

St Johns Boosters General Meeting Minutes
February 17, 2016

Mike called the meeting to order at 7:25 AM.

Board roll call: Mike Johnson, Mary Ann Aschenbrenner, Kert Wright, Beth Preciso, Nancy Arvesen

Introductions: of all attendees.

Past meeting minutes: Mike asked to have a line removed from the minutes concerning the tree lighting. This was done. Motion was made by Jenny Levy to accept minutes with change, seconded by Beth. Passed.

Staff Reports:

Finance report: Derek was unable to attend so brought report to Mike.

Three accounts at the Albina Bank.

IT committee: Mary Ann reported that members had received an email about website. Mary Ann encouraged everyone to make an appointment with Deanna, the photographer, who is emailing all members to schedule a time to have their picture taken to publicize their business on the website. Please create a bio for yourself and your business. Call Mary Ann if you need help with content. Member's logo can circle through on the top bar of the website. If you have no logo, send name to Mary Ann and she will create something. Web address is stjohnsboosters.org.

Venture Portland has a new campaign: #pdxlovessmallbusiness. Take your picture in front of your favorite business and share it with Venture Portland. The best picture will be chosen and a gift certificate bought for the winner at their favorite business. Will run from Feb 1 to April 15.

Events and Promotions Committee: Beth reported on the Volunteer Fair that was sponsored by St Johns Main Street and the St Johns Neighborhood Association. She and Kert worked at the Boosters table. The fair was well attended; many people stopped by to ask questions about the Boosters; some signed up on the email list; and applications were given out.

Business Relations Committee: Denny reported on the City Council meeting concerning the slip land and ivy island. He will be the Boosters contact person with the spokesperson for the contractor for the Union at St Johns. We are hoping to create a one person contact who will then contact all the merchants in the area. This will make for clearer, more precise and accurate information. If you wish to contact Denny, his email is stjohnsforwardprogress@gmail.com.

Mike introduced the guest speakers:

Meg Juarez, Crime Prevention Coordinator, City of Portland

Officer M Schmerber, North Precinct Neighborhood Response Team

Jenna Plank, Deputy District Attorney, West District Neighborhood Office, Multnomah County

Meg: crime prevention

- Call about vacant houses before people become established.
- Report all criminal activity

- Crime prevention through environmental design
- Shoplifting– greet people as enter, get cameras, do not run after (dangerous)
- Good customer service counters theft
- Flood lights, light up the outdoors and dark alleys
- Know your neighbors, contact list of businesses, create phone tree for better communication
- Mainstreet restarting Foot Patrol

Meg mentioned Mark Wells who helps communities set up a neighborhood or business watch. Kert suggested that we contact Mark as she has worked with him and found him very helpful. He can set up a business watch, give us a quick training, possibility for a future meeting.

Officer Schmerber:

North Precinct Community Liaison did a survey that showed we have a low call rate. They cannot get more help for us or fix this without more calls. Keep calling. If you see something you do not like, call. No magic crime fighting dust, need to keep calling. Squeaky wheel will get attention.

You can report crimes online.

Nonemergency number is 503-823-3333. If call nonemergency # and get message, press zero. Tell them you would like an officer to contact you .

Life threatening problem dial 911.

Jenna Plank:

If you make an afterhours complaint and leave message, please call again in the morning before 11:00 AM – 503-988-3222. If you are not able to call before 11:00 AM, call Jenna at 503-988-3773. Aggregate the dollar amounts if multiple hits. If it involves more than one shop, all must report.

Transient issues are in flux.

People should not be able to trespass on private property but owner needs to have a trespass agreement with the police which can be filled out and filed online. Mark your property as private. Post a set of rules of conduct on the door of the establishment. Make sure all staff knows who is the Person In Charge. Take photos of perpetrators.

Noise complaints can be reported online also. It is important to report noise online every time as they do not get information from the nonemergency line.

Install good surveillance cameras.

Counterfeit money: pens work but only if the money is printed on the wrong paper. Some use acid wash to clean one dollar bills to print larger denominations. Texture of the collar of the president pictured should have ridges if real.

New Business: volunteers:

- The Boosters need volunteers to help on committees, tree lighting and fund raising for the project. Need to talk to businesses that do not have electrically hookups. Need to raise money for photo cells for the lights to come on at dusk without a switch. We will need to get the contractor back to do maintenance. Denny has a list of stores with problems concerning the lights. We need an electrician who is licensed and bonded to switch plugs to GFI. We have a yearly permit for the lights. Would like to know if any business has a lift that could be borrowed to work on the lights.

- Need to have volunteers for marquee maintenance, changing the sign.

Living Well is closing.

Neighborhood clean up is April 23.

St Johns Main Street Coalition Business Mixer

Remember it is the responsibility as a business to report crimes to the police/the squeaky wheel.

Communicate with your neighbor businesses.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 AM

Respectfully submitted by Nancy Arvesen