

PNA General Meeting via Zoom

4/29/2021 7 p.m.

Board Members Present:

Al Calabria (Vice Chair – Temporary Acting Chair)

Kim Beeler (Area 3 Rep & Secretary, resigned)

Gail Parrick (Treasurer)

Mary Palm (resigned, but offered to assist with planning meetings)

Kirsty Reilly

Harold Rust

Other affiliates to the board present: Mario Campbell

(communications/technology coordinator and new Area 3 Rep), Tom Horman (tree permit coordinator), and Rick Eilers (emergency preparedness chair)

Board Members not Present: Rob Heape and John Surrent (resigned)

Agenda topics: Call to order; minutes of last meeting (available on PNA website); committee introductions/reports; board elections; special guest: Kirsten Aird, Lake Oswego School Board; old business and new business.

Action & Discussion Items:

- Meeting called to order: Al noted that guest speaker City Counselor Dan Nguyen was called to NYC and unable to attend the meeting.
- PNA introductions: All board members in attendance gave a brief introduction of their background and involvement with the PNA, including new volunteers to the board Tom Horman and another member of the community offered his excitement to participate in the meeting (didn't capture his name). Note: 28 participants logged into the Zoom meeting at the beginning of the meeting.
- Guest Speaker, Kirsten Aird, Lake Oswego School Board: Kirsten noted that she is two years into a four-year term. She said the last 18 months have been 'exceptional' and she noted that the 'children have had a hard year' and learn new skills schooling from home. Elementary student were allowed back to school first. Middle School students were allowed back to school in March and High School student were just getting back to school now. She added that seniors are voting on what to do for graduation. Last year, seniors had a drive-through graduation. The community pool at the golf course is 'on its way.' Aird mentioned the school board is preparing for the next bond. The last bond was part of a three-bond series, she explained and added that Lake Ridge Middle School is beautiful and there has been a lot of work for STEM spaces, science and technology. Now, Lake Oswego Middle School is looking to rebuild with the next bond. Aird said there is need for updated safety and additional space. She said she hoped

the bond initiative would be ready by November and that she is happy to take emails and calls to field questions. Aird also noted that she is sad Superintendent De la Cruz is leaving, but that Assistant Superintendent Jenn Schiele will come in as the new Superintendent. Kirsty asked for Aird to offer more details on the upgrades the district made to all the buildings' ventilation systems. Aird said static systems were applied for added safety. She said "Tony" is available and the best resource for more information and that there is a lot of information posted on the website. Al offered to put information on the PNA website.

- Bill Markt of Stafford Hamlet (unincorporated area) update:
Palisades neighborhood abuts the edge of Stafford Hamlet (similar to a neighborhood association and part of a three city agreement in 2019). There is a Committee Vision Plan and now they are making a new one. 100 words on the website. They are trying to create conservation and promote opportunities for agriculture and growing food. He mentioned concerns with traffic issues. They are not trying to put more infrastructure, i.e. development. They believe it's more beneficial to act as a resource in agriculture and conservation. Al summarized that we are natural allies. We (Palisades) are the most immediate neighbor and we have common interests. Rick offered to keep Bill updated on all development projects coming.
- Al said to Mario, who was hosting the Zoom meeting, that all incoming questions would be archived and forwarded to the appropriate people to offer answers.
- Reports & Presentations:
- Mario: Handling Nextdoor Palisades communications. He highlighted the updated website and city maps. He noted: "It's a lot cleaner." Albie asked about sponsorships as a way to make money. Al said we could probably do it, but added managing that now is not the highest priority and that the board is running light on volunteers. He asked for help to get these things done.
- Rick: Introduced himself as Founder and Co-Chair of Emergency Preparedness LO. He explained that in the past concerns were floods and wind. He mentioned the Mount St. Helens disaster and that emergencies come in all shapes and sizes, including fire, loss of spouse, loss of job, etc., and that we always need to be prepared for these unexpected life events. He mentioned PrepLO.org website where there is six years worth of meetings and expert information all on the site. In mid-March Palisades held a meeting via Zoom on the February ice storm about what worked: generators, wood stoves, camping lanterns and gas fireplaces; and what didn't work: cable, Internet, refrigerators/freezers and gas furnaces. What would we do different? LED lights, invest in generators, add weather stripping, etc. Albie talked about fires

sweeping through Lake Oswego as a concern and if the Fire Dept. could certify members to learn how to manage a potential wildfire. Al said he would need clarity on who is responsible; city and individuals.

- Mark Thornburg: ARRL Assistant Emergency Coordinator noted that the ice storm was bad, but that an earthquake would have been worse. ARES shared information and equipment. There are 17 members. He noted: “We failed because our neighbors didn’t know we existed.” The LO Fire Dept. has created a work group with reps for ARES, Prep LO, and licensed radio operators. Motorola T600 (2W) tests to see how much territory it can cover. Mark wants to share radios with Neighborhood Associations and he added: “We need a system of neighborhood communicators using our emergency system.” There are advantages when more citizens can be trained in radio use, called Amateur Radio Operators. Gail said we had a grant but couldn’t use it because Palisades is so hilly, adding that “two-way radio didn’t work for us.” Mark said the next step is to work on radios that cover greater distances. Rick said they put out 13 radios in all Neighborhood Associations. Al mentioned utilizing the Neighborhood Enhancement Programs and that many Neighborhood Associations have been successful in grants for an Emergency Preparedness Cache. Rick said we weren’t ready for that right now. Al said he wants to gather information so the PNA can get one next year.
- Tom: He said he filled the tree committee coordinator role on March 26. His goal is to formalize how the PNA is handling Type II Tree Permits, which has been informally handled by sharing permits as they occur with PNA board members. He said there have been 10 Type II tree permit applications since coming on board. He said if PNA board members plan to take an active role in an application, he is asking to be notified so he can log and track the permit. None of the 10 permits have involved ‘significant’ trees. Four have been approved and six are in progress. He said comments can be shared with chairperson@palisadesneighborhood.org. Al said the PNA wants to take a neutral position. However, there may be cases when the PNA should get involved. Adding, in some cases developers appear to get the benefit of the doubt vs. homeowners.
- Kim/Traffic Committee Coordinator (resigned): Kim offered details provided by Lt. Jay Weitman. (See supplemental documents also offered by Lt. Weitman). Crash Data – City wide there have been a total of 35 crashes in 2021 (9 of those injury): 1 of those 35 crashes happened within the Palisades NA (non-injury crash on Greentree in March, a minor accident in a driveway with a collision into a retaining wall). Here is a quick traffic citation summary to describe the quick “glance view” (attached map image) specific to Palisades NA for YTD (so far in 2021): 1201 total traffic citations issued in LO

(so far in 2021); Approx 48 citations (out of 1201) issued within the Palisades NA, Top 3 violations in order are Speed, Stop Signs, Cell phone use; 31 of those 48 citations were issued on Stafford Road mostly for speed (see quick explanation below); 7 of those 48 citations were issued at South Shore and Westview (6 for stop signs, 1 for cell phone use). Regarding Stafford Road – The speed limit between Rosemont Road and South Shore Blvd was changed from 40 MPH down to 35 MPH. Since that change took effect last summer, Traffic Engineering did some traffic studies that showed our average speeds actually increased a little since the speed limit dropped. We also had a handful of crashes there over the past couple years. I decided to direct some additional patrols to focus on that area starting in October of 2020 or so. Since January, no crashes! Kim concluded that she intended to attend the May 12 TAB (Transportation Advisory Board) meeting, but it was cancelled. Kirsty mentioned Liz Hartman on the LO School Board as a traffic committee resource.

- Al: Gave an update on the Neighborhood Enhancement Program “Welcome Palisades Neighborhood” signs were held up because of special equipment needed and a part was missing. The signs are to be installed in two locations (Lakeridge H.S. at Overlook/Stafford and Greentree/South Shore).
- Mary: Offered an explanation on the Pre-Application Process and she explained what its purpose is; primarily to offer a neighborhood association perspective on all major and minor development. She said it’s “a preliminary step” before an application is filed. After the meeting, the neighborhood rep offers a report to the association and then the association can offer comments to the city planner. Al added that Mary “does a great job and even though she’s leaving the board, she has offered to continue to help.” This role in the pre-application process is an official channel for us to offer feedback in regards to development and traffic.
- New and old business: Elections were held electronically only and we had one write in. After the results are in by midnight, the PNA will schedule a meeting with Area Reps to convene for announcement of the new board and officers. Three significant projects, Rassekh Park, the Aquatic & Rec. Center at the golf course and the golf course itself could have a significant impact on Stafford Road, which is considered a “minor artery.” Al said the PNA might want to make a public statement.

Next Meetings:

- Board elections will be confirmed at the next PNA board meeting, TBD.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.