Minutes of the Old Town Neighborhood Association Board Meeting Thursday, June 13, 2024

The meeting was held by Zoom, brought to order at 7:08 PM by Host and Chair Betsy Wosko.

Attendees: Chair Betsy Wosko, Treasurer Laurie Carlson, Secretary Craig Stephens, Directors Jeannie McGuire, Derrith Schmidt, and Carrie Kaufman.

A motion was made to call the meeting to order, seconded and approved by unanimous vote. The Minutes from the previous Board Meeting were accepted unanimous vote.

Laurie Carlson presented the Treasurer's Report. The balance in the OTNA account is still \$324.62.

Chair Betsy reviewed the statistics of visits to the Old Town Neighborhood website. The website is titled oldtownlakeoswego.org and visits are encouraged to track issues and events of particular interest to the Old Town neighborhood. Increased traffic also makes the site attractive for local advertisers so we can sustain the site. For example there were 59 site sessions in the month of May. Contributions are also welcome.

Betsy applauded Jeannie McGuire for receiving the lifetime achievement for historic preservation award from the City of Lake Oswego that the Mayor, Joe Buck, presented to her May 21st at City Hall. The award will henceforth be named for Jeannie and it is for her dedication to the Historic Resources Advisory Board which she has been on since its inception. Jeannie has also served on the Old Town Neighborhood Association Board since its inception as one of the first neighborhood associations formed in Lake Oswego. Congratulations Jeannie!

Re National Night Out, the first Tuesday in August, August 6 at the new shelter in George Rogers Park (put it on your calendar!): Chair Betsy reserved the lower picnic area for National Night Out. There is no cost for neighborhood associations for such reservations. Carrie indicated the subcommittee will meet at some point soon regarding food, beverages and games. Derrith and Michael are working on the flyer.

Derrith mentioned that she had just come from a meeting with the City that was to be an interactive meeting for citizens to learn the priorities and plans for Parks and Metro plans for our city but was in fact a one-way meeting with the City proposing an "ADA path" that will switch-back down to the shore of the Willamette River from the furnace stack level near the new restrooms. This proposal was only presented at top level and questions were not facilitated so further information and the opportunity to ask questions about the project and how it might affect our neighborhood is necessary.

Discussions were held regarding a guest speaker for the October General Meeting. The Board agreed on the idea of asking Kyra Haggart, Park Analyst and Project Manager with the City Parks and Recreation Department, to be the speaker as a "first choice". In the event Kyra is unavailable the Board considered "second choices" including having a candidate forum for the candidates for City Council and the Mayor or asking Parks and Rec. Director Ivan Anderholm, or Representative Daniel Nguyen, or Senator Rob Wagner, or Representative Janelle Bynum (now running to represent CD5 (our congressional district) in Congress against Lori Chavez DeRemer, the incumbent) to speak. Betsy will reach out to Kyra and hope she is available and willing. It was noted by Jeannie and agreed by Craig that the Board has not previously provided a political forum and has previously remained politically neutral.

The location of the General Meeting to be held the second Tuesday in October, October 10, at the Lakewood Center was discussed. A proposal was heard to hold the meeting in the Art Room, where it was held last year, with no objections. However, there was also interest in determining if the larger meeting room downstairs is available, we may have a large audience. Laurie mentioned that the downstairs has been used by the theater for rehersals but she said she would ask and schedule according to what is available.

Chair Betsy mentioned that the effort to ban gas-powered leaf blowers in Lake Oswego was still underway per the original motion by the Board to support the ban. Betsy has reached out to cities that have banned gas-powered leaf blowers to gather their input and experiences.

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded and unanimously approved at 8:05 PM.

Minutes respectively submitted by Craig Stephens