

# OLD TOWN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

## Minutes of the Old Town Neighborhood Association Board Meeting Thursday, April 11, 2024

The meeting called to order by the Chair, Betsy Wosko, at 7:02 PM via Zoom. A motion to approve the Call to Order was made by Director Carrie Kaufman, seconded and unanimously voted in favor. Attending were Vice-Chair Corina Laws, Secretary Craig Stephens, Director Carrie Kaufman, Director Jeannie McGuire, Chair Betsy Wosko, and Doug Thomas.

A motion to approve acceptance of the minutes as written from the previous board meeting (in February) and duly seconded was unanimously approved.

The Treasurer's Report was reported by Chair Betsy Wosko as a balance in the checking account of \$399.00.

### Announcements by the Chair

The neighborhood website is [oldtownlakeoswego.org](http://oldtownlakeoswego.org) and has been recently been updated and enhanced by Site Master Doug Thomas. Thanks, Doug!

The Urban Community & Forestry Plan is presently being updated from the 2007 Plan. To this end, the City hired Dudek, a consulting firm. Dudek, working with Planning, started this project in April 2023. The City established a Technical Advisory Committee comprised of area nonprofits, a state dep't of forestry representative, and city employees, mainly from Planning. Dudek reviewed policies and practices to see if the 2007 UCFP was working as intended. Dudek also relied upon the 2023 State of the Urban Forest report.

Dudek then collected input: 582 responses to its online survey; two individual pop-up meetings attended by 150 people; and eight focus group meetings. With this input, Dudek prepared a rough draft of public comments, a rough set of key findings; and a rough suggestion for strategic goals. This is what was presented to City Council for its Feb 20, 2024 work session.

The "vision statement" draft was read: "The City of L.O.'s community forest is well maintained, protected, and a sustainable forest ecosystem that is resilient to climate change and invasive species and contributes to L.O.'s thriving community now and into the future." Excellent questions were asked, including "what's the point of this?" and "will this result in trees being saved?" to which the Chair responded she was optimistic the data and recitation of shared goals and values may be helpful in changing policies and practices, including, if necessary, amending the tree code and development code.

A second study session for the UCFP will be held by City Council at its May 21, 2024 meeting.

The NEP (Neighborhood Enhancement Grant Program) is being restructured to be more in line with neighborhood input and to better meet the target of improved livability. Chair Betsy explained how there will be “three pots of money” and answered questions as to how this might work for our neighborhood as well as others. One important aspect is that the first pot of money could be used to pay for the web hosting which Chair Betsy has been paying for. Chair Betsy mentioned that the outreach by the City employee to the Neighborhood Chairs has been outstanding and it appears that all of the unnecessary obstructions to participation will be removed other than the dollar limits.

### New Business

Craig suggested planning for the National Night Out and/or a Neighborhood Pot Luck Picnic. It was further suggested that these be at the newly rebuilt picnic shelter in George Rogers Park that was built for such events and is in proximity to our neighborhood as evidenced by the displacement of parking during its construction. Doug said that National Night Out would be August 6 this year. It was also suggested that there be a raffle associated with the picnic to provide a few dollars to the treasury. A motion was made by Craig and seconded to participate in the National Night Out. The discussion included the question of how the pizza would be paid for, out of the treasury or possibly out of an NEP which would be designed to cover that cost plus possible Emergency Preparedness basic equipment for those who wish to be block captains, for example. The motion was unanimously approved. A decision was made to wait until next month **after information as to neighborhood feeling about a pot luck and when, about the availability of the shelter for the most likely dates and about how the NEP might work to offset some of the cost of such things as drinks at the pot luck. The location of the raffle tickets will be investigated and possible raffle prizes and logistics of awarding them.**

Chair Betsy mentioned that Jeannie McGuire, who had been on the Old Town Board since the beginning 36 years ago, was to receive a lifetime achievement award from HRAB (Historic Resources Advisory Board, chartered to implement the historic resources that Goal 5 of the Comprehensive Plan requires in addition to Natural Resources which Advisory Board has been folded into Parks. This award will be in Jeannie’s name and continue to be awarded to those who have made major lifetime contributions to HRAB and Lake Oswego in that respect.

Betsy mentioned that Ellen Steel, Chair of McVey/ S Shore NA, has announced a Habitat for Humanity ReStore Donation Event to be held Sat. May 11 from 10:00 to Noon at the Palisades World Language Center. The guidelines can be viewed on the neighborhood association website. It will be a donation drop-off event to “Restore the Truck” with stuff that is donated to help build homes for families in need.

Ivan Anderholm has contacted the Board to indicate that he will be in George Rogers Park at the new Shelter on Monday April 29<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 to 6:30 to answer questions and convey plans to any and all in our neighborhood. Hopefully we can all get the word out and/or put up notices such as on the Reader Board and the website.

Doug mentioned that the construction of the new home on Leonard was partially blocking the street but that the work is being done as unobtrusively as possible. He said that good mushroom mulch was available to anyone that wishes to contact him and get some. He has excess.

Director Derrith, newly married, will be back in the neighborhood May 4.

Carrie mentioned we have new neighbors; we welcome them.

Carrie will be demonstrating her artistic technique tomorrow from 4 to 6 PM at the Lawrence Galleries and invites everyone to attend.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 PM.

Minutes respectively submitted by Craig Stephens, Secretary