

## **Ashcreek-Crestwood Neighborhood Association**

### **Membership Meeting Notes, Monday September 8, 2025 meeting via Zoom**

President Marianne Fitzgerald called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm via Zoom. The agenda was approved unanimously.

#### **Introductions and welcome.**

Ashcreek-Crestwood NA Board of Directors present (quorum determined): Marianne Fitzgerald, Dave Manville, Leslie Baird, Bruce Koester, Ben Donora, Marguex Gala

Attendees: Ken Stephens and Hannah Powell

**Ashcreek-Crestwood Summer Picnic Debrief:** Our July 14 picnic had great attendance, the potluck food table was well organized and well managed thanks to a new volunteer, and vegetarian options worked out. We collected \$406 in donations; \$870 in expenditures, plus several in-kind donations. Ben may put up a few more sandwich board signs in the neighborhood next year, i.e. near SW 62<sup>nd</sup> and SW Brugger.

**Portland 2045 Transportation System Plan Survey:** Marianne described the Portland Bureau of Transportation's process for updating its Transportation Systems Plan (TSP). They asked for our community vision, or three wishes for a better system in 2045. Marianne suggested better transit service that allows our neighbors to meet their needs without relying on a car, safer access walking and biking to transit, shops and services in and near our neighborhood to address the effects of climate change from transportation sources, and sidewalks, bike lanes and stormwater management systems that support safe and efficient movement of people, goods and services throughout the transportation system. Others added access to activity centers (Garden Home, West Portland Town Center, Multnomah Village, SW 64<sup>th</sup> and SW Barbur) as well as the Southwest Community Center, Neighborhood House Senior Center, and our public elementary, middle and high schools. We described "transit" in a broader sense of the word, not just fixed route buses but also other services such as Ride Connection, robo-taxis, and rideshare services. Another suggestion was to add more public electric vehicle charging stations as neighborhood infill increases density. We will continue to advocate for our top transportation projects: SW Multnomah Blvd./SW Garden Home Road Safety Project; SW Taylors Ferry Road pedestrian and bicycle safety project; SW Pomona to SW 64<sup>th</sup> and Barbur pedestrian and bicycle improvements, and the Markham/Luradel pedestrian and bicycle overcrossing over Interstate 5.

**Projects and Committee Reports:** Marianne gave a brief update on the City of Portland's internally focused consolidated services where city public works staff are developing a unified capital improvement plan for a future budget process.

**Transportation:** Marianne noted that there's a project to build a retaining wall near SW 45<sup>th</sup> and Orchid, and the project needs to include safer walking space to add to the SW Trails network. We discussed needed vegetation removal along our walking and biking facilities, and need for transportation safety measures along with the residential infill in our neighborhood (several new townhomes and cottage clusters).

**Trails and Parks:** Dave reported that he gave a wish list to Portland Parks and Recreation staff that includes two improvements to Dickinson Park: a gravel trail to connect to the playground, and a safer bridge over the ditch on SW 57<sup>th</sup> at the north end of the park. Several improvements have been completed at Woods Park. The next Woods Park volunteer event is Saturday, October 25.

**Partners Updates:**

- Marianne said the volunteers working to improve safety in the Critical Energy Infrastructure Hub area of Portland asked us to sign on to a letter to City Council to minimize future impacts of economic development; Marianne moved, Marguex seconded and we unanimously approved signing on to the CEI Hub letter.
- The Southwest Equity Coalition is hosting a community meeting to discuss their Southwest Corridor Equitable Development Strategy on September 18; the plan is focused on new affordable housing and workforce development initiatives.
- The Bureau of Environmental Services reported on results of a survey they conducted earlier this year for the West Portland Town Center Stormwater Systems Plan, and
- The new owner of the West Portland United Methodist Church property is the Greater Oregon-Idaho United Methodist Church, and they will be renovating the building to move their headquarters into the building. We may be able to use the UMC facility for future meeting space.
- Regarding one neighbor's issues regarding aircraft noise in the neighborhood, Marianne moved, Dave seconded that we take no position on this issue. We acknowledged that noise does have health impacts in our city, especially as our neighborhoods get denser, but there was no clear solution nor indication that aircraft noise is a widespread problem among neighbors. The board agreed to maintain neutrality and not get involved further. Approved unanimously.

**Ashcreek-Crestwood membership in District 4 Coalition:** Marianne moved, Ben seconded, a motion that Ashcreek-Crestwood Neighborhood Association become a non-subscribing neighborhood in accordance with District 4 Coalition bylaws. Marianne noted there are insurance and communication benefits of membership within the District 4 Coalition, but there seem to be issues among the D4C Board and staff. As a "non-subscribing" member we would not serve on the District 4 Board of Directors and we will remain "members" of the coalition in order to receive benefits such as insurance, communications support and help with corporate reporting. The motion was approved with Bruce abstaining. We agreed to revisit this decision in a few months, perhaps after District 4's annual meeting in February.

**Ashcreek-Crestwood NA Secretary Report:** The minutes of the June 9, 2025 meeting were approved with Dave abstaining.

**Ashcreek-Crestwood NA Treasurers Report:** Marianne developed a short budget table that describes our neighborhood's sources of income and annual expenditures as an informational item.

Marianne moved, and Marguex seconded, and we unanimously approved authorization to

apply for recognition of exemption under IRS code 501(c)(3) status, and spend \$277 for the application fees.

OnPoint Business Bank account balances as of 8/31/2025:

- a) Checking (for General and Community Events): \$4,505.01
  - Deposited \$500 for 2025-2026 Communications Stipend from District 4 Coalition
  - Deposited Picnic Donations, withdrew picnic expenses
  - Net change since 5/30/2025: +\$216.50.
  
- b) Savings (for Dickinson Park and Ash Creek Natural Area restricted accounts): \$12,093.23
  - a) CNA Dickinson Park: \$ 7,377.37 (no change)
  - b) CNA Ash Creek Natural Area: \$ 4,700.00 (no change)
  - c) March Interest \$1.03
  - d) YTD interest \$8.06

**Other Business:** Corrine McQueen from PBOT will be our guest at our next meeting (October 13) to give us an update on the SW Multnomah Blvd/SW Garden Home Road safety improvements. We brainstormed ideas to get the word out and encourage people to attend, such as using the picnic placards as temporary meeting reminders. Marianne cautioned that PBOT will describe “Phase 1” improvements and we still need to work with PBOT and others to raise funds for the traffic signal that we were promised to help everyone walking, biking and driving safely navigate through that intersection. Ben and others will develop and put up the sandwich boards closer to the October 13 meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marianne Fitzgerald