



Meeting Minutes: October 7, 2009 - 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., FHHA Office

Present: Stuart Roberts, Steve Herr, Kim Pfefer, Shan Topiwala, Larry Heald, Bob Heimbucher, Devidas Gupta

Absent: Ray Smith, Christian Sinai, Piotr Orloff, Dan Petersen, Jack Davis, Ann Lyon

Residents: Meike Keenan

1. Minutes of previous meeting

- *Minutes approved with one change – item 2 (c) modified to state “Defer trail extensions until issue with Bob Hartung is resolved”*

2. Status Updates

a. Manager’s Report (issues relevant to the committee)

1. *Steve will once again meet with Willamette Landscaping to follow up on water usage.*
2. *Drainage work was supposed to start Monday at the park but Willamette suggested waiting until further into rainy season.*
3. *G2 needs to start work on the RFP for Willamette*

b. Mill Pond Update – Kim

A meeting was held to help determine what feasible options are available to repair and maintain Mill Pond. Those present included Kim Pfefer, representatives from the West Multnomah Soil and Water District, a representative from OTAK, HOA Manager Stephen Herr, and Board President Mike Fletcher. Much information was gathered from the specialists present, namely, any substance dredged from the pond cannot then be used for any sort of wetland creation but must be removed. The construction of any wetland would require bringing in fresh soil. In addition, increased planting Willow and Cottonwood trees at the mouths of each in-flow point would decrease silt entering the pond. Increased planting of trees and shrubbery surrounding the pond creates a barrier which helps block fertilizers and other chemicals used on the park lawns from entering the pond. Algae growth should be maintained by raking it to the side of the pond and removing it (thereby avoiding further nitrogen in the pond once it dies off.)

After observing two of the three upstream sediment ponds it was noted the facilities are in great need of maintenance. This maintenance should take place in conjunction with any pond restoration efforts for lasting results. There was some discussion as to who was responsible for maintaining the sediment ponds but more research must take place before action may be taken.

c. November Newsletter



Suggestion made to do a summary on Mill Pond.

d. Harvest Share – report attached

Suggestion – have the share multiple times and start early in the season

e. Sustainability Class – Preliminary report: Devidas

Four people showed up to the first class. Main topics discussed included recycling and composting. Monday's class will be focused on recycling and a Recycling Master will be there to speak. The following class will include a speaker from the Portland Water Bureau.

f. Storm Water easements draining into Mill Pond from non-Forest Heights Communities

A resident has approached the chair asking for support and clarification on policies regarding the draining of storm water via easements into Mill Pond, wherein the water originates from our neighboring communities. The concern was any issues that the easements cause to the sustainability of Mill Pond and also the fact that no policy or CC&Rs exist to deal with these easements.

Steve owns this issue and will look into what is being done within these communities. It seems like some of the communities may have detention devices that would prevent the flow of silt into Mill Pond.

3. Special Topics

a) *Save More Matter More* – Ray Smith

PGE has a program called Save More Matter More that allows companies or organizations to improve the visibility of the 'green' efforts by making a pledge to perform energy saving activities. Participating companies, like our HOA, are also eligible for a free energy audit.

http://portlandgeneral.com/business/save_energy/save_more/default.aspx

Deferred to next meeting since Ray was not present

b) Vegetable Gardens in Common Areas

The Chair was approached by a resident to clarify and reconsider HOA policies on use of common areas. Currently, the HOA will permit residents to landscape adjacent areas/lots under an agreement that, in this case, is seen as overbearing. The resident lives next to a common area that is overgrown with weeds and the HOA has not been maintaining the lot. Resident would like to simply grow some summer veggies on this lot and believes that a summer garden will be better than the current state of the lot. The question before the committee is: Should the HOA permit residents to use adjacent lots for summer gardens, perhaps on a case-by-case basis? What should the parameters of such a usage be?



Prevailing opinion amongst those present was to continue with the current policies. If a homeowner had a compelling desire to grow veggies in a common area, they can approach the ARC with a landscape plan.

c) Rooftop Solar Water Heating

The Chair was approached by a resident to know if the HOA would approve a solar water heater mounted on the roof. The current HOA policies are unclear on such installations. Can the committee provide input/direction/recommendation to the Board? See related item under 2009 Projects (Rooftop Solar Policies)

Devidas to start working with ARC on defining rooftop solar policies

4. Projects for 2009

a) Landscape Contract

The landscape contract with Willamette is due for renewal at end of the year. The committee is expected to provide direction to the Board on contract renewal, RFP,

We will use the past RFP as the starting point to generate a new RFP. We will add sustainability aspects to the RFP – Meike would love to help on the sustainability and toxicity aspects of fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides. The core team of volunteers from the committee is: Shan, Bob, Larry, Meike and Devidas. We can also ask, in the RFP, for different pricing proposals based on the type of fertilizers (synthetic, partial organic, full organic) and other sustainability aspects i.e. we may ask for a base price and then price differentials for various sustainability options. Steve will get in touch when he is ready for the work.

b) Community Plastics Recycling Center

There has been a proposal in the past to designate a recycling “dumpster” to enable residents to recycle all plastics that cannot be currently recycled curbside. A location had been identified. Committee is expected to decide if this should go forward so that we could identify an owner who can take the next step of preparing a proposed project plan to submit to the Board for consideration

Not discussed

c) Rainwater Harvesting – Pre-Approved Designs

Currently, there are no policies on residential rainwater harvesting in the community. This project envisions working with a landscape architect and a handful of contractors to yield a few “proforma” designs that residents can use to implement rainwater harvesting systems. The goal would be to make it as simple as deciding on a mailbox and getting it installed

Not discussed

d) Rooftop Solar Policies



Currently, the position of the HOA on rooftop solar policies is ambiguous resulting in ARC decisions that may be out of tune with the sustainability movement in the community. Has the time come to provide some direction to the Board and ask for clarification of policies towards solar rooftop systems?

Devadas to start working with ARC on defining rooftop solar policies

4. Non-Committee Member Agenda Items

- a) *Mieke Keenan – Concern about the type of fertilizers and pesticides used for the HOA landscape and its toxic impacts, if any. Mieke has joined the G2 committee and will participate in the development of the RFP, with the goal of lowering the toxic impact of our landscape management practices.*



G2 Committee – Event Report

Event:	Harvest Share
Date:	September 19, 2009 – 9:00 to 12:00
Venue:	Forest Park Elementary Parking Lot
Committee Volunteers:	BobH, DevidasG
Board Representation:	None
Staff Representation:	KrystleN
Number of Participants/Attendees:	9 families
Event Report:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Good attendance for first time event and a very rainy morning - 9 families visited - Harvest shared: Zucchini, Crooked Neck Squash, Butternut Squash, Rainbow Chard, Apples, Tomatoes, Oregano, Mint, Dahlias, Grapes - Attendees were very positive about the event. A third brought produce to the event
Suggestions/Feedback received:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Have the event multiple times during the harvest season - Start earlier in the season - Have workshop in Spring to demonstrate how to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Grow veggies o Grow in containers o Grow in small spaces - Should we have some coffee next time? - Can we have the event in the Village center?
# Committee Hours Invested	Prep Time: 4 hours Event Day: 8 hours (4 hours x 2 volunteers) Post-Event: 2 hours <hr/> Total Time: 10 hours
# Staff Hours Invested	8 hours (total)
\$ Investment	School Reservation - \$ 60.00 Signs etc. - \$150.00 (one-time investment) <hr/> Total - \$210.00