

Monday, August 11, 2025: BWNA General Meeting Agenda (7:00-8:30 p.m.)

Sylvan Learning Center, 4300 N.E. Fremont St. (or via *Zoom*)

Welcome & Introductions (President Al Ellis)

- 1) Board Members: Al Ellis, President, Patty Nelson, Immediate Past President, Karla Lenox, Treasurer, Patti Koehler, Secretary. At Large Board Members, Angela Frome, Colin O'Neill, Tim Root.
- 2) Board members with excused absences: Tim Gillespie, Vice President, John Sandie, Aaron Breakstone, Susan Trabucco, Rob Lee, David Knowles, Crystal Grainger, Tom Cuppernull.
- 3) Committee Heads: Matt Grainger and Mary Roney Absent.
- 4) Neighbors: Deb Harris, Peggie Irvine-Page, Michelle Rudd, Ann and Fred Angulo, Diane Charlton, Jim Karlock, Steven Avery, Joe Stenger
- 5) Guests: Sgt. Carrie Hutchison and Matt Marcott

Association Meeting and Governance Items

- 1) Approval of Meeting Agenda (Al): Unable to approve, no quorum
- 2) Guest speakers on neighborhood crime prevention and safety: emphasis on open drug use and vagrancy at Beaumont Market as a result of can and bottle exchanges for cash. Q & A with North Precinct Sgt. Carrie Hutchison (filling in for Sgt. Greg Moore) and Beaumont Market owner Matt Marcott : Under current state law, Beaumont Market is required to take cans and bottles. Matt reports that the problems really exacerbated when can deposits increased from 5 cents to 10 cents per can. As a result many people congregate at the Market at all hours to exchange cans for cash. Since the start of July, the market has collected deposits on 22,000 containers but in that same time frame, they have had to process and deal with 288,672 containers. Due to the numerous problems this law has had, including fights in the parking lot, fires in the parking lot and break ins, Matt is looking into buying into the blue bag or green bag recycling program at a cost of \$85,000-140,000 dollars. He is uncertain at this time which they will choose to do nor how long it will take to implement the program. The only other way to change this problem is legislatively. Sgt. Hutchison stated she did pull the numbers for drug related calls the past three months for our district (which runs from MLK to 52nd. During that time there were 32 calls, mostly at bottle drops but only one came from the Beaumont neighborhood. She encourages people to call 311 or 911 if there is a serious problem such as fighting, open drug use or starting a fire. While people yelling at each other is not against the law, call if you feel threatened. If you don't call, it does not get registered as a problem. Photos and videos are helpful. Time of day when the problems are worse are also helpful. Sgt. Hutchison will talk to her Sergeant to see if any of the new hires can come over once a week or throughout the week to just check in.
- 3) Approval of minutes from July 14th Board Meeting (Patti): Unable to approve, no quorum
- 4.) Treasurer's Report (Karla Lenox): as of July 31st.
 - a.) cash in checking account: \$23,206.93
 - b.) cash in Venmo account: \$1,690.15 s
 - c.) outstanding bills: \$265 to Laurie Webber for block party permit. Two regulatory reports due, one to the Department of Justice, the charitable activities section for \$20 and one to the Secretary Of State for \$50.

- 5) Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods (NECN, District 2) report (Patty Nelson): Elections were held last month with new officers elected. They hosted a land use meeting but Patty has not seen anything from that meeting. The Fiscal Sponsorship Agreement has been completed.
- 6) Board Retreat (Al): Have not heard back from David or Rob but 11 out of 15 board members voted for Sat. Nov. 15h.

Outstanding Action Items and Committee/Team Updates

- 1) Synod's search for a new owner for the Bethany Lutheran Church building & property (Al): Al received a letter from Stacy Carlton that the Synod is committed to holding the building for a period of time, most likely for another six months. They are not anywhere close to making any decisions about the future of the building and they are not entertaining the possibility of selling or entertaining any offers anytime soon. She stated they did get the petition that residents sent around saying that they want the building preserved as is and not torn down for apartments or condos.
- 2) Chat with An Bui—aide to Multnomah County Chair Jessica Vega Pederson (Chris Rauber) Chris Rauber, a reporter for our newsletter, was unable to attend tonight's meeting. He met with An Bui who informed him they could not do much for us regarding transportation issues. Al suggested it might be helpful to talk with Representative Tran's assistant Tom, who spoke with us a few months back.
- 3) Events Committee (Al and Patti Koehler for John Sandie); Al reported movie in the park was well attended. Tom Cuppernull had a little speech planned about all of our events but they said he only had 30 seconds. He ended with a great Donald Duck impersonation. Patti reports Fremont Fest went really well. Lots of people stopped by the booth to chat, the flag project generated a lot of questions. Many people signed up for the email blast. It was noted that the free water bottles were a big draw as the day went on. The Block Party is on track for Sept 12th with three food carts. Yard signs and flyers are up. Will be looking for volunteers at our next meeting to assist day of. Electrify Now is slated for Sept 16th at the Mule Bar and Liz Safran is scheduled to talk about the Cascadia Subduction Zone, Reckoning with the Really BIG One on Nov 13th at Fremont Methodist Church. Both talks will have Eventbrite tickets available online via QR codes.
- 4) Webmaster/E-Blaster (Michelle Rudd): An ad hoc website enhancement committee meeting with Steven Avery, Michelle Rudd, Jane Feinberg, Matt Grainger and Susan Trabucco was held at Al Ellis' home. There was a recognized need by the group for BWNA to have a way to centrally coordinate volunteers. Matt and Steven took quick action on building out a new page on our website called Get Involved. The page is not searchable or navigable but it is a place to direct traffic if people are interested in volunteering. Michelle did not have a computer screen large enough to share the new link but she will send an email to it later. Please let Michelle or Matt know if you have ideas, feedback or thoughts.
- 5) Friends of Wilshire Park (FoWP) Committee; FoWP website funding update (Mary Roney) Absent, no report.
- 6) Newsletter Team (Susan Trabucco): Absent, no report.
- 7) Transportation (Colin O'Neill); support for 33rd traffic calming (Al); flags (Angie & Patti)

Colin reported that PBOT agreed to do traffic counting on NE 33rd Ave regarding traffic problems. The last count was 10 years ago. They will do it after school is back in session. PBOT will then come back with a recommendation on what they might consider doing. In response to the traffic concerns on NE Wistaria, a couple of engineers from the city came out as well as a representative from Dan Ryans office to meet with neighbors. They have been talking about problems there for decades. PBOT is putting together a recommendation. Colin reports he took a look at it and it's the definition of the least you can do. He has been in discussion with other neighbors about some other suggestions they might consider. Lastly, Colin reports he continues to push the city for additional lighting on Fremont Street, by 43rd Ave in anticipation of the Food Cart Pods eventual opening.

- 8) Land Use (Tim Root); Tim reports a new short term rental application at 4315 NE 36th. He also heard about an affordable housing opportunities project. It is 19 sites across the city owned by nonprofit housing providers or public agencies that are being rezoned. The closest one that we have to our neighborhood is at Prescott across from Scott Elementary. Nothing new on Mason Street, although a lot of other neighbors elected to get their curbs painted by the developer. Flags (Angie & Patti): Angie reported we completed our installations and added three intersections. We have had a couple of different people reach out to ask us to do more canisters. Patti and I have decided we will not do any additional ones though we are happy to share knowledge about how to make them. We did run into some problems so people need to be aware of the risks involved.
- 9) New Neighbor Welcoming Project (Al): Only one new neighbor. The last couple of months have been pretty slow.

Upcoming Board Meeting: Monday, Sept. 8th, 2025, 7:00 p.m., Sylvan Learning Center

Adjournment: 8:33