



Grant Park Neighborhood Association

P.O. Box 13102, Portland, OR 97213

Winter 2008

Shaping Our Schools in the 21st Century

Last May, more than 200 members of the Portland community began a conversation on a local level about school facilities. The summit was intended to develop guiding principles for reshaping our schools. Five key areas were determined as important: community; teaching and learning; sustainability (building, thinking and teaching “green”); continuously adapting to change; and collaboration.

In November, that conversation involved even more Portlanders with an interactive work session that built upon the principles developed in May. The key question: How should we, as a community, prioritize our investments, including the repair, renovation and/or replacement of our school facilities? What changes are needed to make real 21st century schools in Portland?

That November session followed an extensive audit of every school facility Portland Public Schools owns. Specifically noted were items at each building in need of repair or replacement, such as electrical, technology, exterior, interior and plumbing issues. The community’s answers at the work session, combined with the stark reality of the buildings’ conditions, helped to create a future facilities plan for our public schools.

Every building in the district has deficiencies—not only the repairs needed immediately, but those anticipated over the next 10 years. Some buildings, in fact, have outlived their useful lives and were suggested for full modernization or replacement.

Fernwood, located at NE 33rd and Hancock, is one of those buildings. Replacement of that facility, or full modernization with an addition to accommodate the full enrollment of students, would potentially allow for a large enough building (or a campus of buildings) to educate all of the students currently spread between the Hollyrood and Fernwood in one place.

The dialogue will continue throughout the year as we try to determine what is best for our school children and our communities.

Will we develop a vibrant inter-grade learning campus for our pre K-12 students? How can we enhance the quality of education for all students? And how do we take advantage of exciting new ideas? Only we can decide.

As this project continues, more information will be available throughout the year on both the Hollyrood-Fernwood (www.hollyrood-fernwood.org) and Grant (grant.pps.k12.or.us) websites. For more facilities assessment information, visit www.reshape.pps.k12.or.us.

www.grantpark-na.org

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- and more ...

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Next General Meeting
February 26, 2008
Tuesday, 7 p.m.
Grant Park Church
2728 N.E. 34th Ave.
(at Knott)

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AGENDA

Committee Reports
Hollyrood-Fernwood
Name Change
Neighborhood Clean-Up
Old Business
New Business
Announcements

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Future Meetings

(tentative)

March 25, 2008 (Board)
May 13, 2008 (General)
June 3, 2008 (Board)
August 19, 2008 (Board)
September 30, 2008 (General)
October 28, 2008 (Board)

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GPNA

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President:

Elizabeth Beeghly 503-288-5527

Vice President:

Ron Laster 503-287-9566

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Secretary:

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Communications:

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At Large:

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Liz Alexander 503-331-1381

From the President's Desk

Being a mother of two young children, I know how difficult it can be to attend meetings, especially in the evenings.

Do you bring your children? Can you find a sitter? How long will the meeting last? In the Spring, I brought my two children to a General Meeting – the baby cried and the three year old had a tantrum. We left early and I vowed that was the last time.

The fall came around, and again, I was at the meeting. Why?

Neighbors with children have a unique and important perspective that is vital when decisions are being made about changing Grant Park. We're raising our families here. Our children play in the park, in our front yard, on the sidewalks, at Fernwood and Hollyrood playgrounds. Spending significant time outside and interacting with our neighbors, we know the best and the worst aspects of our neighborhood. This is our neighborhood.

When my daughter was just a toddler, I was walking her down the path in Grant Park and came upon a broken bottle. I picked the pieces, because I cared about my child's safety as well as the safety of other children in the park.

Being a part of the neighborhood association is like picking up those pieces – we're working to make the neighborhood safer, more livable, increasing interaction with our neighbors and creating a community for our children.

The Grant Park Neighborhood Association Board would like to make it easier for you to participate. Starting at the meeting on Tuesday, February 26, Grant Park parents can drop off their children with experienced sitters and spend an evening talking about our neighborhood.

For more information and to RSVP contact grantpark@necoalition.org by February 22nd, with the number and ages of the children so that we can plan accordingly.

Elizabeth Beeghly, GPNA President
503-288-5527

Grant Park Off-Leash Area Winter Hours

Grant Park is one of the parks in Portland which has an off-leash area (OLA) for dogs. This is a privilege provided to local dog owners and we hope all will help maintain it by respecting the hours and rules established for the use of the area.

The OLA in Grant Park is in the north east corner of the park, near Hollyrood school and is defined by boundary markers. If you are unclear of the boundaries, please refer to the map on the northeast corner of the site, near Hollyrood School.

Winter Hours - until March 15:

Weekdays - 5am to 8am and 4pm to midnight

Weekends - 5am to midnight

Spring Hours - March 16 to June 14:

Weekdays - 5am to 8am and 7pm to midnight

Weekends - 5am to midnight

Off-Leash Rules:

- Off-leash use is confined to the OLA only.
- Dogs must display current tags.
- Aggressive dogs must be leashed and removed
- Pick up your dog's waste.
- Carry a leash for each dog.
- No more than three dogs per person.
- Closely supervise young children in the OLA.
- Be responsible for damage or injury caused by your dog.
- * Remain in the OLA with your dog at all times.
- * Remove pinch or choke collars.
- * For health and safety, unvaccinated puppies and female dogs in heat are not allowed.

If you have questions call 503-823-DOGS or check the parks web site at www.portlandparks.org.

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Better than a Block Party!

The Youth Gangs Program began in 1988 by the NE Coalition of Neighborhoods (NECN). It was funded by Multnomah County until 1995, and since then has run on various grants from the United Way, Meyer Memorial Trust and the Portland Police Bureau.

In the middle 80's Grant High School had issues with gangs. There was a shooting. Since that time many things have been done to make gangs not a part of Grant. However, there is constant pressure out in the community on our middle and high school students to become a gang member.

During its heyday in the mid-1990s, the program boasted eight outreach coordinators, plus two staff members. Now the program is a shell of its former self, with barely enough funding for two full-time employees.

In a effort to develop secure funding for the Youth Gangs Program, the NECN and the Portland Trail Blazers have teamed up to sponsor a Youth Gangs program fundraiser, Thursday, Feb 21, 2008. The event will include Dinner at the Rose Quarter followed by level 100 seating for the game with the Seattle Supersonics. The price is \$95 per person (includes dinner and game ticket). \$30 from the ticket sales will go directly to the Youth Gangs Program.

All community members, businesses and associations are urged to participate in this event and show their support to impact the livability of our community through youth gang prevention and intervention.

All tickets include:

- VIP Private Pre-Game Dinner @ 6pm
- Surprise Trail Blazers Alumni Guest Speaker during dinner
- Shoot a Free Throw on the court after the game
- Receive a Brandon Roy Bobblehead for each ticket purchase
- There will also be a scheduled silent auction.

Tickets can be purchased directly through the NECN or Portland Trail Blazers. Contact Ron Laster 503-287-9566 for more information. Grant Park Neighborhood Association has purchased two tickets which we are making available to the neighborhood.

"A Simple Affair" for Schools

Come join us in support of our neighborhood school. Friday, March 7, 2008, 6-10pm. There will be a silent and live auction with food, drink and entertainment at the Tiffany Center in downtown Portland.

This year's Hollyrood-Fernwood auction, A Simple Affair, will introduce a new twist - a dessert auction. Not familiar with a dessert auction. It works like this... Lovely, tempting desserts (serving 8-12 each) are donated by local bakeries, restaurants, and highly talented home bakers. The desserts are delivered to the event the day of the auction.

Guests bid on desserts. Collusion and alliances are encouraged! Get your table to go in on a dessert for all. The winning bidder is welcome to re-sell portions of the dessert with proceeds going to the Foundation, of course. This is a fun and tasty way to get revved up for the bidding frenzy of the live auction.

Proceeds from this event help provide funding for key school programs such as art, music, P.E., technology support, and library assistance.

Tickets to the event are \$50. Please contact Christine Putnam at gcpur@yahoo.com for more information.

GRANT PARK CHURCH

A PLACE WHERE PEOPLE ARE WELCOME TO DISCOVER HOW MUCH GOD LOVES THEM. OUR MISSION IS TO BE A PLACE OF HOPE IN PORTLAND. ALL DIFFERENT KINDS OF FAMILIES AND PEOPLE ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US FOR WORSHIP ON SUNDAY AT 11 A.M. CALL IF WE CAN BE OF SUPPORT ON YOUR SPIRITUAL JOURNEY.

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Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Hollywood-Fernwood Field

People have been asking what exactly is going on in the empty field behind Fernwood. We have waited to unveil the plan until everything was finalized.

In over 52 years of play, Hollywood Little League has never had a home field. They rely on borrowed fields for regulation play. After looking at several potential sites, the worn open field at Hollywood-Fernwood School stood out as an ideal location but the current field was in need of major renovation in order to support a regulation home field.

Discussions started Fall '06 around what could be done to improve the field. After many months of grant writing, requests and meetings, enough funds were secured to re-build the entire field.

In November 2007, the Hollywood Little League was awarded a grant in the amount of \$75,595 from the Baseball Tomorrow Fund. The grant will support the Hollywood Little League Home Field at Fernwood School Project and provide funding for grading, re-sodding and re-seeding the entire Fernwood field, removing the old and replacing with a new irrigation system, building 2 new baseball fields.

There is enough room there to not only build the new regulation size field for Minors' and Majors' play with new backstops, outfield fences, dugouts, bleachers and a skinned in-field. There is also room for an additional new backstop for both Tee Ball and Farm League play, and to build a U10 regulation soccer field. The soccer field will be positioned diagonally between the baseball fields to avoid any overlap between any of the in-fields of play.

Both Hollywood Little League and Hollywood Soccer Club will use these fields as their home fields. However, the entire Northeast neighborhood will profit by the investment in the community. The fields will be open to school use, neighborhood use and league use.

Hollywood Little League offers softball and baseball for children ages 5 to 14 years old in Northeast Portland, Oregon. The league has been operating in Northeast Portland for over 52 years and offers programs starting with Tee Ball and going all the way up to Juniors.

Hollywood Little League plans on increasing their baseball and softball participation by 10-15% each year. It is also their goal to host tournaments. The goal is to host both a district and regional tournament within the first two years of completion.

The Baseball Tomorrow Fund is designed to promote and enhance the growth of baseball throughout the world by funding programs, field improvements and equipment purchases to encourage and maintain youth participation in baseball and softball. Since its inception in 1999, the Fund has awarded grants totaling more than \$10 million and benefitted nearly 120,000 young people participating in more than 250 youth baseball and softball programs across the U.S., Canada, Latin America, the Caribbean, Europe and Asia. For more information on the fund visit www.baseballtomorrowfund.com.

The Hollywood Little League is still accepting in-kind and monetary contributions. Other major supporters of the project include, the Friends of Baseball, Hollywood-Fernwood School, Hollywood Soccer Club, Nike Baseball, the Portland Beavers/Portland Timbers Community Fund, the Portland Nike Factory Store, Portland Public Schools and the Portland Youth Soccer Association.

And, though the funds have been raised to provide this incredible gift to the school and the leagues, maintenance is not included. Community involvement is needed. The Hollywood Little League is recruiting people to help either physically or monetarily.

Those interested in donating time, effort or money to the project may contact Gina Garner-Hill at ginaandkids@mac.com.

More information at: www.hollywoodlittleleague.org

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Get Involved! Your Neighborhood Needs You!

We live in such a terrific neighborhood and you can help keep it that way. We are inviting you to participate by volunteering some of your time. Pick the activity that you are interested in and that fits your time schedule.

These are some of the needs we currently have:

Neighborhood Clean-Up: This is a one day event scheduled for April 26th at the Grant Park Baptist Church parking lot, 2728 NE 34th Ave. (see article in this newsletter). If we have enough people we will divide the day into two shifts. You can sign up for either set up or clear out. Tasks include: directing traffic, monitor a 'station' (dumpster, metal etc.), collecting money, etc. You must be at least 14 years old to volunteer.

We especially need a coordinator who would work jointly with the past coordinator, making sure things run smoothly.

Footpatrol: This is an ongoing commitment that requires a one-time training which lasts a couple hours. After you complete the training you can decide how often you want to walk, once a week, once a month. You will always be scheduled to walk with one to three other people.

We also need a footpatrol coordinator. Without this position, we will be unable to have a foot patrol. Some of the coordinator duties include: assuring that people are trained and equipped with safety gear and developing the footpatrol schedule.

Web-Master: The responsibilities include keeping the Grant Park Neighborhood Association web-site updated as important information comes in.

Newsletter: The GPNA newsletter is published quarterly. We need a coordinator(s) for the newsletter. Responsibilities include: keeping the list of newsletter delivery folks updated, helping count and bag the different routes, helping get the bagged newsletters to the delivery people. You would get significant support from past coordinators. Total time, about three hours quarterly. We also need people to help count and bag the newsletters once each quarter (one hour).

Grant Park Board of Directors: Just moved to the neighborhood, have spare time, or just want to make a difference? Please consider joining the Grant Park Neighborhood Association board.

We need YOU to keep this neighborhood vibrant, safe and livable. The side benefits include: seeing old friends, meeting new ones, gaining a feeling of pride and sense of community. Take that first step, call or email right now!

Please contact Elizabeth Beeghly at 503-288-5527 to learn more about these volunteer opportunities .

Green Building Hotline

In a collaborative effort between Metro, Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties and the City of Portland Office of Sustainable Development have created a Green Development Resource Center (GDRC) which will provide comprehensive green building resources for residents, businesses and contractors throughout the region.

The City's Green Building Program and the GDRC offer free technical assistance for development projects in Portland, educational tours and classes, project guidebooks and grants that support innovative green building practices. These resources are available to all area residents.

Have questions? You can now get answers at the new regional Green Building Hotline! 503-823-5431

The Hotline provides information about green building strategies, resources and possible incentives for new and existing commercial and residential projects throughout the region, and can help you develop strategies to reduce your building's carbon footprint, financial incentives, renewable energy options, indoor air quality, sustainable site development, construction material recycling and stormwater management among other things.

It is the Green Development Resource Center and the Hotline's intent to inspire callers to incorporate as many sustainable choices into their projects as possible and to help them understand the options that are available.

The hotline is open during regular business hours Monday through Friday. Additionally, you can leave a message anytime and someone from the GDRC will call or e-mail you back.



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Become a Master Recycler

You can learn about recycling from experts, share what you learn, and help save us all our natural resource. You can become a Master Recycler. The popular program consists of eight weeknight classes and two half-day Saturday field trips. A \$50 course fee includes all necessary materials.

The Master Recycler training provides instruction in topics like waste reduction, all kinds of recycling, green building, composting, and safer alternatives to many common hazardous household products.

Classes are taught by professionals from the public and private sector working on innovative solutions to environmental challenges.

Participants agree to attend all class evenings and field trips. Course graduates agree to volunteer 30 hours putting their skills to work to help others learn the three Rs: Reduce the amount of natural resources used in the first place, Reuse material, and Recycle what cannot be salvaged. Master Recyclers staff information booths at community events, make presentations, and work on special projects in their neighborhoods, schools, and workplaces.

The next training will be in April/May in Portland. The location has not been determined yet.

Registration for the training will open on Wednesday, March 5th at 9 a.m. There will be 30 slots available and registration is on a first come, first serve basis until the class is filled. A waiting list for this particular class will form at that time.

For additional Information check out the web site at www.masterrecyclers.org, call 503-823-7530 or email the program at masterrecycler@ci.portland.or.us



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Fun at the 2007 Clean-Up

Kate Davenport, GPNA Communications Coordinator

As a volunteer for last year's clean-up, I have to say, I had a great time. As a long time salvager/reuser, I also have to admit that, once again last year, I made a decent haul of things that other people had decided to throw out.

For the past three years, there has been a great camaraderie, some inventiveness and a lot of laughs among the volunteers as we worked to keep everything running smoothly at this yearly event which benefits the whole neighborhood. Plus, the donated muffins were good and, if I drank coffee, I probably would have enjoyed that as well.

Throughout I, and others, kept our eyes peeled and each created our own tidy pile of useful items off to the side. In my case, yard furniture that only needed minor repair, decorative plant pots, lumber, a rug and, surprisingly, a hand truck.

So come on down, join the fun, help out your neighborhood, and see what you can find.

What Does Grant Park Need to Clean-Up in 2008?

This is your chance to help us create a 2008 clean-up that will best serve the needs of you and the entire Grant Park neighborhood.

In the past we have had dumpsters for trash and for yard debris, a metal recycler, the Rebuilding Center for usable building materials, a charity representative to take in donatable items, a computer parts recycler, a truck for plastic recyclables, a neighbor plant trade, and a neighborhood swap meet. Some of these venues have been successful and some haven't, but we have learned from each one.

Now we have to decide what we will or can provide this year and you can help us decide where to focus our efforts..

What would you like to see at this year's clean-up? How can we make the clean-up itself more interesting and more useful for our neighborhood? Let us know.

Send your suggestions to grantparkna@yahoo.com.

Grant Park Neighborhood Association Drive-thru Spring Clean-up 2008

Volunteers Needed!

We are aiming for the last Saturday in April - April 26, 2008

You provide muscles and brains, we will provide coffee and muffins. For three hours of your time, you get to help clean up your neighborhood, meet many of your neighbors, and check out all the great stuff people throw away. We can also use volunteer planners and organizers, if that's where your strengths are.

For information or to volunteer,
please contact us at grantparkna@yahoo.com

School Events 2008

Here are some of the upcoming events for Grant High School and Hollyrood-Fernwood K-8:

- Feb 13 Hollyrood-Fernwood PTA
6:30-8pm in the Fernwood cafeteria.
- Feb 15 Grant HS Concert -
Sweet Sound of Jazz
7-9pm, 1624 NE Hancock
- Feb 16 No school
- Feb 21 Grant Cluster Concert
- Feb 23 Grant HS PIL Band Competition
- Mar 14 No school
- Mar 24- 28 Spring Break
- Apr 11 No school
- Apr 24-26 Grant HS Spring Musical
- May 1-3 Grant HS Spring Musical

School Hours:

Grant HS - 8:05am - 3:01pm.
Lunch - 11:37am until 12:19pm

Fernwood - 8:30am - 3:00pm.

Hollyrood - 8:30am - 2:45pm.

PICS Needs You

Portland International Community School (PICS) is full of young artists! If you are an artist and would like to invest into the lives of our young adults, PICS is looking for artists willing to teach a skill or lead a workshop. If art is not your gift, we are also looking for speakers from the community who would be an encouragement to our students. We hope to offer you an opportunity to be involved in our community, and to encourage our students to reach for the stars.

If you are interested, please contact April Hubbard at 503-232-5334 or email at ahubbard@georgefox.edu.

Albina Fuel Site Development

The three building project designed for the former Albina Fuel site at 33rd and Broadway has been approved and is scheduled to break ground in early 2008. As planned, the full complex will have 319 living units, 260 parking spaces and 67,000 square feet of retail and commercial space.

Hollyrood-Fernwood K8 School asks, "What's in a name?"

Hollyrood Elementary and Fernwood Middle School have formally merged into a K-8 educational facility run at both sites. Many of our Grant Park neighborhood children attend this new K-8, which is currently called "Hollyrood-Fernwood K-8".

A naming committee has formed to assist in selecting a name for the new K - 8 school. As we gather suggestions, we need your input!

After receiving your input, the Hollyrood-Fernwood Naming Committee will create an online survey to gather feedback on the top names.

The committee hopes to submit recommendations to Superintendent Smith this spring.

Please go to
www.hollyrood-fernwood.org
with your thoughts, opinions and
suggestions. Or call the school
at 503-916-6480.

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