Minutes of Beaumont-Wilshire Neighborhood Association (BWNA)

General Meeting Via Zoom

October 11, 2021

Attendance (Board of Directors): Tim Gillespie, Gary Hancock, Barbara Strunk, Andrew Rinke, Tim Hemstreet, Patty Nelson, John Sandie, Derek Humbard, Al Ellis

Neighborhood Members and others attending: Jan Gillespie

Excused: Karla Lenox

Meeting called to order: At 7:00pm by Tim Gillespie, President.

The October 11, 2021 meeting agenda was unanimously approved.

Minutes: Minutes from the September 13, 2021 BWNA board meeting were approved unanimously. Minutes will be posted on the BWNA website.

Treasurer's Report: President Tim Gillespie reported for Treasurer Karla Lenox: As of 9/30/21 cash in the bank: $12571.34. Venmo balance: $190.04. Expenses incurred in September 2021 paid from BWNA main checking account: 1) BWNA share of permit for upcoming blood drive: $326.50. Cost of blood drive shared with Beaumont Middle School PTA. 2) Newsletter printing: $1281.60. 3) It was moved, seconded and passed that John Sandie will be reimbursed $75.00 for three $25.00 gift certificates awarded via a drawing of BWNA scavenger hunt entrants who answered all the questions correctly.

Updates on Ongoing Projects and Committee Reports

a. Central NE Neighbors Update: Barbara Strunk reported on: 1) a presentation by Trees for Life, a local organization focusing on maintaining and planting more large trees on Portland streets. A goal is to increase large tree (50 feet) canopy, especially in East Portland. The Portland Tree Code, Title 11 is due for review/revision in 2024. 2) Most of the current neighborhood traffic changes resulting from the Slow Streets Program will be made permanent. A question is will there be public comment regarding these changes. Tim H. will check this out.

b. New Neighbor Welcoming Project: Will in-person delivery of welcoming materials be resumed? John, Derek, Patty and Al will deliver materials once COVID is controlled and the in-person system is again in place.

Newsletter Update: The next BWNA newsletter is in development and Al reviewed a list of articles to be included.

Communications Committee: Andrew reports that we have 191 subscribers to BWNA emails. Information regarding the November 7 blood drive will be placed on the BWNA website soon. Beaumont Business Association has requested a notice on BWNA website regarding the upcoming Halloween Pick or Treat and the Holiday Festival in December.

November 7 Blood Drive Update: Jan Gillespie is working hard organizing the November 7 blood drive, with a goal of 40 donations. Proof of vaccination and wearing a mask is required to enter the blood drive area. Donations to the Beaumont Family Resilience Fund are also associated with the November 7 blood drive. Online information about **The Beaumont Family**

Resiliency Fund states that it "is a way for our community of students, staff, neighbors and businesses to support students at Beaumont Middle School who are experiencing emergencies that may impact their overall well-being and ability to be successful in school." Members of the BWNA board are asked to help publicize the drive to neighbors. Event flyers will be distributed and an article about the drive will be included in the Beaumont Wilshire newsletter.

Transportation Committee: John Sandie reports: 1) We are still awaiting PBOT data regarding traffic on NE Shaver St. 2) PBOT has stated that a four-way stop at the NE Fremont and NE Alameda intersection is not possible because of the amount of traffic on Fremont. Other traffic calming ideas are to be discussed in the near future. 2) There will be no PBOT action to slow/reduce traffic on Skidmore until NE 33rd is repaved. The City is slow to respond to speed/volume issues on Skidmore for unknown reasons. A suggestion by BWNA residents was to have BWNA board members monitor Skidmore traffic for an hour to get our own data. 3) An idea put forward by a BWNA resident during this meeting was a small traffic circle at NE 37th and NE Skidmore. John Sandie will follow up with Scott Cohen of PBOT.

Friends of Wilshire Park Committee: The dog park has opened and donations toward the water source for dogs increased slightly after opening. More donors are needed. $4000 towards the $20,000 goal has been raised for the pump-activated water source for dogs.

Crime Prevention/Community Safety Committee: Patty Nelson has volunteered to lead these efforts for BWNA. She will do an interview with KOIN TV this coming week about local crime. There is growing concern in Beaumont-Wilshire, as well as the rest of Portland, regarding increased gun crime, theft and issues of general safety.

Results of Vision Committee Survey and Future Thinking: Andrew reported that 72 people responded to the survey, with a good mix of newer and longer-term residents. 42% got information about the survey from the BWNA newsletter and 20% from Next Door. Favorite characteristics of the neighborhood included walkability and sense of community. 53% stated that BWNA should represent our neighborhood regarding local issues. The biggest neighborhood challenges listed were 1): demolition of older more affordable homes, 2): crime, 3): tents of houseless people in Wilshire Park, 4): housing is unaffordable for working families. Overall grouped themes from the survey: 1) Beaumont-Wilshire should be a welcoming neighborhood; 2) Residents want diversity and change; 3) Residents want things to stay the same. The survey data will be sent to the BWNA board prior to more discussion at the November BWNA meeting. Possible follow-up actions are: 1) In depth discussion about the results by the BWNA board. 2) After board discussion share a summary of the data with CNN neighborhood coalition, 3) Get the entire survey and answers onto the BWNA website, 4) write a summary of the data for the next BWNA newsletter.

General Discussion of Other Issues of Recent Concern: Neighbor Concern with McPeet's Street Tents: discussion postponed to next BWNA monthly meeting.

Future BWNA meeting will be conducted via Zoom, per decision of the BWNA board.

Meeting adjourned by President Tim Gillespie at 8:30pm

Respectfully submitted, Barbara Strunk, Secretary

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