

Minutes of the Fairmount Neighbors general meeting

Thursday November 20, 2014, 7 pm

Edison School cafeteria

Present: 17 neighbors (including 3 board members) and 7 guests

Co-chair Steven Asbury called the meeting to order at 7:05.

15th Avenue repaving

Camilla Bayliss reported that the City will repave/resurface both 17th Ave and 15th Ave from Agate to Fairmount in the summer of 2015. They are currently taking comments, questions, and concerns. Please direct all communication to Reed Dunbar at reed.c.dunbar@ci.eugene.or.us

Hendricks Park reservoir

Jeannine Parisi and Laura Farthing from EWEB discussed plans to demolish the Fairmount 603 reservoir in Hendricks Park. The reservoir and pump station were decommissioned many years ago and the abandoned facility has become a safety hazard. After the facilities are demolished, the site will be restored and planted with native vegetation. The contract will be awarded on December 3 to Greg Payne Trucking and Demolition. The work will take approximately six weeks, and there will be some traffic impacts on Fairmount. EWEB will maintain the plantings for the first two years. They will have to remove four cottonwood and clump maple trees at the top, which will be replanted. Property owners near the site will be notified and updates will be posted on the EWEB website.

Q: Which reservoirs now serve the neighborhood?

A: The lower areas by the treatment plant on College Hill. Up in the hills, the reservoirs on Capital Drive and in Laurel Hill Valley.

Capital Hill update

Faris Cassell reported that not that much has changed since the last report in September. The Dreyers have not yet submitted an application. Some neighbors on response committee are drafting a letter to the Dreyers proposing that they reduce the number of lots. As far as we know, an application won't be submitted until after the New Year. Current plans include approximately 26 lots.

Campus Building Update

Karen Hyatt introduced Kate Chrisinger from CommUniversity. The organization is planning a Greek day of service on January 31.

Karen then went on to describe activities to site three new facilities on the UO campus. The first is the Jane Saunders softball stadium at Howe Field. The designers are SRG from Portland. Construction will start at the end of the season next year and finish in March the following year. There is the potential for an academic building next to the field.

The second site is a science complex across Franklin Boulevard from the Lewis complex. A possible sky bridge will connect the two facilities. The bike path along the millrace will be improved.

The third project is new residence halls-near 17th and Moss just south of global scholars. They hope for 400 more beds. After those are built, Hamilton and Bean will be taken down and rebuilt. They are also trying to respect the cultural traditions related the Long House, and not block the solstice view. Parking designated for the arena will have to be replaced. The project requires approval from the legislature and UO hopes to have plans in place by 2017.

There also a possible academic building between Chapman Hall and the museum, but there are no specifics yet.

Central kitchen construction will start in January.

University of Oregon student conduct

Karen Hyatt introduced Sandy Weintraub, new director of student conduct and community standards at UO.

Sandy, a 2010 UO law graduate, came to UO from UCLA eight months ago. An expansion of jurisdiction for the student conduct code was passed in the spring and codified last summer. In the past, off campus jurisdiction only extended to violence and academic conduct. Now it includes conduct that is already a violation of the code and adversely affects the living and learning environment. Examples include alcohol offenses and violations of the noise and unruly party ordinances. The goal is to educate and help students understand what it means to be a responsible member of the UO community and surrounding community. We are now starting to see some results. It's essential to know the names of the students, so there can be initial contact and sanctions when appropriate. Reports from law enforcement bodies about a specific incident will have the most impact. They have recently hired an assistant director, which

adds the capacity to take on more cases. They are tasked to investigate and adjudicate off campus cases.

Q: An ongoing issue which has currently ramped up is marijuana use in Washburne Park, where children are often present.

A: It takes the cooperation of law enforcement. Karen: UO will work with EPD and Ken Cato. Marijuana will not be legal on the UO campus, and also not in the park. EPD Lt. McGann said it's a violation of park rules. Call EPD non-emergency number (682-5111) and an officer will come out.

The conduct code folks are not a law enforcement agency. If there's additional contact through UO, the overall understanding of the student may change. UO will have more time than police to follow up and give information on impact on families.

If someone is arrested for furnishing alcohol to minors, it's a serious safety issue and is considered a more serious offence. They are communicating to campus community about the code changes. Students don't have all the information yet about code of conduct off campus.

Conflict resolution falls under student conduct. So when the office hears about a case, they may evaluate whether it fits under the traditional conduct code, or more toward reparative justice.

There is also a prescribed system of alcohol education. The first offense is a group situation. Repeated offenses involve one to one counseling. They can assign projects such as reflection papers or prescribe community service, especially for damage.

Q: Fireworks has become an issue.

A: Find the address and call 682-5111.

Lt. McGann offered some comments about data led policing. Reports are noted and a pattern appears, so it's important to call and report.

Q: Tagging and marijuana.

A: Lt. McGann distinguished between two types of graffiti. One considers themselves tagging artists. The other more dangerous is gang graffiti. There's a significant gang problem in Eugene. EPD prefers to have you call in graffiti to 682-5111.

Karen: Student marijuana use will fall under the conduct code.

Marijuana: will not be allowed on campus. Message is consistent. Legal age is 21. If a student is over 21, just because legal, you still have to know what that means. It doesn't mean everyone finds it acceptable. Washington and Colorado haven't seen big jump on campus. We will see issues of where people will be able to use in multi-unit dwellings.

Lt. McGann passed around information on data led policing. We are in beat three of the six beats in Eugene. Many resources are directed to the west university area. They have a high amount of burglaries, break-ins. EPD has a great partnership with UO and they regularly share information. There is also a partnership with Lane County Public Health to work on alcohol reduction strategies. EPD met with 100 students in Greek life about impact of parties, both impact on neighborhood and the liability aspect.

Newsletter advertising discussion and vote

Steven Asbury reported that the Friendly Area Neighbors recently sent a letter to city council requesting that their neighborhood be allowed to sell advertising to help cover the costs of publishing neighborhood newsletters. He said that Fairmount Neighbors also recognize the importance of having a mailed newsletter to facilitate communication with our residents. While we've made good use of social media outlets and digital communications, many in our area either do not have access or are not comfortable using those technologies. In light of recent budget cuts to neighborhood communications, he encouraged us to ask the City Council to approve the sale of advertising in the Fairmount Neighbors Newsletter so we may continue to produce this vital communication tool. Camilla Bayliss moved with a second by Faris Cassell that the Fairmount Neighbors request that the City Council approve the sale of advertising in the Fairmount Neighbors Newsletter. The motion passed with a unanimous vote in favor.

Special Area Planning for near-campus neighborhoods

Camilla Bayliss reported that a few interested board members have had some informal meetings with leaders in SUNA to talk about upcoming special area planning. She walked through the following outline of what has been discussed so far. The outline is intended as a starting point to stimulate discussion and planning.

Tentative Preliminary Planning Goals

- Improve neighborhood livability and preserve the historical character of the neighborhoods through code amendments (e.g., creating distinctions between student housing, multifamily housing and single-family housing).
- Explore changing the economics by reducing the number of unrelated individuals who can live on a property (as Portland has).
- Make the interim protection measures permanent and do whatever we need to make them as specific as possible and as enforceable as possible.
- Explore ways to create leverage/incentives to encourage more owner occupancy of existing single-family homes.

Potential categories to be included

- Land use
- Transportation
- Public safety
- Public facilities and services
- Neighborhood design
- Implementation plan (including enforcement)

Participants

- Neighborhood residents
- Neighborhood businesses
- Representatives from UO
- Members of the development community (particularly those who actually live in the neighborhoods)
- City staff

Timeline

- City staff not available until spring at the earliest
- What can we do to prepare?

Board members who will be working on the planning process include Steven Asbury, Kay Porter, Camilla Bayliss, and Danny Klute.

Report from the city

Councilor Alan Zelenka began by remarking that the special area study is part of Envision Eugene. Another part is the need for on-site management of apartment complexes. He believes apartments of a certain size need some sort of on-site management. Students have figured out which ones have on-site management, and those have fewer

vacancies. It would possibly apply to buildings with more than 16-20 units.

The city has also passed a paid sick leave ordinance that goes into effect July 1. They are working on administrative rules for that. It provides paid leave for all workers who work in the city of Eugene. They will earn one hour for every 30 worked, up to a maximum of 40 per year. Similar legislation is up for consideration in the legislature.

Councilor Zelenka also co-sponsored a climate recovery ordinance with two climate related goals. The first is to have the city organization become climate neutral by 2020. The second is community wide fossil fuel reductions by 2030. They want to create an assessment on whether the city is going to meet the goals. If not, staff will be asked to create a plan to meet them.

They also want to encourage the state to divest from all investments in fossil fuels. Stanford and Rockefeller have divested on coal.

The councilor has also initiated a work session poll that includes the following. 1. Staff reviews of all we're doing in economic development. 2. A series of panels on how to create jobs in four key areas: high tech, advanced manufacturing, food and beverage, green clean.

Councilor Zelenka wrote an article on the decision making process for choosing to build a new city hall. It's cheaper and better from a sustainability standpoint. Staff has committed to re-use or recycle 95% of the old building. The concrete paver blocks have been sold. Master gardeners have taken plants. Art has been taken out. The rest of the materials will be ground and used as fill. The southeast corner of Pearl will be plaza. There's a possible swap of the eastern portion for the butterfly lot for an expanded farmers market.

Council is working on MUPTE. They just extended the suspension until February, while they continue working. They want to include tangible public benefits as well as limit the amount of rate of return and limit the property tax exemption so it's not above 10%. Energy efficiency would also be a requirement.

Future consideration: micro housing. An example is Opportunity Village,

which is working better than expected. There are 30 units, about half of which are Conestoga huts. On the other side are wood structures, mini bungalows. There is a communal yurt, community kitchen, bathroom, shower, and laundry. All residents have to participate in upkeep. Rules include no alcohol, drugs, violence, or weapons. Some members have been kicked out, others graduated into more permanent housing. Rest stops are working well. One dedicated to veterans is working quite well. The County has agreed on two sites near the Serbu center for 30 more people.

Civic stadium: A committed group of people is raising money to buy and rebuild for use by a professional soccer team. Also on the Amazon Parkway side, Kidsports wants to build a baseball field house. The far corner is potentially a hotel and restaurant.

Quite zone: Train intersections don't have adequate controls so train has to blare horns three times at each intersection, sometimes 30 times a day for many trains. The city wants to come up with better ideas about how to control the noise. Two gates along with a median strip is less expensive to build than other options, but effective. Now they have costs down to about \$3 million for 10 intersections. Two are within the Riverfront Research park urban renewal district. Some of that money could be used for those two.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Camilla Bayliss