

General Meeting minutes from Nov. 10th, 2022

taken by Hannah

Present: Chris, Emily, Vincent, Hannah, Eric Miller, and Lin Wang with Victoria de la Llama joining in

Chris: Welcome and Introductions

Eric & Lin: Live on Alder St. Moved her recently, want to be involved.

Vincent: been in Sunnyside for 17 years. Is the Treasurer now.

Hannah: VP and has lived here for 12 years in various places in Sunnyside.

Emily: Chairs the SNACC committee and has lived here for 3.5 years.

via Video:

Michael Hall: Member of Quiet Clean PDX and here to support Albert Kaufman

Albert: part of Richmond and SEUL board and Quiet Clean PDX

Chris: lives near the giant construction pit on Hawthorne and 29th. been here since 2017

Committee & Officer Reports:

Vincent: gives financial report. Income: \$210 donations for newsletter; advertiser for \$150 so \$410 in income; expenses typical. Newsletter \$450 or so We paid the Sec. of State fee—\$50? We can get that back from SE uplift.

SNACC: Typical stuff but \$500 are typical expenses. Our grant is expiring this month and if there's...if we need financial information or if they ask for all of your e Piazza Fund is untouched.

Emily: SNACC report. Clothing drive—our 3rd annual clothing drive. Will be on Dec. 10th here at SEUL. We'll start downstairs—4 hours soliciting donations and then we'll have the drive up here in this year. We need volunteers for that. We're also trying to ramp up donations because we have several expenses coming up: \$100 to utilities at the church. We're paying for a storage container.

Chris will spread the word to the Hawthorne Blvd. Association—

Chris: Business Associations. HBBA very active and interesting. (Belmont doesn't seem to be as organized.) Site walk through with PEMO—environmental management office. New program where they're working with Biz Districts. Main Streets. Identify issues—graffiti, broken windows, problem areas. Portland Street Response. Setting up a problem solvers group." Will meet every 2 weeks. That is an action committee. Here are the problems we have this week: what can we do to fix them as soon as possible. The first meeting is next Tuesday. Started on Alberta. Slowing expanding it. If it's good and humane, then maybe Belmont would also be interested in it.

Guest speaker Albert Kaufman from Quiet Clean PDX: Here to talk about the scourge of glass power leaf blowers

See his Power Point presentation here:

<https://www.quietcleanpdx.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/LB-Transition-Team-Slide-Show-2019.pdf>

SOLUTIONS: Rethink, reduce, regulate. Clear walkways with a push broom or a rake. They work like they always have.

The USDA has come out with something “Leave the leaves.” Put them around your plants to mulch your plants.

Accept a little mess from trees and plants!

Hannah asks What are the legislative efforts to ban them?

- Bills in the state legislature but did not make it out of committee...Phasing out of gas-powered leaf blowers.

There’s no instances of landscapers going out of business if they switch to electric leaf blowers. Gas powered leaf blowers actually cost more.

- We’re working with PGE and the state and the county to create incentives
- He’s on the city-county work group. Nick Fish was our champion. In 2019 he tried to get the city to do a resolution. [But died before he could get it before the City Council.]
- Now they are on the cusp. 3rd draft of a policy recommendation that we’re going to submit to Portland City Council and Multnomah Board of Commissioners that would effectively ban gas-powered leaf-blowers county wide!

Chris asks how Rob Nosse and Kathleen Taylor think about this. He thinks Rob will be a co-sponsor of his legislation. Albert doesn’t know how Taylor feels about this. Michael Dembrow and Rep. Khanh Pham and Courtney Neron are supporters.

Erik asks if there was a reason why landscapers would resist switching to electric leaf-blowers?

Michael: It used to be the case that the electric ones were not as powerful. The R&D of the batteries, etc. Now they are more powerful.

Michael: you can help! The page that Albert showed you with our endorsers and supporters—well over a dozen NAs have endorsed the goal. We would ask that SNA would consider the possibility. Join the coalition of people and communities that are coming together to accelerate the demise of these terrible devices. ;-)

Go to their website at Quiet Clean PDX to learn more. www.quietcleanpdx.org

Chris tells them about our formal endorsement process.

Chris to summarize banning camping /setting up huge campsites

- Chris attended Sam Adams’ presentation today. About 300 people on this Zoom call. 6 campsites. Each with two camps on it. Each camp would hold up to 150 people. (So 300. So total “housed”—1,800. Tents and heated tents, at that.
- They are evaluating publicly-owned land. Parks, PPS, Letter of intent from the property owner, so they can open up conversations.
- Not going to be a quick process. They think 18 months...
- Vincent asks how is that different from the Safe Rest Village process? What take-aways from the SRV process. Chris says size. Management would be similar. Service provider on-site. There would be meals provided and a substantial snack. Residents get in via referrals. It’s not a walk-up “I wanna camp here” type thing.
- These would be fenced. Would be security. There would be additional security outside the perimeter.
- Emily asks: what if there were interpersonal conflicts?
- Chris says they are going to phase it in: they will localize the camping ban around the site.
- Vincent points out that without the County, they won’t have the funding.

Chris: Does anyone have any announcements they want to make? Concerns, questions? Free plantings for our planting strips! 2theriver@Portlandandoregon.gov Apply by Nov 30th or call 503-523-5729. A way to manage run-off.

8:02 Adjourn the general meeting.

Begin the SNA Board Meeting

- Chris welcomes Bill and Reuben are here; Eric and Lin left

Bill Stites—he is a metalworker artist. In late 2011 we created the opportunity with Laurelhurst Village over on Stark to create a neighborhood sign. It’s a \$1700 sign! Water sculpture affect. It’s quite heavy (125 pounds) because it’s made of steel and wood. Original plan to put it at 33rd + Stark. It triggered the city to bring in an inspector. They didn’t have a use for a structure.

Reuben says it was a crazy saga. Laurelhurst Village sold at least once, no memory. The City doesn’t solve problems so it got orphaned. So Bill held onto this for years. Pat Schwiebert got the OK to mount it on the West facing stairs. The City didn’t care.

- We need to take this off Bill’s hands
- Reuben thinks we could store it at SEUL for a bit.
- We could solve where to put it later.
- There was a concern about vandalism at Stark and 33rd.
- If you put it on the church wall you could then do a mural.
- Hannah to talk to Jamie about the possibility of hanging it here; Emily to talk to Phoebe at SEUL to see if we can store it. [We could see about using Matt or Jes’s truck...]

Vincent mentions that the piazza fund—there is \$500 left from the last piazza fund.

Treasurer Stuff: J.C. was the treasurer when Vincent came on board. She put a lot of effort in cleaning up the backlog. It was a bit of the mess. The state filings hadn't been filed... there were years when things fell apart.

- V took over from J.C.. He continued her clean-up. He opened book. We have accounting books. Money goes in and goes out.
- Account is with US Bank still.
- He's curious if the Treasurer was chosen on the ability to do financial stuff or if that never happened. ??
- Reuben say nobody was asked if they had an accounting background. People were conscripted. Every now and then you'd get someone who was ambitious. Some people who were more fastidious and some were less.
- Reuben says the SNA made money by doing clean-ups and by being at the Belmont Street Fair. Who "owns" the street fair. They jointly own it. They got breaks on permits, etc. We needed to provide volunteers. (Vendor fees.) So they got a couple thousand. Newsletter printing wasn't that expensive. SEUL used to give a lot of money for communications. It used to be \$1,000, Reuben says. [Wow—now it is \$500.]
- Where did the money go? Emily asks. Reuben says that during his tenure, they spent it... people would come to the SNA to ask for funds. Mary-Ann Schwab wanted socks. Certain neighborhood projects. Emergency Preparedness.
- Transition Towns: getting off fossil fuels. We were the first neighborhood to sign that.

Hannah makes a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting and the follow-up. Vincent seconds. We vote unanimously (Chris, Vincent, Emily, and me.)

Chris suggests we all go to Peacock lane on a car-free night and then order pizza!