

ARNADA NEIGHBORHOOD

ARNADA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER · DECEMBER 2009



NEXT MEETING

Thursday, Jan. 14th - 7PM
Vancouver Housing Authority
2500 Main Street

Amada Christmas / Holiday Gathering In The Park December 19th – 1 to 3PM

We'll have hot cider and have asked for neighbors to bring cookies to share. We'd like neighbors to bring waterproof decorations that we may string between trees at the park entrances and outdoor mini lights to decorate the gazebo. We're hoping to have a sound system for fun holiday music and there is a plan for singing holiday tunes and carols. We may also be doing a little craft making for decorations. Should be great fun!

ANA Christmas Tree Recycling



Help your neighborhood and do a good deed by recycling your Christmas tree.

This year your Arnada neighbors would like to help you recycle your Christmas tree and hopefully garner a donation to the neighborhood treasury. We'd like to collect your Christmas tree on Saturday, January 2nd and take them to H&H recycling. H&H will charge \$1 for each tree we take to them for recycling. We are asking for a donation to the Arnada Neighborhood Association treasury as a fundraiser for continued support of the activities that promote the betterment of our neighborhood.

I will coordinate volunteers with a pickup and/or trailer who are willing to donate their time and vehicles to help haul the trees. We would also like to get volunteers to help canvas our neighbors for trees and donations from 9am – 12pm on Saturday January 2nd. If you are willing to help canvas your block for trees and donations, and / or are willing to drive a truck, (or have a trailer we can use), please contact me at 737-0359. If you would like us to pick up your tree, please call me and I will make sure we come by on that Saturday morning.

Any support you can offer ANA will be greatly appreciated. Suggested minimum donation is \$5 per tree. Trees for the ANA recycling event can be placed by curb on the morning of January 2nd, with an envelope containing your donation marked -ANA tree attached to it.

Bryan Kenyon - 737-0359

ARNADA 2010 Elections



At our meeting next month on January 14, 2010 we will elect the Neighborhood Association officers for the year. These people have the opportunity to shape our neighborhood for years to come with the policies, preferences and programs they choose to consider and to implement. Serving on the board is not difficult, it may only require one evening a month. It has been a real learning experience for me. All four positions will be open for election in January. We have candidates for most of them:

Chairperson – position needs candidates, we have no one identified yet.

Vice Chairperson - Abbie Spielman, her current position

Secretary – Suze Marshall, currently a Co-Secretary with Karen Wilson

Treasurer – Bryan Kenyon, a former Co-Chair

In addition to the elected officers we have board appointed positions who share the job of running our association. Newsletter Editor is vital to our communication and education around opportunities and threats to our quality of living. Fund-raising will become critical as we exhaust our treasury with no identified way to refill it.

Grants Coordinator – Sara Douglas is willing to continue.

Zoning and Land Use Liaison to the City – Russ Pascoe is willing to fill this position.

Newsletter Layout – Dan Birnseth recently filled this job.

Newsletter Editor – *We need volunteers for this job.*

Fund-raising Committee Chairperson - *We need volunteers for this job.*

Newsletter Distribution - Jim Girard is willing to continue.

Please contact me or any of those currently serving on the board if you are interested in any of the positions whether or not we have people identified. It is important that we find a Chairperson immediately. I am willing to coach whoever takes the job. I could never have done it for the past two years without leaning on past chairpersons so I am willing to return the help. Unlike most Neighborhood Associations in Vancouver ARNADA has term limits of two years for the elected positions. That's a good policy because it compels us to move in new people who become aware of how our Association and the City and other governments function and malfunction. Because we have so many former board members active in our Association we are in a good position to evaluate and influence the many changes facing us.

Hope to see you at the Holiday Party on the 19th!

Cheers, Russ Pascoe - ARNADA Chairperson

Baseball Stadium



Within the last 30 years or so, the Arnada neighborhood has become a more and more attractive place to live with an enviable position in the ranks of city neighborhoods. This was not achieved without a struggle. The neighborhood has confronted, collaborated against, and overcome many negative and invasive threats to the neighborhood's livability. Remember cruising the gut in the 80's? It was a given that the police would never be able to control or prevent the long established cruising up and down Main and Broadway and adjoining lateral streets every weekend by young people. The problem was excessive noise, litter and public urinating, etc. Pressure from this neighborhood and other affected neighborhoods did stop what could NOT be stopped, vastly improving neighborhood livability. Somewhat later a strong effort was made, by the powers-that-be, to site the Washington State University campus on the Hudsons Bay H. S. campus. This site was obviously far too small and constrained by the other activities already going on in the area. Again many neighborhoods stood their ground, and this idea too went away. And a far superior solution was found. This threat was followed in the 90s by a fine idea to site a professional baseball team on the Clark College Campus. Again loud organized efforts by the neighborhoods ruled the day. The latest threat is the new mayor's aspiration for a professional baseball team coming to his city. A November Columbian news article again, named the Clark College site as the preferred location. A professional baseball team located there was not appropriate in the 90s, and it is even less so today. This reoccurring threat to the neighborhood must not be taken lightly. Once again a far better sight can and should be found. If baseball is worth doing, like the WSU Vancouver campus, it is worth doing right.

-Cecelia and Jerry Kessel

VFD Collecting Winter Coats & Blankets Now!

For the sixth consecutive year, City of Vancouver Fire Department firefighters are collecting coats for needy people. The drop-off site is at Westside Fire House, 400 E. 37th St. (adjacent to the Safeway store on Main). This year they are also seeking donations of blankets.

According to Capt. Duane Schuman, the city firefighters want clean, usable coats in all sizes, and notes that children's coats are in greatest demand. During a typical day running emergency calls, firefighters meet people who need warm coats and can't afford them, Schuman adds.

–Anybody who wants to donate a coat or blanket can bring it by the station," he urges. Drop-off times are every day of the week, from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. through Jan. 1.

Last year this firefighter-led community project collected over 3,000 coats for needy people. In 2004, the first year of this effort, they collected 700 coats. Leftover coats and blankets will be delivered to local shelters, schools and the YWCA in January.

We will also collect coats, blankets and food items at our ARNADA Holiday Party on December 19.



ANA Board

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Chair: Russ Pascoe
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993-5259

Vice Chair: Abbie Spielman
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694-0850

Co Secretary: Karen Wilson
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Co Secretary: Suze Marshall
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696-0801

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OPEN

Newsletter Editors:
OPEN

Newsletter Layout: Dan Birnseth
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Fundraising Committee Chair:
OPEN

Newsletter Distribution: Jim Girard
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City Contacts

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Judi.bailey@ci.vancouver.wa.us

Neighborhood Police Officer
Corporal Drue Russell
drue.russell@ci.vancouver.wa.us
772-1492

Neighborhood Fire Station
Downtown, 900 W. Evergreen Blvd..
Station Captain: Warren Wyant,
Warren.Wyant@ci.vancouver.wa.us
487-7301

Valerie Thompson (Code Enforcement)
487-7810

Judi Bailey (Office of Neighborhoods)
487-8608

Traffic Complaint Hotline 487-7402

Please Report Crime! 911

Minutes:

Arnada Neighborhood Meeting— Nov 12, 2009
- Vancouver Housing Authority (VHA) 2500 Main Street, Vancouver, WA. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by ANA Chair Russ Pascoe with 13 neighbors + Drue Russell, 4 guests from Vancouver Fire Department, 1 guest from C-Tran – Jim Quantana, Elizabeth Jordan – ANA liaison with City of Vancouver.

Treasurers Report:

General Fund—\$566.00

Nap \$664

Library \$600

Rain barrel check coming for \$480

October Minutes – Abbie moved, Karen seconded – October minutes approved - correction on Calendar, accepted.

Applause and welcome to Dan and Anita, new neighbors on 22nd Street. Dan is now our new print layout person for our newsletter. Many thanks, Dan.

Sign up tonight for rain barrel (this list is a combination of last month as well)

Cecelia Kessel, Karen Wilson, Sara Douglas, Russ and Becky, Suze Marshall, Seanette Corkill, Erica Miller, Kristina Dodds, Abbie Spielman, Jennifer and Dave

Bench project – Russ met with City regarding the bench. The City will need to come out to survey the site and clarify where it can be located. The City needs to determine the liability for both a custom and stock bench. Russ has been using his homeowners policy for the street gatherings, but he's not interested in doing that for the bench.

Neighbors On Watch

– Paula Person & Jim Thomas

This volunteer organization acts as an extra set of eyes and ears for the police department. There is training available every spring and fall. There are 54 individuals within 24 neighborhoods patrolling or acting as a base unit.

Officer Drew Russell spoke of an incident this week where a child was missing and immediately 6 NOW individuals were on site looking for the child. Neighbors are encouraged to participate in the program.

Vancouver Fire Department

– Tim McMillan and Jeff Gaines

Our Fire Department is holding a coat and blanket drive at Station 2 on Main Street by Safeway. Every station will welcome donations of good, clean items. Food donation barrels are located at every fire station for dis-

tribution to families in need.

Question and answer followed with neighbors concerns. Discussion took place concerning the ANA being denied the opportunity to have a controlled fire pit for the outdoor Christmas party. We also asked about nuisance smoke in the neighborhood. Explanations followed from both the VPD and VFD in support of the no burn policies. No burning of any kind is allowed below 219th Street. VPD will respond to 911 calls of burning and require the fire to be put out. Any repeated incidents will be referred to Air Quality, who will come out and ticket violators.

Jim Quantana – C-Tran 2030

– 20 Year Transit Development Plan (Draft)

Jim gave us an overview of what services are available today and what services C-Tran are working toward providing in the future. Currently they receive .5% of sales tax, which is the lowest funding ratio in the state. Clark County is 3rd highest dollar amount in collected fares. Jim provided 6 pages of handouts detailing several phases of proposed funding, graphs, maps and detailed sections covering local routes, commuter improvements and high capacity improvements. He also shared strategies concerning C-Van ADA Paratransit Service. Question and answer period followed with more information provided about express bus routes, proposed bus rapid transit along the major corridors. There is discussion at C-Tran about the possibility of light rail and bus rapid transit possibly being able to share the same lines and stations. A simulation was shown for the 4th Plain Corridor – what it could look like with the addition of bus rapid transit. A neighbor shared her concern that the downtown areas are being less served since the relocation of the downtown station. Jim appreciated our feedback and will take that back to his office for further study.

www.c-tran.com Passenger service: (360) 695-0123 Administration (360) 696-4494

Russ gave a short report on the current status of the light rail east/west alignment. Abbie Spielman, Russ Pascoe and Dave Frei represented ARNADA at the C-Tran Board Meeting.

Russ reported that Bruce Wood telephoned and emailed him and stated that he is not going to attend future Neighborhood Association meetings concerning his right of way application at 24th and H St. Mr. Wood stated that he is going to work with City Planning and Transportation Dept. and his attorney. The City will keep the NA apprised of any proposals. Elizabeth Jordan informed Arnada that Mr. Woods has not yet applied for a type 1 application. He has been advised to do so. Currently, the City is waiting for Wood to fill out the complete Type 1 application and pay the fees. Ms. Jordan's statement was met with surprise from neighbors, as we had previously been told that Mr. Wood had already applied for a Type 1 Application. Email

was read that confirmed this. Testimony followed from several neighbors concerning inconsistent information provided from the City. In specific the board did not receive any communication directly from Chad Eiken or via Elizabeth Jordan. Ms. Jordan stated that she had sent the information. Follow-up immediately after the meeting showed the emails were not received by board members. Questions were asked of Elizabeth concerning process of Type 2 Application for which the neighborhood has requested. She suggested we meet with Transportation directly. Additional conversation took place with further concerns about Arnada being denied requested information. Referenced was the loss of our crosswalk at D Street at Mill Plain going west. It was unfortunate that it took Arnada filing a F.O.I.A. to get proof that the decision was not based on what we were being told. Several neighbors suggested that we should ask for hard copy of all communication from the City, as the email process has proven unreliable. Further reference was offered of getting conflicting information from City employees and being passed from department to department and given different answers, often making processes seem impossible to navigate. Several neighbors confirmed this, one neighbor sharing that several City departments should have citizen committees to monitor their work for consistent application to City code and treating all citizens equally.

Holiday Party

– Jim Girard gave us an update on the party plans. He and Suze Marshall went to the park and came up with some ideas. Jim would like to string a wire with ornaments. Cecelia would like to see us have a donation box at the party to collect food for the food bank and warm articles of clothing. Suggestion was offered of printing an additional flyer to put at every household as an invitation to the event. December 1st will be the next meeting at Jim Girards home 7:00 PM 2416 D Street.

Cecelia Kessel shared concern over the article in both The Columbian and Oregonian Newspapers about building a stadium for The Beavers team in the Clark College area. Suggestion was made to call KATU News team. Cecelia will write an article for the December newsletter.



Meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM

Suze Marshall, Co-secretary


"Be always at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors, and let each new year find you a better man."

— Benjamin Franklin

DECEMBER 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	Leaf boxes Available  5
Leaf boxes Available  6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	Christmas / Holiday Gathering in Arnada Park 19
VSD—1hr Late Start						
20	21	22	Deadline for Newsletter 23	24	Christmas  25	26
VSD—Winter Break						
27	28	29	30	New Years Eve  31		
VSD—Winter Break						

JANUARY 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					New Year's Day 1	Christmas Tree Recycling  2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	7pm @ VHA ANA Meeting & Elections 14	15	16
VSD—1hr Late Start						
17	Martin Luther King Day 18	19	20	21	22	23
VSD—No School						
24	25	26	Deadline for Newsletter 27	28	29	30
VSD—1hr Late Start						
31						

ANA = Arnada Neighborhood Association
 VHA = Vancouver Housing Authority (2500 Main St.)
 VSD = Vancouver School District

OWM = One World Merchants (2315 Main St.)

The City of Vancouver supports the Neighborhood Associations in their effort to share vital information with residents to create a more informed public. However, the information provided and the opinions and views expressed in the Neighborhood Association newsletter or other documents do not necessarily represent the position of the City of Vancouver,