

# ARNADA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION Newsletter - October 2009



## Hey, ARNADA! Don't let this be your last newsletter!

**ANA Newsletter - Arnada is in dire need of an editor and designer.** Please speak to Russ Pascoe if you are able to help with either job. Training will be provided. Until we are able to fill Editor and Layout Editor positions, we will be relying on the email list for important updates only. **This will be the last printed newsletter until we get help.** To add your name and email address list send request to Karen Wilson at [klw1170@yahoo.com](mailto:klw1170@yahoo.com)

*Many thanks to Seanette Corkill and Harald Graham for their contributions as Editor and Layout Designer of ANA Newsletter.*

### NEXT MEETING

**Thursday, October 8<sup>th</sup> - 7:00 PM**

**One World Merchants 2315 Main Street - (360) 693-7857**

### AGENDA

**Approve September Minutes**

**Fund Raising - Brainstorming**

**Arnada Newsletter: Editors needed today**

**ANA Board Request: Individuals needed to attend meetings, provide summary**

**Max Johnson: Memorial Tree purchase and placement**

**Vancouver Neighborhood Alliance: Should Arnada have representation?**

**Columbia River Crossings: SR500 / 4<sup>th</sup> Plain - Data to be provided**

**McLoughlin Street / 17<sup>th</sup> Street Light Rail Alignment: update**

**CDM Adult Day Services Center: Marti Sanders**

**Winter Holiday Party: Start Planning**

**Election of Board Officers: coming soon . . .**

**New Business**

### GRANTS we need your help to put these in place.

**Arnada Bench Grant:** ANA has received a grant of \$2000.00 for a bench at 22<sup>nd</sup> and D Street. Process is underway to obtain a list of requirements from Transportation that must be met. ANA plans to solicit design proposals for the bench. Contact any board member if you have a proposal.

**Watershed Grant:** ANA has received a watershed grant of \$480.00 to construct 12 rain barrels. Watershed will conduct the class for free. The first 12 will be chosen by lottery from a pool of interested neighbors. Cost is estimated to be approximately \$40 to \$50.00. Additional barrels may be designed at cost of materials at the same time as the first 12. The 55 gallon barrels are blue polyethylene.

**Helping Hands Tool Library Grant:** ANA has received a grant of \$600.00 for tool library storage and checkout system. The first step is to design a checkout system, commit storage and draft a waiver system. We will next decide what we are going to purchase. Jim Girard who currently stores scaffolding would like to envision some replacement boards for the scaffolding.

*Many thanks to our Neighborhood Grant Coordinator, Sara Douglas for her significant efforts in searching for and writing grants for Arnada.*

**F.Y.I. - Meetings – Workshops - Learn what’s happening in ARNADA.**

**Vancouver City Council workshops, usually on Monday from 4 to 6 PM at City Hall.** We need help gathering information to keep Arnada informed with current information that may effect Arnada.

**Vancouver City Council takes comments the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday’s at 7:00 PM at City Hall.** Arnada invites your attendance at City Council to advocate for positive change for Arnada residents.

**Friday, October 16<sup>th</sup> 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM – Water Resources Center**

***On The Front Lines of Change, Authentic Leadership in Turbulent Times*** – Arnada was invited to send a board member to this all day leadership event. Suze Marshall will attend and provide a summary at the November ANA Meeting.

**City Council Workshop - Monday, October 19<sup>th</sup> from 4 to 6 PM - City Hall - Light Rail Alignment** City Council will be presented with all the decisions made by the working group. No public comment will be taken. The workshop is open to the public. ANA neighbors are encouraged to attend.

**Monday, October 19<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 PM - City Hall - Light Rail Allignment** - Council Session follows where we will be allowed to provide public comment. ANA neighbors are encouraged to attend.

**Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup> – 10 AM to Noon - Backyard Composting Workshop** – FREE Compost bin will be provided. CASEE, 11104 NE 149<sup>th</sup> Street, Brush Prairie, WA 98606

**Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup> – 10 AM to Noon – Family Wormshop** - Redworms for Vermicomposting at Columbia Springs. Cost \$40 per family includes class, bin, worms. Great for families. Columbia Springs Environmental Education Center 12208 SE Evergreen Blvd. Vancouver, WA 98683

**Leaf Boxes** – Street Maintenance will be placing leaf boxes in Arnada to help with the overabundance of leaves. The Box is for leaves only. Please empty leaves out of plastic bags, if used. No garbage or other yard debris is allowed. The boxes will be located at East 20<sup>th</sup> and F Streets and East 25<sup>th</sup> and F Streets the weekend of November 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> and December 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. Look for a large gray drop box with a banner on it that says “Leaves Only” to appear in the late afternoon on Friday and be picked up on Monday morning. Questions – Elsie Deatherage, Solid Waste Services at 360-619-4122.

**24<sup>th</sup> and H Street: Arnada Park entrance.** We will have discussions and a presentation of a new design proposal at the November meeting.

**Arnada Board of Directors: Elections** – January Board Elections are coming soon. Arnada needs you to step forward and offer to lend your talents to our Board of Directors. Arnada is one of the most active neighborhoods in Vancouver. Please consider becoming involved in leadership that we may continue to advocate for Arnada.

**ANA BOARD Of Directors** - [arnadaneighborhood@gmail.com](mailto:arnadaneighborhood@gmail.com)

Chair: Russ Pascoe - [russ.bec@gmail.com](mailto:russ.bec@gmail.com) - 993-5259

Vice Chair: Abbie Spielman - [omaha181@aol.com](mailto:omaha181@aol.com) - 694-0850

Co-Secretary: Karen Wilson - [klw1170@yahoo.com](mailto:klw1170@yahoo.com)

Co-Secretary: Suze Marshall - [suze@suzespencermarshall.com](mailto:suze@suzespencermarshall.com) - 696-0801

Grant Coordinator: Sara Douglas

Treasure: Shirley Wilson - [shirleyjovanc@yahoo.com](mailto:shirleyjovanc@yahoo.com)

Zoning / Land Use Committee Chair: OPEN – ARNADA NEEDS YOU!

Newsletter Editors: OPEN – ARNADA NEEDS YOU!

Newsletter Distribution: Jim Girard 696-2949

Minutes of Arnada Neighborhood Association Meeting - September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009 – 7:00 PM

Vancouver Housing Authority – 2500 Main Street - 38 neighbors and 11 guests

**Katy Belokonny** was present as a Community Involvement Director of Columbia River Crossings and as a C-Tran employee.

**Approval of August Minutes** - Abbie Spielman moved and Jeanne Heikkinen seconded to approve the August minutes as published. Minutes were approved.

**Treasurers Report** – General Fund - \$553.52, NAP Grant - \$664.01, Total \$1,217.53 Russ said we need to address fundraising. We no longer have the recycling program funds to offset neighborhood activities. At the October meeting we'll address fundraising.

**Election of Co-Secretary** – Russ Pascoe moved for a vote to formally elect acting Co-Secretary Suze Marshall. The neighborhood has been without a Co-Secretary for over a year. Suze has agreed to fill the position to serve until end of this term in January. She's already been filling in on a volunteer basis. So moved by Abbie Spielman, seconded by Sarah Douglas – 19 for, 1 opposed. Motion approved.

**Replacement Memorial Tree** - The memorial tree planted in the 24<sup>th</sup> and H Street Park area in honor of Max Johnson. Max worked hard for our neighborhood and we'd like to continue to honor him and replace the tree that died. Seanette still has the plaque. It was an ornamental tree, red bark maple. That was a favorite of Max's. Bob Dodds volunteered to take care of the tree this time. Suze Marshall stated that she had watered the tree and looked after it. It became weak after being disturbed by vehicles driving through the park area, later became diseased and died. Russ stated that Friends of Trees may be an option. Seanette said that fall is the best time to plant a tree. Russ said we would continue to look for a donation and if no donation appears, move to purchase one at October's meeting.

**Anne McEnerny-Ogle** – Anne is seeking Position 3 in Vancouver City Council. Anne is president of Shumway Neighborhood. Anne runs for Council with the goal to improve communication between the City Council and Vancouver citizens. She is concerned that there is no citizen oversight group between neighborhoods and City Council. She served on Governor Locke's 2<sup>nd</sup> study of a new non-lift bridge at I-5 and Columbia River. She shared Shumway Neighborhood concerns at the second option recently studied by CRC. She stated that the initial D.E.I.S. had no total property takings in Shumway, so there was no Environmental Justice Study done. As it turns out, now there may be between 20 and 40 takings. Her concern is that there has been no actual data on the table. She has asked for specific data and numbers so that Shumway can comment at City Council. She is also here on behalf of Shumway asking our support for up to date information and actual numbers so that they may respond. CRC came to their September meeting with no actual data or numbers.

**Ron Anderson – Columbia River Crossings** – Ron states that Arnada was brought up to date in August on the exit to 4<sup>th</sup> Plain from SR500. They are attending the neighborhood meetings and telling neighborhoods as much as they know. Anne commented that Shumway residents are weary, emotional and tired of not being given specific information in writing. Suze Marshall attended both meetings, in Arnada in August and Shumway in September. She stated that neither presentation presented fact sheets with current figures/numbers on them. Specific details as in numbers and dollars have not been presented in writing or in verbal presentation to Arnada or Shumway.

Questions from neighbors were presented wanting to know who has requested the exit from SR 500 to 4<sup>th</sup> Plain. Ron said that freight companies are asking for a SR500 ramp and City of Vancouver is asking for study of SR500 ramp as well. Suze Marshall commented that at the September Shumway meeting, they were told by CRC that the City of Vancouver did not ask for an analysis of a SR500 ramp. Further discussion followed concerning the lack of consistent, accurate information being presented in writing so that neighborhoods impacted by this change would have something in writing besides hearsay to comment on at City Council. Both Shumway and Arnada Neighborhoods want written information. Ron expects this could be provided within a week or two. She said that throughout our appeal process with the City over the lost crosswalks at D Street and 15<sup>th</sup> Streets, we were told by both the City and WADOT that the Mill Plain Corridor, not 4<sup>th</sup> Plain was the designated continuation of the SR500 through to Port Of Vancouver. Ron said he would get back to the neighborhoods with written information at both Shumway and Arnada October meetings. October 26<sup>th</sup> is the current date set for City Council to have a workshop. This is an open meeting but they don't take any public comment at that time. Public Comment could happen if this is on the agenda at the evening meeting of City Council on October 19th.

Russ Pascoe asks Jeff Hamm (Executive Director / CEO C-Tran and Arnada Neighbor): Does this ramp affect C-Tran and how? Jeff responds that the ramp won't necessarily help C-Tran and they have not asked for it. Ron states that the major entity was Port of Vancouver wanting direct access. Both Anne and Suze confirm that they were told at the September Shumway meeting that it was C-Tran that asked for the study. Jeff Hamm again said, "no." Russ asks all present from CRC to please get us information in writing to be presented to the email list and at the October meeting.

#### **Statement in opposition of widening I-5 to allow SR500 to 4<sup>th</sup> Plain Exit:**

Russ read the draft from Arnada in support of the original D.I.S. with no exit to 4<sup>th</sup> Plain. Sara Douglas moved that the draft be accepted and placed in a formal letter to City Council. Jeanne Heineken seconded. 13 for – 0 opposed, 2 abstained, 1 waiting to vote for more information in October. Motion approved. Russ will complete and deliver letter.

#### **CRC – Peter Ovington - Electronic Tolling**

1. Tolling will help pay for CRC project as well as our Federal Government.
2. Tolling will be used in a manner to help manage traffic congestion.
3. Tolling will be all electronic – no coin baskets, no right of way needed to collect. Less expensive. You will use a transponder. Folks that don't have transponder will have a photo taken of their license plate and be sent a bill.
4. They are not planning to charge a toll on bicycle or pedestrians.
5. Variable tolling would cost less on off peak and higher during rush hour traffic

Preliminary tolling scenarios –

- A) No toll scenario assumes no bridge, tolls not charged. The project cannot be built without tolls
- B) Projected rates for I-5 weekday - one way tolls - lowest \$1.00 - highest \$2.00

Question - What happens to travel patterns if I-5 is tolled? Average hours of daily congestion estimated for year 2030 scenarios discussed.

Discounts? Toll just I-5 or toll I-205 too. Possibility of collection tolls in both directions. Web survey:

<http://survey.columbiarivercrossing.com>

Mail comment to 700 Washington Street, Suite 300, Vancouver, WA 98660.

Email comments to <http://feedback@columbiarivercrossing.org>

Ron Anderson – states it's not necessary to charge tolls both ways it is not cost effective. Fund Raising – begin tolling mid-2012 possibly – Both Oregon and Washington have requested this study – since there will not be a public vote, we will be well represented by our legislators.

Anja O'Neil – states that Tacoma Narrows is \$4.00 per round trip.

Russ asks why we are the only bridge being tolled? From northern California to Canada, there are no tolls on I-5. Why are we so special? Ron Anderson: All that CRC will say is we cannot build without agreeing to tolls. Washington has a higher gas tax rate than Oregon. Even though Oregon gas tax is lower, it still goes to maintaining bridges and upgrades and toward building new bridges like the one in Eugene. Russ: "I'd rather see a hike in gas tax than tolls."

### **Bruce and Judith Woods - 24<sup>th</sup> and H Street – Right of Way Permit Type 1**

Alisa Pyszka - Economic Development Business Manager – City of Vancouver

Ms. Pyszka states that Steve Burdick directed the Woods to her because this was an unusual project, a precedent setting project, something the City hasn't done before. City took it to Transportation and it has been decided that it is viable for Woods to have a driveway of which he must have a single permit - Administrative Type 1 Application with Design Review Services. This presentation is a courtesy only, to the neighborhood. The Woods are not required to inform the neighborhood. She relates that no neighbors have standing, nor does the neighborhood as a whole have any standing. She states that this is a neutral application and there will be no opportunity for appeal.

Russ Pascoe: How does one direct to you?

Ms. Pyszka states that Steve Burdick pointed Woods to her. She says it is her roll to help any citizen that comes her way.

Seanette asks if she will be taking any comment.

Ms. Pyszka states that she has not seen the project yet. It will be her first time tonight. She says that Chad Eiken will receive comment at the City Design Review Services.

Suze Marshall: Could you help me understand how a project that changes an area designated as a park to a custom driveway could make it's way from the City Manager's Office to Transportation, receive approval with yourself as project manager if you have never seen the project? Ms. Pyszka: To apply for a Right of Way permit and Site Application 1 – You go to the City and if you meet all technical specifications you will get what you want in the right of way.

Russ – What if we want to keep our park entrance right where it is now, can we file an application? Ms. Pyszka: Yes, I think they will have to consider it.

Joel Stirling – Stirling Design – He is the engineer on the project. He brings a large drawing showing Arnada Park in green color going through the path to the corner of 24<sup>th</sup> and H Street. He states that he has a few copies of a smaller version. The Woods have asked to extend the street in front of their home with a driveway 70 feet by 28 feet wide. Between their fence and the driveway they will have a 5 foot planter strip and a 5 foot sidewalk. The driveway will be curved out toward the east, on which that eastern portion will also have a 5 foot planter section and 5 feet of sidewalk. The Woods will move and recreate the entrance to the park. The path will only have to be moved 3 or 4 feet. (Post meeting review of the drawing shows it moving 15 feet) They would keep the path the same width and plant landscaping and trees that will eventually shield it from the park. All costs of the improvement will be at Woods expense.

Suze Marshall: Ms. Pyszka, during a phone conversation with me you stated to me that the City has stated that there is a 40 foot right of way in front of both the Woods homes through to the park. You said the City estimates that Woods will get approximately 18 to 24 feet for a driveway. Mr. Stirling shows us a 70 foot by 28 foot driveway with another 10 feet on each side for planters and sidewalks. The driveway curves out eastward, far beyond the current path to the park and butts right up against the triangle space that is what remains outside of the right of way. That's 60 feet. This is very confusing. Could you explain how 18 to 28 feet can morph into 60 feet? Ms. Pyszka: I'd have to check the drawings again.

Sarah Douglas: We have spent two years working on getting this space as a community garden. We have a plan with marked plots between the park path and chain link fence and up to about 12 feet from the 24<sup>th</sup> Street (alley) at the park entrance. City estimated cost over \$1,500 to bring water to the garden as they would have to bring a water line to the space.

Bruce Woods: I am not vacating that area. I wanted the entire green area to put the Kiggen's there. I decided to use the alley for access instead. When I gave that presentation 18 months ago it was already a done deal.

Jack Harroun feels that it will be a very good addition so that there is more access to see the grand Kiggins House.

Seanette: Is there potential for compromise? She states that we might be able to improve the park access. Possibly limit the width of the current plan. Maybe part of the plan could include providing water to the community garden. Perhaps the neighborhood could work with the City and the Woods to modify the plan.

Steve Burdick – “The City likes to maintain standards.” He also states that some compromises have been made.

Mark Provol - 1904 H Street: We use the park almost like a front and back yard. He relates of past years of transient camps and feels transients are less of a problem now that the area is cleaned up.

Suze Marshall: City cleared out the underbrush between the park path and the chain link fence from the H Street entrance all the way to 4<sup>th</sup> Plain. Since then there haven't been transients camping under that brush.

Russ: We have the drawing you furnished the City with for the Kiggin's house lot. All you show is a 4 foot sidewalk out front. There is nothing on this drawing indicating you were seeking any other plan.

Seanette: I'd like to see some kind of organic design not a blunt end street. It would be nice to make it a space that suits everyone. Maybe even have a one lane round-a-bout.

Burdick: It should need the support of the neighborhood to make a more organic design.

Suze Marshall: many things in this project compel a Type 2. It's a change of use. This area has been used for a park. Our neighborhood received a City Grant for \$3900 to improve the access and entrances to Arnada Park. The entrance at the corner of 24<sup>th</sup> and H Streets was improved with City Grant funds. Joel Stirling's drawing shows “Existing City of Vancouver Park. It's the only emergency vehicle access entrance through to the park. It's a main entrance for ADA Access. Ms. Pyszka: Notification process for Type one only goes to the property owner. There will be no notice, other than the property owner. There is no opportunity to vote and no opportunity to appeal. This is a Type 1 Application.

Anja: Is this just for paving and landscape beautification? After he does that, he could come back again for further use of the right of way.

Ms. Pyszka: Yes, but he can't put a building in the right of way.

Dodds: I want to see the design marked out on the property.

Suze Marshall: How much space is being allowed for park maintenance vehicles and emergency access vehicles? Mr. Wood: 8 feet, backed right up against the chain link fence.

Mr. Wood – We would entertain a scaled down design. Ms. Pyszka: We would take into consideration if the Arnada Neighborhood didn't want the driveway there at all. It would require a road modification for a scaled down design.

Steve Burdick: “Why don't we just move that we support the Woods and work with transportation in designing the driveway. Here, I move that we work with the woods and transportation in designing the driveway”

Judith Woods: We already got the permit when we moved the house that included access to the front property. It's done. We are only here as a courtesy. We don't have to tell you anything.

Elizabeth Jordan: I suggest that the Woods work with Transportation on the design.

Russ: Who wants to work with the neighborhood?

Jeff Hamm: I'd like to suggest that the City ask the Woods to work with the parks department to get a water line so that we can still have our community garden.

Steve Burdick: It will only cost a hundred dollars or so to get that water line for a community garden.

Ms. Pyszka: If you have comment, it must be sent to Chad Eiken at Development Review Services to be considered as part of the application.

Presented documents can be seen in ARNADA's files:

1. Wood's original 2404 H Street plot plan presented to City Development Review Services for Kiggins house approval. Zoning Approval date stamped March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2008

2. Joel Stirling Design – 2400 - 2404 H Street Plan drawing presented at ANA September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009 meeting showing Arnada Park with changes to 24<sup>th</sup> and H Street entrance including driveway and landscaping.

3. Joel Stirling Design – 1400 – 2404 H Street Technical drawing presented to ANA September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

Thanks to Alisa Pyszka, Elizabeth Jordan, Jeanne Heikkinen, Russ Pascoe for providing notes taken at the meeting. Those notes are appreciated and incorporated in these minutes.

Respectfully submitted, Suze Marshall - Arnada Co-Secretary.