

Sunnyside Neighborhood Association Board Meeting 11-12-2020

Board Members present: Dave, Lorraine, Russell, Ash, Christy, Julia, Jessie Absent: KC

Guests: TJ Browning-Laurelhurst NA Safety Chair, Rep Rob Nosse, Tode Oshin, MaryAnn Schwab, Dale Peppell, Matt Lembo, Gloria Jacobs

ZOOM Meeting comes to order at 7:04

Rob Nosse Report:

Rob gave an update on his legislative activity as our Rep. He is heading into his fourth term, has been our rep since 2014. With the win for Shemia Fagan, the Dems retain a supermajority. Rob describes the current measures that were voted in. All 4 ballots passed. Revenues are not what the state projected, therefore it will be a difficult revenue phase. Some of the new taxes on cigarettes and vaping will go towards tobacco prevention education.

Rob took several questions

Q: what can the mayor do to help houseless?

Q: Regarding action on climate change, what will ensue if Republicans agree to quorum change? Rob doubts Republicans will vote for that-it will be put on the ballot but Rob isn't hopeful-hopes to prevent walk-outs in State Legislature.

Q: Beer taxes have been frozen since 1995-why can't these be raised? Rob: we will look at that, but it probably won't be passed due to the restaurant and tavern industry has suffered during Covid-19

Q: Regarding vacancy taxes-these taxes can go to houseless services. Rob is not familiar with this-he says inclusionary zoning "has not worked." He will look into this.

TJ Browning

TJ gave a report. She stated the Laurelhurst NA meetings are dominated by the issue of the houseless people in Laurelhurst park. She said a group of them are blocking 37th and Stark. Camp was posted for a clean-up because of risks regarding Covid-19 but waited until there were more shelter beds came online. Tuesday at 5:00AM people came in and blocked access to the camp so it could not be cleared. PBOT and police were turned away, so clean-up did not occur. Neighbors report they cannot get to their homes.

Q: is City making a commitment to re-home campers to Mt Scott?

Matt Lembo said he was there to help move people to Mt Scott. On Tuesday, 15 people said they would go but only 6 actually did go. That leaves 65-70 people remaining.

TJ reported that she was accosted by a woman who ran up to her and coughed on her deliberately while she was out walking her dog. She reported this to the police-they said the DA will not press charges stating "there is nowhere to take them."

Q: Any violent crimes reported in the encampment?

Yes, robberies, beatings, assaults.

TJ says she is lobbying for sanctioned camps. Some people do not want to go into housing but still need water, mobile showers. She has been in dialogue with the City and feels they are making progress. Parking lots have been looked at but the money simply is not there-not coming until next year, but the building isn't there. She feels stop-gap measures are needed immediately, such as expanding park rangers for security in camps, create triage shelters. She said there are beds available, but not in the city "system."

Russell makes a motion Sunnyside NA signs onto the Joint Statement(this can be found on the Sunnyside NA website). Julia seconds

Motion carries. Dave will convey this to SE Uplift. Ash will publish in the December newsletter.

Russell made a motion to work with Laurelhurst NA to "get on board" with their goals. Jesse suggested we look at specific actions we can start to work on.

TJ can be reached at: Browningtj@msn.com

Russell made a motion to add Matt Lembo back to the Sunnyside NA Board. Ash Seconded

Motion carries

Motion to approve October Minutes Motion passed, minutes approved.

Committee Reports

Safety and Livability: Jesse

Important topics were covered covered at tonight's meeting

Land Use and Transportation: No updates. Meetings will occur on the first and third Thursdays from 6:30-7:30

Newsletter: Ash Content has been going well. maximum space for ads has been taken, but digital ads will be considered. Analytics will be discussed at our next meeting.

Treasurer's Report and SES Report: No reports as KC is not present

Business Assoc's-Dave HBBA and BABA members were briefed on the Joint Statement and seemed very supportive.

Dave reported on "Neighbors Together" which used to be called "Neighborhood Watch." Dale will send us information, but it is difficult to have any activity due to inability to have meetings.

Meeting adjourned at 8:58PM

Minutes recorded by Lorraine Henriques, Secretary to the SNA Board

