

# WALUGA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

## Draft Board Meeting Minutes

August 12, 2020 by Zoom

Board Members Present: Jim Newcomer, Cheryl Uchida, Cindy Maddox, Sandy Reay, Katherine Purtzer, Bruce Goldson, Steve Piazza, Rett Russell, Cheryl Uchida, Mark Smith, ~~Carol Lavendar~~

Board Member at Large: Carol Lavender

- I. **Meeting called to order** at 6:45 pm by Chair pro tem, Rett Russell.
- II. **Minutes:** Minutes of our July 8 meeting were approved.
- III. **Treasurer's report:** Sandy reported no change in our treasury except taking out \$10 monthly fee for Action Network for email marketing.
- IV. **WNA Traffic & Police, Roads, Pathways:**
  - a. **Police, Traffic, and Fire:** Dick submitted his report by email: he has spoken with the fire and police chiefs this month, and they report things are going as usual. Police Captain Simon assured him that the police traffic people are keeping in touch with the School District to coordinate on school opening, whenever it occurs, and the Traffic Engineer has not responded to his request for updates on all the traffic and street improvements that are ongoing.
  - b. **Traffic around Lake Grove Elementary School (LGES):** Cindy reported that the opening date for schools has been delayed till at least November 2 this year because of the Covid-19 pandemic, but when they do open, LGES Principal Scott Schinderle told her, parents can either drive children to school or let them ride the bus when school finally opens.
  - c. **Sidewalks along Douglas Way:** Cindy also reported on the prioritization of bicycle and pedestrian facility projects near schools. The sidewalk projects reaching in both directions from LGES, one to Boones Ferry Road and the other to Quarry Road, have been raised to third priority right behind the two major projects that will run along Boone Ferry Road and Bryant Road. But since no funding has yet been approved, there is no deadline for their construction and no predicted completion date. The TAB and City haven't contacted our neighborhood association about the specifics of the Douglas Way's projects, contrary to TAB's indication in their letter to Council of July 20, 2020.
  - d. **Bus Barn Relocation:** Cindy reported no change. The School District has submitted its proposal for improvements, but no date has been set for a response or hearing.
- V. **Land Use updates and Tree Removal applications:**
  - a. **Iron Mountain Trail:** Cheryl reported on design work on the new trail leading up Iron Mountain from the new playground on Iron Mountain Blvd to the Country Club. Mike Buck is concerned that the trail will allow bicycles despite its narrow width and soft surface. He invited all of us who are concerned to call him; Cheryl provided his phone number. If concerned call Mike Buck at 503-914-8607 or Bruce Powers 503-697-6575.

- b. **Shorenstein Apartment Development on Meadows:** Project was approved by the Development Review Commission. The Lake Forest Neighborhood Association will appeal DRC's decision to City Council. After DRC approved the application they were ready to consider our concerns for the cumulative increase in traffic through the neighborhood from projects over the years. But when the Planning Department intervened, with a 70-minute presentation by Planning and Engineering staff, the DRC determined that a letter to Council that they had prepared to express their previous concerns with mounting traffic in this area (caused by the construction of 400 residential apartments that have been approved in and around Waluga Neighborhood over the past few years) was NOT necessary after all.
- c. **Tree Removal Applications:** -Request to remove a 13" Sweetgum tree at the corner of Kruse Way Place and Daniel Way (4004 Kruse Way Place) that ~~the~~ has broken an underground irrigation line. They plan to replace it with a Paperbark maple tree, which is a species hospitable to fewer species of birds and other wildlife than the Sweetgum tree.
- d. **Kruse Village Parking Spaces:** Gramor Development ~~Company~~, owners, were required/permitted/limited to 249 spaces and have exceeded that number by 24. The number permitted varies with the types of businesses that occupy the mall, and that number changes as occupants come and go. Lately more have gone than come, and there are several vacant store spaces. Matt Grady of Gramor had a phone conference with representatives of Lake-Forest NA and Waluga NA to see what questions we have.
  - i. Since Gramor is out of compliance (exceeds) with their parking requirements, the next step for them will be to submit an application to the City for a minor development and ask for either:
    - 1. A formal interpretation of the uses of the businesses, predominantly food related uses OR
    - 2. A parking study (LOC50.06.002.a.ii(6) in lieu of the Numerical Method in 2.a.ii(1)
  - ii. The Board reached no decision on action in association with this issue.

## VI. **Committee/Project/Event Reports:**

- a. **Lake Grove Business Association:** Bruce attended their August meeting at which they were given a report on progress with the Boones Ferry Road Improvement Project, and both Joe Buck announced that he's running for Council (Although later, Cheryl reported he is running for Mayor). The LGBA is faced with re-designing their upcoming election for Board of Directors so that they can hold it online.
- b. **Emergency Preparedness:** Jim announced that they plan to meet online next week to discuss how they would discuss with their neighbors what to do in case an earthquake occurs during this pandemic. One coordinator has already met with her neighbors to discuss it.

**Annual General Meeting of the WNA and Election of the New Board:** the meeting should be held on Wednesday, October 14, and we agreed to aim for that date. We will plan to hold it online and include a few speakers to update everyone on developments in the neighborhood including Center Cal, the Shorenstein Apartments, and the Boones Ferry Road Renewal. **Between now and at our Sept. meeting, Board members will secure and pin down our program and speakers.**

- i. We will mail a postcard to every address in the neighborhood at City expense to announce the meeting. Deadline for mailings will be September 28. (Jim urges that we ask recipients to RSVP with their emails so that we can expand our list. He later suggested that we utilize Nextdoor Waluga to publicize the meeting and to ask for email addresses of neighbors who are not yet on our list.)
- ii. In an emergency, our by-laws include no requirement for a quorum. So if absolutely necessary, the Board could meet as the Annual General Meeting and elect a new Board and Officers – and call that our Annual Meeting. We do not intend to do that.
- iii. All Board members agreed to serve another term, and so did the officers. Cheryl agreed to continue as acting Chair, for want of a better term, and appoint a Chair pro tem for the meeting each month. She said that she plans to delegate more responsibilities to others during this time. We are all charged with seeking new Board members to expand the Board by a few members.
- iv. All Board members are invited to share in coming days to help design our virtual meeting.

We adjourned at 8:00.

Our next meeting will be September 9.

Rett Russell graciously invited us to meet in his backyard, weather permitting (otherwise the meeting will be conducted on Zoom.) Steve Piazza will serve as Chair pro tem for September meeting.