



City of Tigard

Neighborhood Involvement Committee-

Minutes

MEETING DATE/TIME: Wednesday, September 21, 2011, 7:00 p.m.

MEETING LOCATION: Tigard Public Library - 2nd Floor Conference Room
13500 SW Hall Blvd, Tigard OR 97223

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Christopher called the meeting to order at 6:57 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Chairman Basil Christopher, Sue Carver, Bev Froude, Connie Ramaekers, Cathy Olson,

Absent: Patty Anda

Staff: Joanne Bengtson

3. APPROVE JULY 20, 2011 MINUTES

Sue Carver motioned to approve the July 20, 2011 minutes, seconded by Bev Froude, none opposed.

4. BRAINSTORM MENU OF NEIGHBORHOOD ACTIVITIES TO SHARE WITH STEERING COMMITTEES (NEIGHBORHOOD HOLIDAY PARTY, BARBEQUE, ETC.)

The committee is interested in providing neighbors with a menu of community events that are possible to host with the grant funding for community building. This would provide active steering committee members with a place to start planning and encourage neighborhood areas to hold community building events.

The committee requested a draft “menu” for their review that includes ideas for community building events. Some of the ideas discussed include

- Barbeque
- Open House
- Seasonal festival in conjunction with the neighborhood school
- An ethnic festival (*Greek, Polish, Oktoberfest*) or event like St. Anthony’s annual picnic.
- Craft festival - volunteers (or paid staff) with a special skill (like artisans from Michael’s craft store) teach attendees how to make a particular item. The community building grant money could pay for craft supplies, hiring instructors if volunteers aren’t available, neighborhood area room rental (fire station, school gymnasium, etc.) and snacks. The event would have something for everyone, a way to connect and people could actually leave with something to remember the event.
- Ice Cream Social - Joanne shared an article from *Mary Jane’s Farm* magazine that provides a ‘tool box’ for anyone planning a neighborhood social. The committee would like to modify information within the article to suit the needs of Neighborhood Networks.

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- Basil would also like to encourage residents to plan neighborhood area bike rides or walks that incorporate work from the Bike & Pedestrian Subcommittee which encourages residents to use Tigard's trails & by-ways. The Bicycle Transportation Alliance could be invited for a bike 'tune-up' event, distribute the city's bike map and stop along the route for fuel (snacks).
- Sue suggested promoting a 5K or walking clubs similar to the event that's associated with the annual Family Fest.

The committee would also like to see an Annual Meeting Agenda template so that active steering committees have a blueprint for hosting an annual meeting. Basil suggested offering a facilitator to keep the meeting going along.

5. NEIGHBORHOOD BEAUTIFICATION: ROW PLANTINGS, STOCK PURCHASED THROUGH PUBLIC WORKS? (REQUEST FROM JULY MEETING)

The committee discussed adding mass plantings to the menu of ideas offered to steering committees when choosing a neighborhood beautification activity. Joanne will talk with Public Works about the logistics of a project like this. Will it require anything on their end? How would we address calculating the amount of time it takes between ordering & receiving the stock and hosting the community clean-up/beautification? Also, what happens if the plant stock is ordered and the neighborhood event is cancelled? What happens to the bulb stock and since the cost would go against the neighborhood's beautification grant funds, what happens if they apply (later) to do a different project? Joanne will talk with Steve Martin in Public Works to flesh out the idea and come back to the committee in November.

6. CONFIRM NEW STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS (IF APPLICABLE)

Joanne received two new interest applications, but has not yet identified which area they reside. Information will be presented to the committee for consideration at the next meeting.

7. OTHER?

- a. Connie announced that Tigard High School has been awarded Red Ribbon certification by the National Family Partnership and Informed Families Partnership. She handed out a flier for the event and explained that the award application demanded a rigorous nine-month process. The result is that THS is the first school on the west coast to achieve Red Ribbon distinction, joining a group of only 53 schools nationwide. The designation was earned for the school's effective efforts in the prevention of substance abuse among youth and their collaboration with youth, parents, educators and the community as a team that promotes educational excellence. On October 17, Red Ribbon Week is kicked off at the high school with an award presentation to the THS principal. The public is invited to attend a Flag Raising Ceremony at THS on October 21 at 10 a.m.
- b. Connie also distributed a flyer announcing a Drug Turn-In Event on October 29 between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. at Tigard City Hall. This event is a partnership between the Tigard Police, the DEA, Tigard Turns the Tide and the STUD kids at THS. Prescription drug abuse is rapidly rising among youth, with figures approaching an epidemic. Bev noted that these statistics need to be promoted to the public. Connie noted that she will

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be attending a Prescription Drug Abuse Summit aimed at teaching educators about the issue and educating parents on what they can do about it.

- c. In the past, City Council used a trained facilitator for their '5th Tuesday' meetings (*Basil or Stacy Yost, another trained facilitator*). Basil would like to explore the idea of the city holding a facilitator training. He raised that, and the idea for a civic academy a while ago, but it didn't go anywhere. Joanne explained that in 2007 or 2008 the city hosted a successful leadership academy. The following year, the Chamber of Commerce launched a fee-based class series, and rather than offer two, the city didn't offer its program. Following that series, the Chamber experienced a number of changes that cancelled their programming. At this time, there are no plans or city resources to offer an academy.

Basil would like this committee to take another look at organizing such an event to encourage participation in the neighborhood program and local government. The academy structure could feature a different topic over three nights in one week and focus broadly on giving residents an overview of local government and promote involvement. Such an event encourages one-on-one volunteer efforts when they see that local participation makes a difference. It would provide an educated volunteer pool for Board & Committee recruiting.

- d. Community Development is beginning the process of updating map files for the recent River Terrace Annexation. The committee discussed ideas for engaging the area into the Neighborhood Network program. Options include creating a new neighborhood, extending an existing neighborhood, leaving it alone until the community plan is finished or asking the residents. The committee would like to ask River Terrace residents what they prefer. They would like Joanne to draft a letter that explains the program, illustrates the similarities they share with neighboring areas and mentions their options.

Basil noted that Annexation would make an excellent Civic Academy subject since many people don't understand the process.

- e. The committee would like to invite the active Steering Committee members to the November meeting so they can see what's involved in serving on the NIC and possibly boost membership.

The next regularly scheduled NIC meeting will be Wednesday, November 16, at 7 p.m. in the library 2nd floor conference room.

8. ADJOURN

Basil adjourned the meeting at 8:32 p.m.

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