

Oona: Rainer's little brother, in our class, kept doing that.

What would they do?

Sophie: They would just run in and, like, scream half the time.

Oona: This kid in my class last year—his little brother would come in all the time while he was sitting on the couch in his living room. And he would just start dancing and going up the screen and just

like, yeah, just with his face pressed to the camera. It was really funny.

So maybe you're behind on long division and some other things. But is there anything you think you did learn last year because of the pandemic—not academically, but just about life?

Oona: I learned how to keep in contact with my friends really good, but I think a little too much because it was distracting probably because we use, um, Google chat, which is on our Chromebooks that the school provided for everyone.

Sophie: I could only stay in contact with a few friends. So I learned—we learned—how to plan on our own, instead of having to get our parents to plan stuff and, like, go on bike rides and just hang out a lot.

What is challenging to learn when everyone's masked?

Sophie: Our teacher is not a very loud person at all, so she has a microphonething that gets squeaky and annoying, but it helps a lot. And it's just hard for everyone to hear each other and understand each other. And [the mask] hurts my ears with the straps—it's really uncomfortable.

Oona: I've gotten very used to wearing masks. So I think it's kind of just like wearing my clothes or something. I wear this one all the time because it's safer for me to wear it at school since I'm not totally vaccinated yet. I just got my first shot a couple of days ago.

How did it go? Did you have any reactions?

Oona and Sophie (together): No.

You had to see everyone else get vaccinated first.

Oona: My brother and my parents are all vaccinated and my mom had a booster, so they're all kind of good. It's kind of annoying to see that my brother can have like sleepovers with his friends. He's in seventh grade.

Sophie: I feel more free, Covid-wise, now that I've gotten my vaccine, like going into stores and stuff.

At school, is it masked all the time, even during recess?

Sophie: Oh yeah.

Oona: We can take our masks off to eat but only like this [barely, quickly pulled down and then back up] if we're eating inside. There's an option to eat inside if it's really rainy outside. Some kids can't eat inside because the parents don't want them to. My parents let me eat inside.

Sophie: At first my parents weren't okay with me eating inside. And it's really hard. They don't have anything set up for people that have to eat outside. They didn't even have sit-upons, so you're not sitting on the wet ground.

Oona: Now we have sit-upons.

Sophie: Everyone had to stand up while they were eating and hold their umbrella in one hand. And not everyone had an umbrella.

Oona: Me and Sophie, actually, we have really huge umbrellas and one time we were sitting together and we're like, how about we just sit on our umbrellas? So we just sat on our really huge umbrellas and ate our lunch together?

It sounds like you both are very resourceful. Have you ever had a moment in all this where you just feel like you can't do it anymore, where you're at your pandemic limit?

Oona and Sophie: YES!

What would you say to yourselves just as the pandemic was starting? Or what would you suggest to other kids in some far off land who have never gone through a pandemic before, where they are where you were two years ago? What would you say to them?

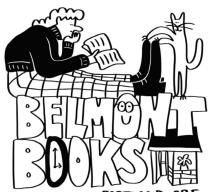
Oona: I would tell them, literally: Don't be too hopeful. And keep in contact with your friends.

Sophie: I would tell them to try and be optimistic but just like, don't assume something's going to be great because then you'll be disappointed if it doesn't happen. Like, nowadays, a lot of things get cancelled.

Oona: Don't feel too hopeful.

Sophie: I mean you can be a little hopeful.

Oona: You can be optimistic, but don't really expect it, because you're going to be disappointed if it doesn't happen. So just don't over-hope, I guess.







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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.



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