

**Ashcreek-Crestwood Neighborhood Association, AshcreekCrestwoodNA.org**

Draft meeting notes Feb 10<sup>th</sup> 2025 Meeting, for discussion 3/10/2025

Marianne called the Zoom meeting to order at 7:02 pm. In Attendance: Board members Ben Donora, Dave Manville, Marianne Fitzgerald, Bruce Koester, Leslie Baird, Garrett Thompson, Eden Rodriguez (quorum of 7 Board members). Members Marguex Gala and Jan Spalding. The agenda was approved with an additional land use report.

Minutes: The Minutes for the December 9, 2024 and January 13, 2025 meetings, forming the organization Ashcreek – Crestwood Neighborhood Association, were approved unanimously.

Land Use: Marianne reported that we received a notice of residential demolition at 9706 SW 54<sup>th</sup> Avenue after the deadline had passed. She is working with District 4, Office of Community and Civic Life and Bureau of Planning and Sustainability staff to figure out a way to get the notices in a timelier manner.

Priorities for City of Portland and State Budgets: Marianne went through different projects that our neighborhoods have supported in the past and will continue to advocate for.

- **Transportation:** Priority projects include SW Taylors Ferry (SW Capitol Highway-SW 48) ped/bike; SW Garden Home Road/SW Multnomah Blvd./SW 69<sup>th</sup> intersection; SW 64<sup>th</sup> and SW Barbur to SW 62<sup>nd</sup> and SW Palatine ped/bike; SW Luradel/SW 48<sup>th</sup> (Markham) ped/bike bridge over I-5. Dave thought the shoulder at SW 48<sup>th</sup> and Garden Home Road may not be as big an issue anymore. Marianne will continue to monitor and advocate for these needed improvements.
- **Parks/Natural Resource Areas:** The parks in our neighborhood include Dickinson Park, Woods Park (Woods Memorial Natural Area), Ash Creek Natural Area, and a few other natural areas near Woods Park and Marianne's house that are managed by the Bureau of Environmental Services. Dickinson Park and Woods Park are managed by Portland Parks and Recreation. Dave leads the "Friends of Woods Park" group that includes certified volunteers for monthly work parties in Woods Park. PP&R removed Dickinson Park from its list of stewardship programs but it could be re-invigorated.
- **Smith School:** Portland Public Schools owns the property but Portland Parks and Recreation has a "usage agreement" to manage "Smith Fields". Marguex and others interested in the future of Smith School should contact Jack Klinker to get advice on how to reach out to appropriate people at appropriate times.
- **Emergency Preparedness:** AshCrest NET is still active but they could use more volunteers.
- **Homeless/Housing/Supportive Services, Community Safety.** Last month Marlene Howell gave us an update on what some volunteers are doing in the neighborhood. Marianne noted that these topics are high priority among a lot of District 4 neighbors.

Status of Merging Neighborhood Associations: Marianne learned that the paperwork was approved by the Oregon Secretary of State on February 6, 2025. We are official!

Dave and Leslie are still our Communications Team. Dave needs to build an "Ashcreek-Crestwood NA Board" email group for the city's neighborhood directory. He set one up for President email and we need one for the Board members. Dave also needs to set up a membership form for our website. Marguex offered to help, and she and Dave agreed to talk about current technology needs. We agreed we need to organize a communications discussion soon and develop a communications plan.

Regarding our bank accounts, Marianne and others need to update the Crestwood OnPoint bank accounts with our new neighborhood name. **Motion** to approve President and one other Board Member as signatories on bank account, with Treasurer having read-only access to accounts. Marianne moved, Ben seconded, and it was approved unanimously. Marianne proposed several motions, and all agreed, that we will remove Tony Hansen from the Crestwood bank account, change Marianne's authorization to full access, keep Leslie Baird's full access authorization on the account, and add Eden Rodriguez as Treasurer with limited access. We will ask the bank to require 2 signatures to authorize disbursements to improve oversight of finances. Marianne and Eden will work on financial policies for our NA.

Partner Updates: Marianne reviewed some groups that either Crestwood or Ashcreek were affiliated with. Crestwood is a member of the Southwest Equity Coalition (SWEC) and CEI Hub (to lessen risks from tank farms in NW Portland) and everyone agreed that A-CNA will continue to be members of these organizations. Marianne mentioned that Ashcreek is listed as a member of "Two Can Tuesdays" and will follow up to see how this partnership works and whether we can expand participation.

Treasurers Report: Marianne reported that there is \$4048.41 in the checking account for our neighborhood operations, and \$12,081.20 in the savings account that is set aside for future Dickinson Park and Ash Creek Natural Area projects.

**Follow-up Tasks:**

- Set up email addresses for board members within 3 days (Dave)
- Organize Communications Team meeting (Marianne, with Dave, Leslie and Margeaux)
- Update the website to say "Save the Date" for the July picnic (Leslie)
- Add picnic planning to the April meeting agenda
- Contact Two Can Tuesdays to see how the program works in partnership with Neighborhood House (Marianne)
- Make an appointment at the bank to handle paperwork for account access changes when Eden returns to Portland (Marianne, with Leslie, Eden)
- Resend the agenda and information for the board member training to board members and Marguex (Marianne)
- Investigate getting a credit card for the neighborhood association account with OnPoint (Eden)