

## **River West Neighborhood Association**

Monthly Board Meeting

October 23, 2008, 5:30pm

Hurricane's Restaurant

### **In Attendance:**

Tyler Blackwell, Vice-Chair, Database Manager; Rachel Stemach, Secretary, Treasurer; Leslie Olson & Stacey Stemach, Land-Use Committee; Bill Kurtz, Membership; Sue Vordenberg, Parks & Rec Liaison, Edith McBean, Business Liaison; Cassie Giddings, Sidewalks & Crosswalks, 2030 Vision

### **General Information:**

- NA round-table meeting - Jim Forbes discussed e-mail correspondence (discussions for decision-making items need to be public record).
- UGB (Urban Growth Boundary) meeting has taken place (report to follow at next board meeting). The City of Bend Planning Commission is holding a hearing on the proposed UGB expansion for our city. They are planning to vote on a recommendation to the city at this meeting. The outcome of this expansion has the potential to affect the Westside of Bend far into the future. The current proposal includes lands around and beyond Shevlin Park. If these lands are added, expect to see large increases in traffic, a new bridge and sewer line built across the Deschutes River. The cost impacts of these improvements on the citizens of Bend have not been thoroughly examined. This hearing is citizen's chance to understand and comment on the changes in store for Bend. [http://www.ci.bend.or.us/depts/community\\_development/UGB\\_Expansion.html](http://www.ci.bend.or.us/depts/community_development/UGB_Expansion.html)

### **Vice-Chair's Report:**

- There is a board forming within the NA's to help with the re-write of the current development code. There will be 5 parts and the first public meeting is to be held November 10th. More information available at [http://www.ci.bend.or.us/depts/community\\_development/bend\\_hot\\_topics/development\\_code\\_tune-up.html](http://www.ci.bend.or.us/depts/community_development/bend_hot_topics/development_code_tune-up.html)
- RWNA Bylaws revisions and updates that have been approved by the RWNA Board have been sent to The City Of Bend to be recorded.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

- One payment issued for summer/fall water usage at Triangle Park.

### **Secretary's Report:**

- Will need updated copy of by-law revisions to keep on-file.

### **General Meeting Organizer Report:**

- Not present

**Membership Chair Report:**

- No news to report.

**Land Use Committee Report:**

- Westside Church - Altered application reviewed by Stacey and submitted response letter back to the City for public record. Church has 14 days to respond, and then hearing officer will make a decision.
- Proterra LLC - Gained full approval for switch to Mixed-use zone by City.
- Several liquor licenses have come up in the past couple of months. These are primarily for in-home small businesses, (i.e. wines and gift baskets).

**Traffic Chair Report:**

- Newport Crosswalk update - the crosswalk striping is in at Newport Ave and 11th Street!

**Parks & Rec Chair Report:**

- Dog Parks update: the planning for this had taken longer than anticipated and is ongoing. Jan Taylor, Communities Relations Directors at BMPRD, assures that neighborhood input will be sought through a formal process when planning is further along.
- Park Accessibility Plans: To help BMPRD provide access to parks and trails for those needing accessibility assistance (estimated at 15% of users), staff has inventoried "outdoor developed areas". This inventory is being reviewed for conformance to newer ADAAG guidelines, and staff will develop standards and guidelines for upgrading facilities on a priority list of improvements. These standards and guidelines also will be used in new and remodeled facilities. Included is the expectation that 41% of trails will be hard surfaced, with acceptable slope and cross-slope for accessibility. Public and special interest input will be sought during development of standards and guidelines, and a consultant will provide guidance.
- Irrigation water for Riverbend Park: BMPRD is exploring options including drilling a well or drawing water from the river (the District has water rights), rather than continuing to purchase water. The preference is to use well water rather than draw down water levels in the river.
- BMPRD Speakers Bureau is being developed.
- Brooks Park update: Presentation of the Veteran's Memorial design is scheduled for the Nov 4 meeting (date is subject to change).

**E-mail/ Database Manager Report:**

- Six emails have been sent to membership since our last meeting (concerning Bend 2030 Town Hall meeting, Roundabout Safety, Candidate forums, land use issues, and Yard Debris disposal).
- The database is clean and backed up for October. We haven't lost any members due to email bounce-backs and maintain a membership of 612 households or business members, including 460 individual email addresses.

**Webmaster Report:**

- Will have a link soon to BMPRD <http://www.bendparksandrec.org/> on our Parks & Recreation section of website.
- 12th Street Triangle - Kelly will forward some photographs to add to the site.
- Still discussing whether to update the "Useful Information" page to include transit stops in our neighborhood.
- Land use updates - Leslie to send information on current items.
- Barb to update board member listings.
- Some 2007 meeting minutes are available, and all of 2008 thus far in PDF format on website.

**Business Liaison Report:**

- Formation of the Newport Corners Shopping District (from 9th the 12th Streets) has been established, and Bulletin published an article. The group describes the district as "one-stop shopping area that rivals Portland on cool and outlet malls on convenience". Many of the District members are also current members of the RWNA.
- Edith attended the Downtowners meeting (during Oktoberfest) - most business owners concerned with weak economy. RWNA recommends that neighbors try to support local businesses as much as possible.

**2030 Vision Report:**

- Bend 2030 Town Hall meeting was a great success and had a great turn-out, and RWNA was well-represented. City Manager Eric King is starting to open the door for better communication with residents.
- For more information or to get involved in 2030, contact Cassie at [cassieg@bendtel.net](mailto:cassieg@bendtel.net)
- Board members received updated Vision reports with action items and priorities (as they relate to RWNA). Further discussion is needed on how the NA's can be supporting partners with 2030 Vision.

**Sidewalks & Crosswalks Project Report:**

- See items listed in Traffic safety.

**NEXT BOARD MEETING:**

- Thursday, November 20th, 5:30pm-7:00pm at Hurricane's.
- Any resident in RWNA is invited to attend board meetings. Please RSVP to [RWNA@bendbroadband.com](mailto:RWNA@bendbroadband.com)