

Cully Association of Neighbors General Meeting 6025 NE Prescott, 7-9pm 4/9/19 DRAFT Minutes

Board members in attendance: Laura Young, Josh Heumann, Mac McKinlay, Stephanie Neely, Claire Alyea, Isha Leinow, Annette Pronk, David Sweet. **Absent:** Rich Gunderson

1. Introductions by Laura Young at 7:10pm.
2. Additional Agenda Items and Approval of Agenda -
 - Isha - add Grievance Committee Election at the end of the meeting - motion to approve the agenda as amended - approve, all in favor.
3. Participation Guidelines.

Announcements from the Floor

- Mayor at Madeline Parish Center May 13th supported by Interfaith Alliance on Poverty
- Ped PDX is looking to make things safer for pedestrians. Simpson St. was a proposed neighborhood walkway - which means building sidewalks. Lynette is opposed to adding sidewalks because it would add additional pavement. Sees the green space that currently exists as a positive gathering space. They want speed bumps and sharrows.
 - David Sweet says that no sidewalks have been proposed for Simpson.
- Easter Egg Hunt April 20th at 10am: 5520 NE Killingsworth
- Article about Sledge the Shack - Hacienda CDC is trying to build 140 affordable homes on this site. Postcard campaign to write what you love about Cully and then deliver them to decision makers associated with providing funds towards that project - fill out during meeting.
 - May 18th - party on the site

CAN Board Election

- Rich Gunderson will not seek reelection. Laura Young has chaired for many years and is also stepping down.
- Nominations from the floor:
 - Erwin Bergman - Running for Member at Large
- Candidates:
 - Chair - Josh Heumann
 - Grew up in Portland; living in Cully since 2013; on board for over a year; 3rd year working on Cully Cleanup.
 - Vice Chair - Mac McKinley
 - 3rd year as a vice chair. My vision is that I love Cully and love living here. Urban ag; urban nature; affordable housing; local service groups; local businesses; local employment and career opportunities; increase public services from the city; community building.
 - Secretary - Claire Alyea
 - Lived in cully 3.5 years loves Cully for its diversity and open space. Stepped in halfway through last term.
 - Treasurer - Stephanie Neely
 - Work in Cully; own a business here; 4ish year; passionate about economic development; assist in finances for activities like Cully Cleanup
 - Member at Large - David Sweet (Land Use/Transportation Chair)

- On board for 6 years; loves Cully - rich diversity and wants to encourage affordable housing and better transportation infrastructure. Wants to retain diversity we already have and hoping to get a TIF district passed.
- Member at Large - Annette Pronk (PSAC)
 - Parent of PPS student; stability of living helped her be rooted in the place in Cully and can engage in community; feel committed to maintaining fair and permanent affordable housing in Cully. Honor rich contributions from diverse groups; Emergency NET team member. Want to maintain voice of resilience; Green Street Steward.
- Member at Large - Greg Sotir (CAAT)
 - Moved to Cully -2011. Active part of association in different capacities; interested in protecting local and environmental issues - especially air quality. Our community is changing but we can work to maintain existing environment and improve air quality. Concerned with growth issues and promoting sustainable business practices for businesses that might want to move in.
- Member at Large - Isha Leinow
 - Moved to Cully in 2015. Take a stand for the environment. Organization development background; served on grievance committee; recruiting volunteers for Cully Cleanup. NET member. Have served for 1 year.
- Member at Large - Denny Karas
 - Focusing the last year and a half on people experiencing homelessness. Authorized by CAN board to be rep to CNN Homelessness Solutions Committee. Giving out water bottles and large plastic bags to be picked up by the city. Urban Camping Impact Reduction Program. Ad manager for the Cully Neighbor News.
- Member at Large - Jonathan Cruz
 - Lived in Portland for 10 years; Cully for 1 year; moved here from North Portland for affordability. Hope to create a master plan for parks in Cully. The city is closing community centers and now we need to continue advocating for community spaces in a way that involves more neighbors.
- Member at Large - Erwin Bergman
 - Moved to Cully in 1970; raised family here. Belonged to CAN since 1993. Involved in many activities like cleanups; quality of life person; airport noise issues; quality of life is most important to Erwin. EPA training in air toxics and pesticides; how to maintain cleanups. Feels can contribute information to what's happening in Cully with global warming and more people moving in the area.

Whitaker Ponds: Birds, Trees, Beavers, Turtles and You!

- Laura - parks ecologist. Working on restoration including wildlife surveys.
- Finished tree thinning project that were overplanted over 15 years ago.
- Filling in understory with shrubs and smaller trees: have noted significant bird increase.
- Not a lot of duff or wood - mostly clay; hoping to enrich soil.
- Metro Metals project: conducting a large cleanup project on the East Pond where historical contamination has occurred; will drain East Pond and will remove sediment with high amounts of PCBs then capping pond with activated charcoal to bind pollutants and 4-6" of sand to keep pollutants in the soil and preventing them from going up the food chain.
- Will salvage turtles, fish, and other wildlife from East Pond and moving them to West Pond. Improvements include deepening ponds for overwintering for turtle; putting more downed wood in pond for basking for animals; removing yellow flag iris to try to get native vegetation there. Metro Metals is including treatment of this portion.
- Early June will start to draw water down. Laura will be on site almost every day to make sure all rules will be followed to protect the ponds.

- Questions
 - Have PCBs been found in Whitaker Pond itself? Yes - East level has high levels enough to warrant a cleanup. Will be dredging a large amount of material in some places.
 - Metro Metals is situated at the pond: is anything being done to decrease their impact?
 - New water treatment system to prevent future contamination.
 - Near new post office building there is a lot of dredging/ restoration: what is happening?
 - Unsure; but there is heavy industrial area there.
 - Since Metro Metals is footing the bill, was this mandated by EPA or DEQ?
 - We have heard they are voluntarily working with DEQ to clean up contamination they may be responsible for.
 - When will vegetation removal/ water draw down be happening
 - Later in the summer.
 - How many beavers are there down there?
 - We have a PSU student there studying how the reforestation effort is being thwarted by their efforts. There is a big family building a dam at the east bridge but also other activity
 - Will there be a walking trail on the East Pond?
 - there isn't a plan for one now. Because it is secluded we get more wildlife there. But volunteers do get more access to these areas if you want to volunteer.
- Capping ponds is becoming a standard practice; Laura wants to make sure that this is actually a good thing for the environment and the animals and ecology of the site. Has been doing vertebrate and vegetation sampling and then will do sampling after the project to inform future projects on the Slough.
- Looking to try to make a beaver deceiver in the future.

Whitaker Ponds: Upcoming Events and Opportunities

- Susanne Raymond - outreach and events director at Columbia Slough Watershed Council
- Kurt - volunteer coordinator at Columbia Slough Watershed Council
- Columbia Slough Watershed Council promotes restoration; education to provide free hands on environmental curriculum at Title I Schools; community events and outreach
 - Slough 101, Explorando Festival, Regatta Festival
 - Partner with agencies like BES, EMSWCD, Portland Water Bureau to do outreach
- Things you can do to protect the water from contamination: in the summer we begin to tap into underwater resources (wellfield)
 - Take care to not dump chemicals; check vehicles for leaks; avoid/cut back on pesticide-fertilizer use; free hazardous waste turn-in days at Metro; check storage tanks for leaks; hotline # to report chemical spills and illegal dumping
 - Do not use Clorox on moss.
- Bicycle tour on the fields: Cycle the Well Field on June 1st.
- Stewardship Saturdays: mornings 9-12; Will be doing restoration at Heron Lakes golf course in Vanport. Next Saturday will be Wilkes Creek Corridor. Can register on the website.
- Planning meetings for Explorando. April 29th, May 20th, 6-8ish at Hacienda. Welcome volunteers
- Paddle team that supports canoe events. We train people to canoe and have a good mix of experience levels. They lead canoe events
- Questions
 - Columbia River Dike is 100 years old and needs maintenance: do you know if anyone is involved in this. Bike the Levees event will be exploring this. Levee ready Columbia is trying to push the agenda to update the levee systems. They are looking for more community input.

- Bull Run Watershed Bus Tour: does that still exist? Last year it existed so probably this year as well.
- The Water Bureau is asking people about cryptosporidium; will groundwater be a backup plan if cryptosporidium exists? Yes.
- Is there a great horned owl nest? Yes there is one at Whitaker Ponds with a lot of attention.

Annoucement

Former Motivasi employee - found out it was closing and now they are the new owners; now Jezebel's Last Standigk Merry-go-round. It is coffee and pastries; possibly soup in future.

Board Elections Results

Chair- Josh

Vice Chair - Mac

Secretary - Claire

Treasurer - Stephanie Neely

Member at Large: David Sweet, Annette Pronk, Gregory Sotir, Isha Leinow, Jonathan Cruz

Tar Sands Oil Rolling through Portland to Zenith Energy

- Sustainable Energy and Economy Network: trying to stop an oil terminal by Zenith Energy.
- Background information about Zenith and Context of Fossil Fuels in our City
- 95% of petroleum stored in NW Portland
- Zenith is the only company that has a connection to rail line; except crude oil trains.
- Proposals to extract (Pembina Propane Export): because of community advocacy this project was stopped. City has a climate action plan to reduce emissions.
- City passed a resolution opposing oil trains in 2015. Oil trains derail and can cause explosions and fires; trains are very polluting from their own engines as well. The city passed a resolution opposing all new fossil fuels. Then added another amendment saying they can't build new fossil fuel storage tanks. City will transition to 100% renewable energy by 2050. This addresses climate change and creates jobs.
- Zenith bought the terminal after 2017 after city policies had been passed. Is an asphalt/crude oil processing plant. Could transfer 18,000 bbls/day. They want to quadruple their facilities; claim they just want to do it faster, not increase volume processed.
- Arc Logistics
- Air toxics can be released into the river; if small enough don't even have to report them to DEQ. In 2011 a big spill occurred of toxic chemicals.
- After Zenith ownership: began exporting Tar Sands crude to China. Found out through a marine tanker app what was being exported and where it was going.
- Tar Sands oil is near indigenous populations and threatens their health.
- Because tar sands oil trains are so heavy they have a higher rate of tipping over. Sour crude trains Zenith currently receives (diluted with Hydrogen Sulfide in Canada); previously they were accepting crude and then adding another toxic chemical to it to dilute it in Portland. Hydrogen Sulfide is incredibly toxic; first responders have to wear a special scuba-type outfit with chemical masks.

- Oil Storage tanks proposed will increase unloading rate from 12 to 44 tanks at a time.
- Many rail lines take these trains but sometimes they pass through Cully, I-84 or Washington Gorge then down through Vancouver to Zenith. Over a mile long; can have 100 oil cars.
- In 2016 a train derailed in Mosier, OR, even with routine inspections that failed to detect flaw in tracks. No wind that day but normally there is wind.
- Cully Tire Fire is similar chemically to what would burn if an oil tanker were to catch on fire
- We need to stop this terminal facility from expanding. The new company, Zenith, is bringing more trains to our neighborhoods. Write/call city council or Multnomah County Commissioners.
- Stoptarsandspx.weebly.com
- Tinyurl.com/zenithpetition
- Community forum April 17th 7pm at Havurah Shalom: 825 NW 18th, 97209. Can learn more about health impacts of the trains
- Did initial permits in 2014 include what Zenith is doing now? Many groups are looking into it. City is looking into what
- Was it ever talked about the economic benefits this would have to Portland? They have 18 full time employees; employ few people per acre compared to other industrial activities.

Cully Cleanup

- Need volunteers! May 25th. Next meeting will have yard signs and flyers.

Board Reports

- Comments from the Chair (Laura) - none
- Transportation/Land Use: Hardesty and Eudaly will be here next month.
- Secretary's Report and Minutes of Past Meetings (Claire) - minutes are available at the door to be edited and marked up.
- Treasurer's Report (Stephanie)
- Income: \$3,155. Expenses \$9,081.76. in bank: \$22,736.14
 - Detailed expense report per filing.
- CNN Report (Claire + Marilee) - CNN is worried that civic life is looking at neighborhood associations differently. So they are having an outreach to get more equity in our neighborhoods. Many neighborhoods are frightened of losing their funding. Neighborhoods that don't want to change might have more problems retaining funding.
- CAAT Report (Greg)
 - Technical documents regarding Salem legislation. NW Metals HB 792 transformed: Oregon environmental council and living cully have pulled support for it. HB 207 seems to be faring better. Owens Brockway might be affected in a more regulatory way but nothing sure yet.
- CNN Homelessness Livability Community (Denny)
 - CNN is sponsoring homeless camping spot give outs on certain Saturdays: water bottles, dog kibble, trash bags.
 - Oak Leaf Mobile Home will be finishing up soon. New community center and laundry facilities.
- CAN Tree Team (Bruce)
 - many fruit trees: around 80 new trees were installed in Cully
 - Soak it Week; Middle to Late July and middle to late August: you need to water your new trees.
- Newsletter (Marissa/Mac)

- Signe is our new layout person: graphic designer in Cully.
 - Website (Chris) - none
 - PSAC (Annette) - Quarterly meeting. No new report. Next meeting at CNN Office.
4. Old Business - none
 5. New Business
 - Grievance Committee: 2 board members and 3 community members.
 - Denny Karas, Marilee Dea, Katherine Rose, Isha Leinow, David Sweet.
 6. Adjournment Denny Moved to adjourn - Mac seconds; move to adjourn.

Minutes taken and submitted by Claire Alyea, Secretary, Cully Association of Neighbors