

Fairmount Neighbors Association General Meeting Minutes

May 21, 2013, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Laurelwood Golf Course Clubhouse

Gifts for Sponsors – Camilla Bayliss

William Ray, public defender and husband of Meg Kieran, died in December. Meg worked very hard for our FN Association on more than one occasion successfully representing us in two land use actions. Ray's favorite charity was Sponsors. Camilla passed around a jar for tax deductible donations in his memory. Checks can be mailed to: Sponsors, Inc., 338 Highway 99 North, Eugene, OR, 97402.

General Elections- Camilla

In order to vote in the annual general election for the FN board one must be a resident or property owner in the neighborhood and must sign in to be eligible to vote. The full slate consists of: Steven Asbury and John Barofsky, co chairs; Camilla Bayliss, secretary; Darrel Jones, treasurer; at large members Sandra Austin, Patrick Deegan, Lucia hardy Sue Jakobosky, Daniel Klute, Kay Porter, Nancy Reckord, Kay Rose and David Sonnichsen. Betsy Steffensen motioned to accept; Alan Zelenka seconded. Motion passed 27 yes, 0 no.

Thanks were extended to Camilla for all her hard work as co-chair for the last 3 years.

Urban Farm – Harper Keeler and Madeline Carroll

Harper is Director of the Urban Farm Program in the Landscape Architecture Dept at the UO; he teaches several very popular and well attended classes on gardening and sustainability. They are converting neighborhood lawns into new garden spaces and learning about building structures and growing their own food. CASL, Center for the Advancement of Sustainable Living at 1800 Moss St., includes an Airstream that students have converted into a mobile tool shed. A second project called "The Columbia Green" is across from Beppe and Gianni's between Columbia St. and the alley.

Last year, students harvested over 500 pounds of tomatoes; used tomatoes to make pizza sauce for use in the dining hall and invited freshman to partake. Students get to eat the food they grow; they can learn to can, freeze, ferment, or dry it. The university doesn't sell it.

Students have also been mapping yards in the neighborhood that currently are, or previously were, being used for agriculture. Neighbors might see students with clipboards on their streets. City website has new rules for animals allowed within city limits:

If your property is under 20,000 square feet (Fairmount lots have an average of 11,000 square feet) you may have any two of the following:

1 miniature pig, up to 3 miniature goats, up to 6 rabbits, up to 6 chickens. The city will not actively monitor this. If you have problems you must file a complaint with the city. Problems will be addressed on a complaint driven basis.

If you'd like further information about CASL or the Urban Farm Project contact hkeeler@uoregon.edu.

Laurel Ridge PUD update- Bill Blix

Proposed Laurel Ridge development now on hold until as long as Aug. 8; when developers resubmit they have 45-65 days to make a presentation and neighbors can also make their presentation; will cost \$8,800 for an appeal; developers might drop proposal if their appeal fails. Laurel Hill Valley Neighbors have formed 6 subcommittees. Their Geothermal Committee needs information about hydrology; need fundraising; could be a second LUBA appeal which costs \$3000; any experts also need to be paid.

Developers are proposing 20 units per acre next to Ribbon Trail; the whole development is in the corner by 30th Ave. Will be 3 story buildings. Bill believes the developers will sell it in the end. Camilla suggested they frontload all expertise at the beginning because any arguments not made at the initial hearing can't be used later. They don't have money yet to hire a lawyer; contributions are tax deductible (and refundable if not needed). Bill passed around a page of explanation and requested donations; will do a door to door request.

UO Announcements – Karen Hyatt

Karen Hyatt represents UO Office of Government and Community Relations

Mentioned that during University Day of Service students planted trees in West University neighborhood; removed invasive plants from Hendricks Park and Washburne Park, and worked on city sponsored Thunder Cans project. Hayward Field will host Track and Field OSAA High School Championships and UO women's softball games this coming weekend (May 25-27).

Director of Community Relations, Greg Rikoff, has moved to become Chief of Staff to President Gottfredson of UO.

Water Storage for Disaster Preparedness – Sandra Austin and Josh Reckord

Water availability and storage is the #1 disaster issue; are many sources on the web concerning water storage; Google "disaster preparedness/water storage." Sandra and Josh brought examples of ways to store or purify water. You can buy AquaBlox in different sizes which have a shelf life of 5 years and can withstand changes in heat and cold. You can buy water in different sizes but must be discarded after outdate; can reuse jugs or soda containers after cleaning but need to discard and refill every 6 months; not recommended to use juice and milk containers for water storage as they are difficult to get clean enough to prevent bacterial growth; do not use #7 plastic jugs as they contain BPA.

To purify water can use chlorine dioxide tablets (REI carries) which have a 4 year shelf life; can purify water with chlorine; instructions on hand out. Do not use iodine for water purification. UV light can be used for water purification; can purchase from sporting goods stores.

You can use the hot water from your water heater if it's clean enough and residue hasn't formed on the bottom of the tank. If it has, do not use for drinking. Release water from spigot by shutting off incoming water valve and turning off gas or electricity supply to the hot water heater. Collect water as needed from tap at bottom of heater.

Cabela's or many sporting goods stores carry 5 gallon (and smaller) food grade containers which can take to Sundance to fill with water. Can buy a 55 gallon drum from BRING for potable water; also on Amazon.com is a Seattle on-line store that sells water storage; can buy liners for bath tubs that hold up to 100 gallons of water.

For waste management can get small portable toilets from Cabela's, REI, Amazon; cheapest is \$12.00; can also buy blue bags for waste of the type that are often used on recreational river and mountain trips.

Other land use issues- Camilla –

City of Eugene is making changes in R1 code as part of Envision Eugene. Alley access lots can be created out of lots that are over 9000 sq. feet. Josh and Camilla will meet with city representatives tomorrow; many lots in the J parking district and southeast Eugene would be included; Envision Eugene has the Special Area Refinement Plan scheduled for 2014; in past, refinement plans have been transparent and many processes open; historic single family character of the neighborhood is the strategy that saved us.

Photos for Bakery – Sandra Austin

Dee Ann Hall from Eugene City Bakery wants to do a show this summer at her bakery; Heather Kliever from Historical Society will bring historical photos; neighbors are encouraged to give interesting photos to Dee Ann or Sandra Austin.

Announcements - David Sonnichsen

Will be a ceremony to dedicate four Talking Stones as part of new Whilamut Passage Bridge; Saturday, June 8, 1:00, north of Knickerbocker Bridge.

Next steps –Ideas for future events and meeting topics - Camilla

How to share neighborhood fruit tree harvest

Continue to “map your neighborhood”

Continue with more historical stuff

Make attractive signs saying ours is an historical neighborhood; maybe use a matching grant

Scribble shack – Spring Blvd – quirky neighborhood wrought iron sign; maybe include in Dee Ann Hall’s exhibition

I-5 general manager of Whilamut Passage Bridge might like to talk to FN general meeting in fall

Ice cream social, neighborhood potluck, harvest party

Other

Complaints to the city about pot holes or other traffic problems should be made on the city website.

Concern and confusion about the number of additional parking stickers allotted to J area homes.

Contact Jeff Petry, City Parking Manager, for more information. NALC meets June 11 (Neighborhood/Arena Liaison Committee).

Continuing problems with lack of bus service on Orchard Street.

David Gerger – SE neighborhood; interested in a conversation on panhandling – trying to create alternatives to panhandling; passed out copies of the street newspaper, The Oregon Vagabond, The Motivator News.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Submitted by Nancy Reckord