



Wilkes East Neighborhood Association **Public Meeting Minutes**

August 13, 2018

Call to Order

Kris Freiermuth called to order the Wilkes East Neighborhood Association at 7:03 at Albertina Kerr, Portland, Oregon.

Roll Call

Kris Freiermuth, Chair, Gail Voge, Member at Large, Bob Lundbom, Website & Newsletter.

Lori Stegman, Multnomah County Commissioner - Lori gave a brief description of her years in office and the boundaries of her district.

Homelessness in our area:

She showed us three slides – HUD Homelessness: Unsheltered Down, Sheltered Up, and HUD Homeless UP, The Challenge: Increasing inflow, costly outflow, and Federal Government Disinvestment – Expansion of Rental Assistance Slowed as need Rose.

Ending Homelessness: Three Core Strategies. To have a lasting impact on the homelessness crisis, a three-pronged balance approach is needed. 1. Prevention, 2. Shelter Expansion, 3. Placement and Retention.

She talked about having a Master Lead that lives the affordable apartment buildings that support the other low-income residence that live there by being there advocate if an incident occurs there.

The sale of Wapato gave us \$4 million to help with transitional housing. Options are to purchase an existing building or purchase land and build a new building. 73 units would be affordable housing.

Federal benefits have disinvested less so that social security for people to use for housing which puts the burden to local government.

Government alone cannot solve these needs. Social Service, neighborhood associations, and local government all need to help.

We need to get homeless people in some kind of shelters.

There is not enough money to take care of all of the homeless.



Officer McQueen with Sheriff office

The goal is to get homeless people into some kind of housing. The Officers are working with the homeless to let them know that they are here to help them. One of the problems is that they keep moving around. The Officers give them a contact for them to get housing. They want to work with them to help them get ID's, get on the internet, showers, get phones. All to help them get a job.

He gave us a brief description of Law Enforcement Assistance Diversion – LEAD. To help homeless people that are ready for treatment.

The Hansen building on 122nd and Glisan will be torn down. The Woodshed shelter has been closed and all families have been moved to other transition motels.

A couple of large companies are moving into this area such as Amazon and FedEx. These companies employ large numbers of employees but do not pay well.

A discussion went on regarding homeless people and mental health issues, garbage at the camping sites and needles littered.

Danille Heikkila, Principle for H.B. Lee Middle School

There are about 730 students enrolled in school this year. They have many students that English is their second language. The first 2 weeks they talked with students on what was expected of them. She is going to submit items for the newsletter. H.B. Lee has a Facebook page. One thing she would like to see is some kind of sports program at school.

Motion to approve March 12, 2018 meeting minutes were seconded and approved.
Motion to approve May 14, 2018 meeting minutes were seconded and approved.

Virginia Molina with the Boy Scouts

There are 42 boy scout groups in our area. Cub Scouts are ages Kindergarten through 5th grade and Boy Scouts are 6th through 12th grades. The Scouts are open to girls. She has 56 elementary schools in her area. The scouts learn many things such as being a team player, leadership skills, and have adventures that they might not have done.

Virginia's job is to start groups you only need 5 scouts and 5 adult volunteers.

Next meeting Monday, September 10, 6:30 pm at Billy Simmons house, 17104 NE Oregon St., Portland, OR

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm