

Overlook Neighborhood Association General Meeting

January 15, 2008

Board Members: Eric Gale, Kent Hoddick, Warren Cassell, George Spaulding, David Chott, Brad Halverson, Steve Lanigan, Cynthia Sulaski

Secretary: Kal Shobaki

Meeting Convened @ 7:03 P.M.

I. Community Policing Report

Officer Jack Gillentine and Havilah Ferschweiler made a presentation to the meeting. Officer Gillentine is temporarily serving as our Neighborhood Response Team (NRT) representative for the Portland Police. The NRT folks are not here to deal with emergencies or street policing – rather, they serve in the role of addressing longer-range or recurring problems. Those are the kinds of things that he can help us with. Officer Gillentine's contact information: (503) 823-2120 (precinct), (503) 823-0743 (desk), and wgillentine@portlandpolice.org.

He answered two questions that were raised during the November General Meeting.

- (1) What do you do if you see a crime happening? For example, a drug deal going down. First, he says to call 911 and report it – i.e. “I see them handing the money to the other person, and they are exchanging drugs.” Depending on the current call load, 911 may transfer you to the non-emergency line, which can be reached at (503) 823-3333. Please stay on the line and make a report.
If you feel like your call was not handled as urgently as you think it needed to be, please go to <http://www.portlandonline.com/911/index.cfm?c=42350> and fill out a community feedback report. This is a way to get your experience through to the leaders, who will then use that information to change problems with the way that calls are handled.
- (2) A single suspect has been arrested and arraigned on two of the recent murders in the Overlook area: the robbery/murder in Overlook and the killing of the woman just across I-5.

Havilah Ferschweiler is the Crime Prevention Coordinator for North Precinct. She stressed that people should contact NRT officers to tell them that you are seeing a consistent problem (i.e. daily activity or patterns). She also mentioned that Donna Henderson will be the new commander of North precinct. Finally she noted that there is a proposal to add a few areas to the North precinct, which would add officers from those areas to North. There are public meetings about the proposals on February 12 and March 4 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the (Historic) Kenton Firehouse. She also mentioned that the Public Safety Action Committee meets on January 23 at Kenton Firehouse from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., and that that is a venue to address things like drug houses, speeding traffic, etc.

II. Neighborhood Emergency Planning

Gayle Vrla, vrla@comcast.net, (503) 289-7158, is our neighborhood leader for the Neighborhood Emergency Team (NET). She is a citizen volunteer, trained by the Portland Office of Emergency Management. She spoke about disaster preparedness and the inevitability of a major earthquake in our area.

She highly encouraged everyone to visit <http://www.pdxprepared.net>, where you can find out about free and comprehensive disaster training provided by the City. She spoke about earthquake preparedness, with the view that “if you are fully prepared, it will probably never happen.”

She discussed the need to be able to survive for 72 hours in the case of an emergency, and handed out a list of recommended supplies (attached).

She gave a few specific hints, like:

- Making plans with your family about how to meet up or pass messages to each other in case of an emergency.
- Placing a pair of sturdy shoes and thick socks and extra glasses and a flashlight by or under your bed so that you can get access to them in case of a disaster at night.
- Keeping a supply of water.

Something else offered by the Overlook NET is a home visit to evaluate earthquake safety at your home (for a nominal fee, or volunteer to become a member of the team).

III. Bicycle Boulevards

Alicia Crain present on the proposed bicycle boulevards. These are part of Sam Adams’ Safe, Sound and Green Streets Initiative,

<http://www.portlandonline.com/transportation/index.cfm?c=efcdb>.

- The plan calls for the creation of 112 new miles of bike boulevards and lanes. Boulevards are basically low traffic streets that will get various treatments to help designate them. Most streets would get paint and signs indicating boulevard status, while others may be partially closed to cars or may have circles installed in them.
- The City and Bicycle Transportation Alliance, <http://www.bta4bikes.org>, are currently in the planning process. A handout and map with proposed streets is attached. Bryant and Rodney are the two highest priority streets in North Portland, followed by Wabash, Mason, and Skidmore.
- This is not related to the Bike Parkway project in June. This is a BTA/City project and suggestions are welcome. Send to Emily@bta4bikes.org (Emily Gardner, the policy advocate for BTA). You can also contact Roger Geller of the City at roger.geller@pdxtrans.org.

IV. Cracked Pots

Mary Lou Abel from Cracked Pots, <http://www.crackedpots.org>, came to discuss an idea. Her organization does projects related to recycling. The idea, tentatively called “Curb Your Clutter” is scheduled for April 19 (Earth Day) – to have a “garage sale without money” for usable things that you no longer need. Also for

raw materials that artists could use to create pieces of art. They are thinking about selecting 4-5 blocks in Overlook (about 100 houses). People who choose to participate would put out items in front of the house for others to come and pick up to use. Only other folks in Overlook or people at the Earth Day event in Overlook Park will be told about the distribution of free things. They are interested to hear feedback from the community. This type of project has been done by the City before under a grant, and Cracked Pots believes that it could be a fun event that would help build community and help recycling.

V. Happenings (Eric Gale)

- Our United Villages and Overlook Community Connect (database of people in the neighborhood and their interests) have an event at IFCC on January 19 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- City Hall has been relocated to Jefferson High School for the week. There is an open house on January 17 from 6-8 p.m. and the State of the City is on January 18 around noon.
- Earth Day Festival, <http://www.cityrepair.org/wiki.php/projects/earthday>, meetings are going on at Overlook House. Check the web for schedules, currently they are on Mondays from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Overlook House. Earth Day folks are also looking for proposals for SOLV projects to do on Earth Day, including at the Food Forest on Greeley. Please contact them through the web.
- The Big Ugly Pole money has been received from PGE. Sally is working to get bids for the project.
- Eric proposed organizing bilingual conversation pairs – for people who are no longer at the beginner level, but are trying to learn Spanish to meet up with people who are trying to learn English. Do people know of something like this in existence? Or if not, but you are interested, please talk to Eric.
- The Atomic Age Alliance, <http://www.aaapdx.org>, is an organized and active group that wants to preserve the neon motel signage along Interstate. They meet weekly at the Alibi and are thinking about ways to preserve the signs. One idea proposed was to talk to the Killingsworth Station people about incorporating the Crown Motel sign.
- The Killingsworth Station open house had a good presentation, possible to see the latest at <http://www.pdc.us/ura/interstate/killingsworthstation.asp>. PDC wants to increase the affordability of housing and also want to support local business development. If all goes well, they would like to start in July 2008, but with funding gaps that seems unlikely.
- Diversity and Welcoming Committees – now have about 6 people interested in participating in these committees, final plea for members. Welcoming Committee works to welcome new people to the community. Diversity Committee is more abstract, the goal is to get more people involved in OKNA.
- Graffiti clean-up. Havilah just sent out an e-mail about 8 different graffiti clean ups from March through October. Neighborhoods that want that money need to contribute 10 volunteers and the police will offer their resources.

Maybe coordinate with Arbor Lodge and Kenton. Good months might be May or September.

- There is a liquor license application for the Krakow coffee house for on-site malt beverages, cider and wine. Off-site for sealed containers.
- On January 27, 2008, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. there will be a major plastic recycling event at Kaiser, and all sorts of plastic can be recycled. For details, see <http://www.masterrecycler.org>.

VI. Two Minute Reports

- a. **Treasurer (Kent Hoddick)** – We now have \$40k from PGE. We are placing that in a ING Direct account, which will pay 4.5% interest.
- b. **Secretary (Kal Shobaki)** – Nothing to Report.
- c. **Publicity (Warren Cassell)** – Next newsletter will be April/May, articles are due in the first week of March. March 1 for long things, March 7 for short things.
- d. **Land Use (David Chott)** – FedEx has proposed to create a new parking lot for trailers on its Swan Island property. Also, at 1233 N Killingsworth, there is a non-conforming use, and the owner seeks to change from warehouse use to retail business use. It is rumored that the third community meeting about the Interstate Rezoning will be on February 21, but the City web site does not yet show that date, <http://www.pdc.us/ura/interstate/killingsworthstation.asp>.
- e. **Bluff Fire Prevention (Steve Lanigan)** – Over the last couple of weeks, the Bureau of Environmental Services (BES) has been doing some selective cutting along the Bluff. The BES lawyers are talking to the railroad lawyers to discuss reducing fire risk on the railroad land. There is some concern about the Madrona(sp?)¹ tree in the park that is dying and appears to have been damaged.
- f. **Transportation (Brad Halverson)** – Three things to report: (1) the Interstate traffic signal updates have all been done, and engineers are now tinkering with trying to synchronize the signals by tying them together; (2) next meeting of Columbia River Crossing taskforce, <http://www.columbiarivercrossing.org>, is on January 22, and there is a big new report available on the web; (3) The Going-Greeley study is finally done, and there is a traffic fix that has been suggested. The City is consulting with the freight community, but there is no funding right now to implement any fix.
- g. **PSAC (George Spaulding)** – Nothing to add.
- h. **Parks, Trees & Trails (Cynthia Sulaski)** – Those interested in tree planting should meet at Friends of Trees on MLK Blvd. on DATE at 9:00 a.m. They will be planting around 30 trees in Overlook.

¹ Your Secretary was puzzled about the spelling of this tree name. Thankfully, as usual, OKNA guru Brad Halverson came to the rescue with the following nugget of arboreal knowledge: “Curiously, the name ‘Madrone’ is used south of the Siskiyou Mountains of southern Oregon/Northern California and the name ‘Madrona’ is used north of the Siskiyou Mountains according to the ‘Sunset Western Garden Book.’”

- i. **Overlook House & N. Portland Clean-Up (Alan Cranna)** – The North Portland Clean-Up has been moved to the second Saturday in June to avoid conflicts with Earth Day. Watch the Newsletter for details. Five volunteers are needed.

Meeting Adjourned @ 8:58 pm

72-Hour Emergency Supplies

Portland Office of Emergency Management

Neighborhood Emergency Teams

Water: One gallon per person per day (at least a 7-day supply is best). Store in sealed plastic containers such as soft-drink bottles. #1 plastic is safe. Don't use plastic milk containers. Suggest you change water and batteries on smoke alarms when you change the clocks, i.e. every six months. Other water sources: water heater, melted ice cubes, water in back of toilet, water in canned vegetables.

Food: Choose selections based on ease of preparation & storage, shelf life and what you like. A plastic tub with handles works well for storage. Remember to include any special needs for any member of your family. Choose nothing that is very salty or requires a lot of water for preparation. Include special treats, e.g. coffee for adults, special snack for children.

Hygiene supplies:

soap	toilet paper & tissue
liquid detergent	sanitary napkins
shampoo	plastic garbage bags/ties (personal sanitation use)
toothpaste	household bleach
toothbrushes	water purification tabs

General supplies:

plates/utensils/cups	duct tape
battery operated radio/extra batteries	rope
flashlight/extra batteries,	matches in waterproof container
cash/change or travelers checks	aluminum foil
manual can opener	signal flare
heavy gloves	paper/pencil
eye goggles	needles/thread
glow sticks	medicine dropper
dust mask	gas/water shut-off wrench
utility knife	whistle
fire extinguisher	plastic sheeting
space blankets/blankets/sleeping bags/tube tent	map of the area

First aid kit:

prescription medications	antiseptic solution
written list of meds, allergies & doctors	scissors & tweezers
extra pair of eye glasses/contacts	sterile needle
first aid manual	aspirin or other pain reliever
6 rolls roller bandage	latex gloves
6 each 2-inch & 4-inch sterile gauze pads	anti-diarrhea medication
sanitary napkins (to control heavy bleeding)	antacid
1 and 2-inch adhesive tape	syrup of ipecac
bandaids	sunscreen
triangular bandage (purchased or made from sheets)	petroleum jelly
ace bandage	cleaning agent/soap/baby wipes
1 qt sterile water	assorted sizes of safety pins

North/Northeast Portland Potential Bicycle Boulevards

Legend

- School
- Transit Center
- Park
- Potential Bicycle Boulevard Corridors

Corridors

1. Delaware (~2 mi.)	8. Jarrett (~2 mi.)
2. Rodney (~3 mi.)	9. Failing (~2 mi.)
3. 9th/11th (~3 mi.)	10. Michigan (~2 mi.)
4. 27th/30th (~4 mi.)	11. Commercial (~2 mi.)
5. Skidmore/Mason (~5.5 mi.)	12. Dekum/Bryant (~3 mi.)
6. Holman/Ainsworth (~4 mi.)	13. Klickitat (~3 mi.)
7. Going (~3.5 mi.)	14. Sumner (~3.5 mi.)

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