

SHNA Sustainability Committee

8/25/09 Meeting Minutes

In Attendance: Catie Beattie, Bryan Burch, Rafael Figueira, Ellen Kodis, Dave Malcolm, Tina Schafer, Angela Southwick (NWNW) and Mark Wensel.

Committee Actions. Tina Schafer began the meeting at 6:37 pm.

- We unanimously elected Catie Beattie committee chairperson.
- We passed a motion to have monthly meetings on the fourth Tuesday at 6:30 – 8:30 pm.

Committee Direction. We discussed potential committee topics for the new committee including:

- Neighborhood small grants program (<http://www.nwnw.org/GrantProgram.html>),
- Nature in neighborhoods capital grant program (<http://www.oregonmetro.gov/index.cfm/go/by.web/id=18203>), and
- backyard Backyard habitat certification program (<http://www.audubonportland.org/backyardwildlife/backyardhabitat>).

Angela Southwick shared several handouts regarding:

- Green Building Hotline (<http://www.portlandonline.com/bps/index.cfm?&c=45837>),
- Fix-It Fair (<http://www.portlandonline.com/bps/index.cfm?&c=41892&a=258419>),
- Curbside Recycling Guide (<http://www.portlandonline.com/shared/cfm/image.cfm?id=202138>), and
- Oregon E-Cycles (<http://www.deq.state.or.us/lq/ecycle/index.htm>).

We discussed potential committee projects and activities including tree stewardship program, information repository, SOLV earth day clean up, electric use meter program, and neighborhood beautification (e.g., a landscaped gateway median). We also discussed the committee direction and a possible mission statement. No mission statement was selected but we agreed that the committee should be a SHNA education resource and coordinate activities. We decided that it's premature to survey the neighborhood regarding committee priorities but will develop the idea when the time's right.

We noted neighborhood history and recent happenings regarding trees and vegetation and agreed that it will be beneficial to have personnel and reference resources (e.g., tree stewards, a website, web links, supporting organizations, etcetera). We noted that Rafael Figueira is helping develop a SHNA website. Ideally, we'd have resources (people and reference information) available to determine applicable rules or laws regarding tree removal and related issues like beneficial native plants and harmful invasive plants. We based these ideas upon the assumption that our neighbors have a significant interest in the trees and landscaped areas predominate in the neighborhood. Bryan Burch and Mark Wensel are signed up for the tree steward program that begins in late September.

We discussed applying for applying for a neighborhood small grant. The grant application deadline is 2:00 pm, November 2 at NWNW. We agreed to prepare the application and seek approval from the SHNA board of directors. Bryan Burch volunteered to be a grant writer for a SHNA gateway beautification project (the landscaped median on Skyline at Canyon).

Upcoming Meetings. The next membership meeting is September 8. The next committee meeting is September 22.

The meeting ended at 7:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Dave Malcolm, acting secretary.

Formatted: Bullets and Numbering

Formatted: Space After: 0 pt

Formatted: Bullets and Numbering