



## **LEWELLING NDA *Draft* MINUTES**

**February 14, 2024**

**Hybrid Meeting at Kairos Church of Christ and via Zoom**

Attending: Chair Camden McKone; Vice-Chair Stephan Lashbrook; Secretary Lisa Lashbrook; Treasurer Howie Oakes; Dave Stratton; Tony Campos; Ellen Campos; Virginia Seitz; Maitri Dirmeyer; Philip Stose; Mattie Dulka; Nick D'Alonzo

Guests: Police Captain Ryan Burdick; David Hedges

Via Zoom: Sarah Wilson

Camden opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. Introductions were completed. Howie moved, Tony seconded, to accept the January minutes without correction. Motion passed without dissent.

Captain Burdick spoke first about a multi-agency enforcement "blitz" for traffic safety in January that resulted in numerous tickets and some arrests. He then talked about new recruits that are completing their training and moving into positions of authority. He mentioned longtime Milwaukie resident Wilda Parks, who was given a lifetime achievement award by the the Chamber of Commerce. Howie asked about the Police Department's use of drones, given that he had recently seen a drone flying down SE Stanley. Captain Burdick outlined the circumstances when MPD uses its drones and emphasized that they are not just cruising around town spying on people and are only deployed for certain crimes.

Sarah Wilson noted the safety issues at the front of Lewelling Elementary when school kids are being dropped off or picked up. Captain Burdick said that he would ask one of the traffic officers to keep an eye on this. Nick pointed out that the City will soon be applying for a Safe Routes to School construction grant to deal with some of the issues at Lewelling Elementary. He noted that the



school (or the School District) will need to make some improvements to the parking lot to help facilitate safer car movements.

David Hedges presented the grant request (\$100) to help fund the annual Police Department's Officer of the Year Dinner. Mr. Hedges talked about the dinner and the established tradition of funding coming from the NDAs. Camden said that we will be voting on this request at the March meeting.

Stephan reported that he observed the January PSAC meeting but could not participate for health reasons. He described the continuing research into utilities in the King Road right-of-way and the "potholing" work that has been going on. The design work for that project is now 60% complete, but the actual improvement is likely to be delayed due to staffing shortages in the City's Engineering Department.

Stephan reported that the Harvey Street project is to include new surface on SE 42nd and a flashing pedestrian beacon at Roswell Street (a prime crossing point for students from the Lewelling neighborhood going to Ardenwald grade school). He emphasized that safety at that crossing was a big issue for Lewelling neighbors when the original improvements were made on SE 42nd and he thanked the Engineering staff for remaining diligent about it.

Stephan said that Tessie Prentice (civil engineer and landscape architect) had been the project manager for several major street improvements, including King Road, but she has now left the City.

Howie reported that the NDA checking account now has \$6,296, which should put the NDA in a good position to fund our summer concerts. We still expect to receive another \$4,000 from the City in June. After some discussion it was agreed that the NDA should continue to budget \$7,000 for summer concerts.



Nick gave the Transportation Committee update, saying that he, Philip and Stephan are now working with the City Engineer (Jen Garbely) on the Safe Routes grant application to ODOT. He said again that the parking lot at the school is problematic and this grant cannot be used for improvements on school property, although it can be used for work along SE Logus and SE Stanley. One of the biggest projects will be the construction of sidewalks along Stanley from SE Willow all the way to Johnson Creek Road. Stephan mentioned that Jen Garbely is negotiating with the County to use North Clackamas Urban Renewal money for improvements that could include a new bike/ped bridge across the creek on Stanley — probably modeled on the new bike/ped bridge on Linwood.

Lisa reminded the group of the prior decision to cap NDA grants at \$250/each and set a maximum total for all grants at \$1,000/year.

Lisa added that she has been in touch with New Seasons about the prospect of them sponsoring summer concerts. No commitment yet, but they are considering it. Lisa said she will again reach out to Celebrate Milwaukie Inc. (CMI) about a grant for our concerts. They assisted us last year.

Lisa again pointed out that the NDA needs a new banner. Howie indicated that he would talk to Sheila about it because she may have an angle on getting a new banner.

Lisa reminded everyone about the ground breaking for three parks (Balfour, Bowman-Brae and Scott) on March 9 at 10 a.m. The ceremony will begin at Balfour Park, west of SE 32nd Ave.

Lisa presented her compilations of volunteer time at the recent Solstice event, with nearly 267.5 hours provided by 40 volunteers. 57 hours came from Howie and Sheila.

After some discussion, April 27th was set as the next date for a neighborhood clean-up.



Camden reported that former City Councilor Shane Abma has been appointed to fill the seat vacated by Desi Nicodemus. Mr. Abma does not intend to run for that seat in the special election.

Stephan suggested that we schedule a visit to the Wichita Center, so we can better understand all of the services that could be at risk now that the County has canceled the Center's lease. Camden said he would make the arrangements.

Stephan moved, Lisa seconded, to adjourn the meeting.

Camden adjourned the meeting at 7:47 p.m.

The next regular NDA meeting is scheduled for March 13, 2024, at Kairos United Church of Christ.