

## Meeting Minutes

### **Jefferson Westside Neighbors** Executive Board Meeting

May 15, 2006

#### Board members present:

Rene Kane (Chair), Dale Deason, Erika Seiferling, Angela Rooney, Kyle Burns, Glen Smeed

#### Absent:

Paul Conte, Eric Gran, Garrick Mishaga

#### Others:

Loni Timm & Cailin Mills-Ostwald (These residents were concerned primarily with Polk Street issues --- bike lanes/parking, and The Faith Center.)

#### Announcements:

- Kyle Burns pointed out that agendas for the Sept and Oct general meetings need to be set well in advance in order to schedule candidate forums for the fall elections.
- Neighborhood Cleanup is Saturday, May 20, starting at 9:00 am at the old Jefferson pool site. Contact Keith Blackwell 484-1795 or k2black@nu-world.com. Volunteers are needed.

#### Board Meeting Dates and Times:

Board members agreed to the following board meeting dates: 6/19, 7/17, 8/14, and set the meeting time as 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm. Erika pointed out that the McNail-Riley House is booked almost every evening and there may be some conflict between our meeting times and other events scheduled.

#### Secretary

Minutes of the previous board meeting were unanimously approved. Dale said that he was comfortable handling the note taking and minutes preparation and would be happy to continue doing so.

#### Treasurer:

Glen Smeed brought in the previous Treasurer's records that he obtained from Marilyn O'Dell.

### Newsletter:

Rene announced that Jesse Springer has agreed to do the layout for the newsletter. Rene will remain editor.

### McNail-Riley House:

Board members discussed the McNail-Riley House. Erika reported that procedures for managing the facility are in a period of transition with no adequate system currently in place. She is working with Steve Norris (city) to improve and clarify the procedures. The house receives heavy use --- scheduled for meetings almost every night. Erika pointed out that our facility is the only one of the neighborhood facilities throughout the city that is managed by volunteers instead of city staff. The downside of city management is that a fee would be charged. Groups currently using the building for free would have to start paying.

### JWN Picnic: Tuesday June 13<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 to 8:00 pm.

In a unanimously passed motion, members agreed on the date and time as shown above. Kyle Burns has volunteered to coordinate the picnic which will be held at Monroe Park. Rene has called the city for a reservation. Liability insurance is in place to protect Board members. Rene announced that due to Post Office rules requiring us to use our mailing permit at least twice per year, postcards announcing the neighborhood picnic will be sent through the mail. In an addition to the post cards, some members encouraged Rene to prepare a flyer to be displayed in small numbers in area businesses.

### Polk Street

The Board considered and unanimously passed the following two motions:

On behalf of the JWN, the JWN Executive Board opposes the private sale (i.e., without public offer) of Lane County property adjacent to 1393 Polk St. The Board instead recommends that the County Commissioners vote to sell the property on the open market and, consistent with the Jefferson/Westside Refinement Plan, that the property be retained/developed for residential use.

On behalf of the Jefferson Westside Neighbors, the JWN Executive Board opposes adding bike lanes to, and removing parking from, the section of Polk Street between W. 13th and W. 18th Aves. until there has been a reasonable chance for public involvement; an adequate assessment of the potential negative impacts on parking, traffic speed, the pedestrian environment, and other impacts on adjacent and nearby residents; and an adequate evaluation of alternative bike routes to serve the intended purpose of the proposed bike lanes.

Residents Loni and Cailin made the following points during the discussion of Polk St.

- The biggest problem for bicycles on Polk Street is the large amount of broken glass on the pavement.

- Despite the City sending out a letter, Polk St. resident awareness and involvement in the issue has been minimal.
- The real concern about land acquisition by The Faith Center is whether it represents just another incremental step in an ongoing process of growing bigger and bigger. What is the big picture? Some suggested inviting Faith Center representatives to come to a general meeting to discuss their plans and hear our concerns. Kyle said he thought he remembered a Faith Center representative (Bill Proulx?) promising not to expand eastward at the November JWN meeting.

#### Monroe Park

There was no one available to discuss the Park. Kyle said he believed there were at least three separate groups advocating for the Park.

#### Jefferson Redesignation/Infill

Dale reported that the JWReHN group would soon begin a petition drive demanding a moratorium on zone changes from R-1 to R-2 until adequate standards are in place to protect the character of the neighborhood. The petition would be addressed to the City Council.

The meeting was adjourned.