

# WHITEAKER COMMUNITY COUNCIL

A CITY OF EUGENE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

PO Box 11692, EUGENE OR 97440

WCC General Meeting 5/12/21

In attendance: Ian Winbrock-Chair, Gail Caru-Vetter-Vice Chair, Dilenia Cardona-Treasurer, Angie Byers-Secretary, Jen Hoover, Margaret Steinbrunn, Johnny Skirving, Dan Schmidt, Andrew Martin, Theresa Burchell, Anand Holtham-Keahtly, Thea Lee

12/15 present

Stephen Fuller-Rowell, Margaret Mazzotta, Renee Yandel, Eli Veredas, Jain Elliott, Sigh O’Nara, Holly Hine, Susan Detroy

To Do:

- Angie will contact service providers to get Waste 2 Taste information out.
- Angie will provide HIV Alliance with 100 water bottle/PPE kits
- Ian will connect with Renee from HIV Alliance on co-location of services.
- Board will provide Ian with feedback for the website by the end of Thursday, May 13th.
- Angie will have rough draft of the 2nd quarter newsletter for the board meeting
- Ian, Claire, and Andrew will have an update from meeting with Curtis at Metro for land use proposal.

## Agenda

**7:00pm** / Introductions, Meeting facilitation process and Agenda review

**7:05pm** / Public Comment

*Stephen Fuller-Rowell:* City Council's consideration for the Cross Street zone change between North Polk, Railroad, and Cross St. is on Monday. It's been through the planning commission, and several comments were provided at an earlier stage. The trip cap seems to be the deciding factor, which, if approved, will mean they can use the property for the proposed use. If it exceeds the trip cap, they will have to work with the city to mitigate traffic. Subject to the documents not yet seen, we will look at them prior to the meeting, and may make comments.

*Ian Winbrock:* Because we've been to previous meetings, we are getting updates on the project.

*Margaret Steinbrunn:* There will be a cutting down of trees on the property bought by the Seattle investors, as evidenced by Tim Lewis' post in the Whiteaker Neighborhood Open Group Facebook Page. *Ian Winbrock:* This is in the uppermost corner of the Whiteaker neighborhood called "Potter's Field". Reach out to Tim directly for more information.

*Eli Veredas:*

Announcements for Alluvium;

1. Burrito Brigade/Waste 2 Taste from 4pm to 6pm on Thursdays and Fridays. <https://burritobrigade.org/waste-to-taste/whiteaker-food-boxes/>. Those in the neighborhood are free to stop by without an appointment.
  - a. *Theresa Burchell:* Are there ways we could also disseminate the information for the Waste to Taste opportunities in Spanish? The flyers I have are for the location on Irvington Drive. Can anyone host this information, or reach out to Latinx neighbors? *Margaret Steinbrunn:* Nelson's might be able to assist, as well as El Rancho. *Gail Caru-Vetter* (in chat): Please also post at Carlitas on 1st and Jefferson. *Ian Winbrock:* I will work with Centro de Latino to help with the language to connect them with this resource. *Dilena:* Are there paper flyers? *Eli:* Not at the moment, will most likely have it by next week. I will bring the posters by when we have them, as well as some for Old Nicks. *Angie:* I have connected with CSS, White Bird, and Looking Glass New Roads, and will reach out to HIV Alliance, Shelter Care, MOW, CORE Eugene (from Theresa Buchnell in chat).
2. Merge Union Art Show: Our church supports the arts and artistic suppression. We are hoping to have art on a regular basis. The opening is Friday, May 21st from 6pm to 10pm, with showings on Saturday and Sunday from 12-6pm. <https://www.facebook.com/events/2615476152078779>. All artists are local.
3. We have an open mic on Sundays at 7pm at Alluvium.

**7:15pm / HIV Alliance presentation: Renee Yandel**

\*Shared presentation. Will send it to Ian. *Renee:* Our current locations are at Shelter Care and White Bird, and we are building a new location.

- a. We are working to bring back testing for STI and HIV, as we reduced testing due to Covid. We have seen an uptick in cases of STI's. We offer all of our services in English and Spanish, and work with Centro de Latino and Mim's House with the NAACP. We give out naran and naloxone during syringe exchanges and through our community partners. We have had 149 overdose reversals. We have maintained all of the syringe exchange sites every day this year, other than one day of shut down due to the wildfires. We service a variety of spaces (Florence, Hwy 99, Springfield, etc...) in Lane County. HIV Alliance disposes of 1.5 million syringes a year. We are passing out fentanyl test strips, and clients are reporting it's now being found in methamphetamines, not just heroin.
- b. PRIME Peer: Behavioral health program is a program that pairs peers with individuals that are not ready for treatment. We've seen positive impacts from this program, with 20% of those working with peers attempting treatment and recovery. We take referrals from jails and emergency rooms, which is that gap we're trying to fill with that project.
- c. RADx COVID Testing: Collaborative project with U of O. It's a rapid self-collect test. We've known for a long time that incentives work, and U of O is studying if they work. We connect them with services for if they need to quarantine. Prior to the incentives, we tested 72 people per week, and went up to over 100 with the incentives provided in part by the WCC. The overall testing rate with incentives is a 20% (approx) increase. We are

almost through all of the Whiteaker incentives. *Angie*: Do you need more h2o bottle/PPE kits? *Renee*: Yes, we are down to 25. Also, the incentives are a useful tool for us, as the people we work with have a lot on their plate without adding testing to their concerns.

- d. Health Focused Street Outreach Project: Multi-disciplinary street outreach team to help them access healthcare along with a van that's a mobile COVID test center that has vaccine storage capacity, and a test development unit. Prioritizes PLWHA and Chronic Disease. *Stephen F-R*: Did you see any significant rate of positive tests before or after the incentives? *Renee*: I'll have to confirm it before answering that question definitively. The reactivity rate has increased in the last month, month and half. *Jen*: I had the same question as Stephen. *Renee*: I will send the information on rate of positive tests with the slides to Ian. We are hosting a vaccine clinic coming up, and I will send the flyer to Ian. *Andrew*: What happens when an unhoused person tests positive? Do we have the community resources to address that? *Renee*: That was the first thing we asked when going down this path. Both Centro, NAACP, and others have funding through the CBO COVID funding. These service providers can provide individuals with emergency shelter and food delivery. *Ian*: We were only granted with Education, Outreach, and Communication, so it's good to know we can connect individuals to wrap-around services to community partners like you. I'd like to figure out a way how we can co-locate services, as it might be helpful for people to get whole-health services while getting a COVID vaccine. Eli at Alluvium is working to connect Waste 2 Taste with individuals getting vaccinations.

### **7:35pm / Neighborhood applicant meeting [Claire Roth](#) & Andrew Martin**

*Ian*: I've discussed with the group on how to make the process more equitable, including Spanish language interpretation. *Claire Roth*: The number one reason to make your voice heard is that you'll begin to get updates within your mailbox with updates. It also gives you the right to challenge the decision. *Andrew Martin*: Attendance will give you standing, which gives you a voice throughout the process. This is an early step in the process that gives us in the neighborhood an opportunity to voice our opinion. There are helpful ways to comment on processes, such as focusing on specific issues. For example, such as traffic volume concerns. If you bring up specific things, and keep those within the lens of zoning or site review, it will be more productive. It will require more research on our part. I'd encourage you to attend to learn more. *Ian*: We will get the when and where on the meeting, and additional information this Friday, as well as Claire, Andrew and I providing example commentary. Gail Caru-Vetter (in chat): Is there a summary of the proposed development (address/location, planned changes, etc.)? Apologies if this is something that was discussed at one of the meetings I missed. *Ian*: I will share it with the group via email and Facebook once we get it. *Claire*: There are organizations that are comfortable tracking land use and traffic concerns that can help, as the process is usually a quick turnaround with initial information and the hearing.

### **7:45pm / OHA grant updates**

- Procurement [Margaret Steinbrunn](#)
  - Able to get 8 hand sanitizer stations rather than 4, for the same price.

- 4 new sites: We exchanged 3 of the larger units that weren't going as fast. We have a station at Alluvium, El Rancho Market, Blair Alley, Oakshire. Two more will be delivered to the Whiteaker Community Market. That will leave us with two.
- Communication [Holly Hine](#) [Emma Jones](#)
  - We were looking for an inspirational campaign. We need board members to help us decide on the name of the campaign: Protected Together, Regaining Normality, Bring Us Back are the current suggested options.
  - *Dilena*: The "normal" may not be as effective in the Whiteaker. I like "Bring Us Back". *Angie*: I like the idea of "Bring Us Back" overlaid with images of empty stadiums, stages, Block Party, etc. *Margaret*: I like Bring Us Back. *Ian*: We should share the information with the OHA to see their thoughts. If Centro is too busy for translation, we could put that money in the hands of a bilingual Whiteaker neighbor. *Anand Holtham-Keathley* (in chat): Those are good ideas. People wiser than I have mentioned that things weren't that great before. Perhaps if there were something that combines returning our ability to gather with improving things. *Holly*: It's important that we include everyone regardless of immigration status, and that everyone feels included in this process. *Angie*: I think we should use Whiteaker businesses as the imaging with "Bring Us Back". *Dilena*: I like the idea of BlairAlley. *Ian*: I'm thinking Sam Bonds' bingo night images. *Margaret*: We should couple with them for this process.
- Distribution [Angie Byers](#)
  - *Angie*: 200 PPE kits left. HIV Alliance can get the remaining 200 unless anyone has any other idea. Our sanitizer should last us well into the fall. *Margaret*: I think we should reserve 100 to table at the Whiteaker Community Market. *Clair Roth*: I love the idea of tabling at the Whiteaker Community Market. *Gail Caru-Vetter* (in chat) I'd love to take a shift at the Market, or share one with one of you lovely folks. *Margaret Steinbrunn to Everyone* (8:17 PM) I will ask Clair on Sunday what we need to do to get a table at the market
  - *Margaret*: We have distributed 3 cases of Heritage sanitizer and 1 case of Thinking Tree sanitizer to other neighborhoods. Bethel Neighborhood was looking into getting their own pallet.
- Future WCC COVID-19 Community Clinics [Ian Winbrock](#)
  - *Ian*: Cari and Palmira are our OHA reps, and are very supportive of us hosting a vaccine clinic starting in June. I am also working with them on a FTE position for the volunteer coordinator position to run these clinics. *Andrew*: Would this person be our only employee, and do we have a structure for hiring? *Ian*: I would suggest we bring on an employee as a contractor for a month to two months, and then possibly hire them on for the rest of the contract period (July-December). *Renee* from HIV Alliance will be providing job descriptions and pay scale for volunteer coordinators. *Margaret*: We could hire them as an independent contractor, and do not take out taxes. They would be hired as their own business. *Andrew*: It sounds like we have a good way to pay someone fairly. *Gail Caru-Vetter* (in chat): We need to remember that because we will not be covering the things Andrew brought up (payroll taxes, unemployment insurance, etc.), we

need to be certain that our compensation accounts for a self-employed contracted person's tax liability. *Dilenia*: We could look at the university for someone that's an intern. *Ian*: There is a master's of non-profit program at the U of O. I'd prefer that we hire someone from the neighborhood. *Eli*: We're really happy to host the clinics here at Alluvium. The proposal is really impressive.

**8:05pm / WCC website update** [Ian Winbrock](#)

- The blueprint is created, and the information to see it is provided via email and on the Facebook page. *Anand Holtham-Keathley (in chat)*: The Resources section could be really helpful and should be easy to find and navigate. *Angie*: When does it go live? *Ian*: We should have that conversation at the next meeting. I think we should have something that grows with suggestions from community members. *Claire*: It is important to be able to change the website easily to provide ongoing autonomy. I think the wireframe looks great, but I would encourage adding photos that embrace the diversity of our neighborhood. *Ian*: Please share photo assets and written contents by tomorrow. *Caru-Vetter (in chat)*: Do we (the WCC) have a logo? Do we have consistent branding already on board, or are they in development as a part of the website creation? *Ian*: We do have one. *Dilenia*: Are we going to get a continuity binder from them? I learn best that way. That will give us a reference to go back to. *Gail*

**8:25pm / WCC Open Neighbors Page moderation** [Claire Roth](#) [Margaret Steinbrunn](#)

- *Margaret*: I feel strongly that the Whiteaker Neighbors Open Group is a WCC page. I'm excited about what it can be, and what a tool it can be. It has morphed into a whole new vision. We want to co-run it with people from the neighborhood. It's a great way to reach out, and share things, and to get a pulse on the neighborhood. I saw a change once I responded to reports, and cleared a bunch of comments and people out. One of the biggest feedback points I got back was that they want it to have community information.
- *Claire*: I pulled rules from all over the internet, as well as suggestions from Facebook. I think we can turn the page into something that is more community oriented. These rules can always be updated, and will be decided by the flow of the community group. It will evolve, and changing will be important.
- *Margaret*: I think we need structure, and it will improve it.
- *Dilenia*: I think the questions should include volunteers in the Whiteaker. *Claire*: Communities do not exist in a vacuum. There are people that come in and out of the Whiteaker. It's hard for me to be in favor of just keeping people that own, live, and work in the neighborhood. *Margaret*: I believe that we are here for the neighborhood, and 70-80% think we should just keep it in the neighborhood. The community has said over and over that they don't want those that do not live, work, or own in the Whiteaker. *Gail Caru-Vetter (in chat)*: I belong to the River Road group because it is adjacent to our neighborhood. If I lived on River Road, I would want to join the Whiteaker neighborhood group. Speaking strictly for myself. *Ian Winbrock (in chat)*: Gail, there are also some River Road neighbors who are on our Open Neighbors Page. Sigh lives in Washington Jefferson and joins us regularly in our meeting :)

*Stephen F-R (in chat):* Does membership of the group need to match the charter definition? *Claire Roth (in chat):* I can make it work either way with what the majority feels is a good way forward. *Angie:* Should it be a WCC group? I think we should vote. *Claire:* I see it as a hybrid group that should be WCC/community group. *Margaret:* It was intended to be a WCC page, and I want to vote to see it continue. *Andrew Martin:* If it is our page, I think our approach we should have it as a “how would you behave in someone’s house”? We should not allow people to hurt others in our community. If it is our group, I strongly support a more moderation approach. When people say hurtful things, there are consequences. *Ian:* There is wisdom in moving slow. *Stephen F-R:* There are probably a few anarchists that use the Facebook page, and I don’t want to discourage them with the proposed rule structure. *Gail:* I want to commend Margaret on her work thus far, as we figure out how we’re going to pilot this ship into the future. I see three or possibly four motions in progress of whether we acknowledge/adopt/abandon this group, who it is we choose to moderate, and do we adopt these rules. *Claire Roth (in chat):* Posting from an individual page (from me or Margaret) helps with group members feeling like they can connect with their modmin team, and that it’s not a faceless WCC-run page. Just a thought. *Margaret Steinbrunn (in chat):* Just FYI one of the things we have been lacking in the past was the ability to post what we feel , There are many values and ideas within our community. As long as it is presented in a respectful way..... *Claire Roth to Everyone (in chat):* Unless there are matters of risk/safety issues, *Thea Lee:* Could we wait until next week to vote? This has been a contentious topic for years within the community and within the board. There was a time when we were going to keep it separate. *Ian:* I used the neighborhood page to have a conversation about Counselor Syrett’s house. The people that vandalized their houses could have trauma around police response. I think there is room for diversity of opinion. I hope that even if we have a difference of opinion, we can work through it.

**8:55pm / Future Agenda Topics**

- Whiteaker Clean-up and Proposal
- Open Neighbors Page
- Minutes approval
- Possibly bringing Cheryl to speak at a general meeting to speak about how the Mission has changed their entry system.
- Starting the subcommittee meetings again for the Public Health and Safety subcommittee 1x a month.

**9:00pm / Adjournment**