

East Portland Neighborhood Office Advisory Committee
Friday, November 20, 2015, 9 am – 11:10 pm
East Portland Neighborhood Office, 1017 NE 117th Ave

Attendance: Annette Stanhope, Arlene Kimura, Cristina Palacios, David Hampsten, Emily Bertram, Galina Nekrasova, Hongsa Chanthavong, Jill Erickson, Joyce Ley, Kathi Holmes, Mary Nelson, Mingus Mapps, Natalya, Sobolevskaya, Ron Glanville, Tom Badrick
Staff: David Ashton, Eliza Lindsay, Kari Koch, Richard Bixby
Facilitator: Theresa Logan

Program Advocacy

- A team met twice in October develop a plan and strategy. Focus on what we are doing well and what we would like to do more of. Acknowledge the inequity of EPNO's funding. Clarify any EPNO/EPAP confusion. Advocate collaboratively with other community involvement programs. The East Portland Neighborhood Association Chairs met with Commissioner Fritz at their November meeting and expressed the need for expanding our program.
- **Messaging reference sheet:** This is intended for Advisory Committee members and other supporters. Another flyer could be developed for the public.
 - Like the color, eye-catching quality;
 - concern that it looks bureaucratic, need it to look community-driven;
 - would be good to have links to further information;
 - Equity focus should show in photos;
 - Should talk about how EPNO provides on-the-ground support for community projects
- **Telling the story about EPNO/EPAP and equity:** Advocating for more funds will require an explanation of the difference between EPAP and EPNO and why EPNO is inequitably funded.
 - Need to be vocal about the current funding not being fair
 - Don't focus on equity or the difference between EPNO/EPAP; focus on what you want to do;
 - EPAP is limited-term, when will it end?
 - Need a graphic showing the difference between EPNO and EPAP
- **Advocacy tip sheet:** to help everyone, especially those inexperienced in advocacy, organize their message.
 - Need open-ended questions to encourage dialog
- Upcoming opportunities for advocacy
 - City-wide land use will be talking about the ONI budget at their November 23 meeting
 - Katie Larsell (from Argay) has been on the City budget committee – Frieda Christopher (from Hazelwood) may be on it for next year.
 - Write articles for the EPNA News and the Oregonian
- Proposal to write a letter to ONI Director and Bureau Advisory Committee with a specific request for additional funds before the December 14 BAC meeting
 - We don't have agreement on what we would do with additional funds yet
 - Is this a strategic move at this point?
 - Don't do one-off actions; need to have a plan before initiated the advocacy campaign
 - Write another letter in January
 - There was general support for sending a letter before the December BAC meeting.

- **Building our Story**
 - Individuals worked on their individual stories about community projects aided by EPNO, and why they are important
 - Will collect and distribute these stories so all can use them during discussions with community members or decision makers
- **Timeline**
 - There are two main stages in advocacy on the City general fund budget, until the first of February, getting our ask incorporated in the ONI budget ask; after that, getting City Council to fund our ask
 - Advisory committee members are encouraged to talk about the importance of expanding the EPNO with people they know in ONI partner organizations and community leaders
 - Community advocacy to City Council will start in March

EPNO program direction

- To be more effective in asking for additional funding, we need to agree how we would spend it, the direction the program is going
- The advocacy team did talk about possible projects to advocate for, included in chart along with ideas from prior Advisory Committee meetings
- Upcoming meetings will have updates on the advocacy for next year
- We will spend the February 26, meeting focusing on the EPNO program direction
- The April meeting we will discuss the Advisory Committee's process, what works well for us and how to improve it.
- The plan is to have a celebration of accomplishments at the June meeting.

Reports

- The fall Community Activities Fund has decided on projects. There are some great projects that will make new connections for EPNO
- The Cleanup program is launched, all neighborhood association funding is committed. There are three community cleanups that been committed so far.

Announcements

- Cristina P – Community Alliance of Tenants is doing a fundraiser Salsa Party on December 3. The need is great, the eviction of an entire building in East Portland with mostly Black and Latino residents, many with a disability.
- Mingus M – There will be a Comprehensive Plan hearing at Parkrose High School on December 10, 6 – 9 pm
- Ron G – Two East Portland Neighborhood Association News deadlines coming up; January 11 for the February issue, and March 15 for the all-household mailing in April.
- Annette S – Open House on December 9, 2 – 8 pm; DIY craft workshop?