

FNA General Meeting

Tuesday, May 18th
7:00-9:00 PM
Many Nations
Longhouse
1630 Columbla St

Fairmount Neighbors Association Newsletter

SPRING 2010

AGENDA

- Elections of board members and officers
- Walnut Node update
- I-5 Update
- Deputy Chief Joe Zaludek, Eugene Fire and EMS
- Tom Bettman, sustainability speaker

INSIDE

THIS ISSUE:

Ribbon Trail History and	2
FNA Board Nominations	2
Edison Elementary Updates	3
Thank You	4

Celebrate gardening with your neighbors May 18th

Fairmount neighbors interested in gardening have two more reasons to attend the May 18th Fairmount Neighbors meeting. The Fairmount Neighbors Sustainability Subcommittee will be hosting a seed and plant exchange, from 6:30 to 7:00 PM, just before the general meeting. The seed and plant exchange will be held either in the courtyard outside the Many Nations Longhouse (University of Oregon campus, just behind the law school and the Natural and Cultural History Museum) or just inside the Longhouse

(depending on the weather). All are welcome. Bring your extra perennials, seeds, and starts—even indoor plants and garden tools. No money is exchanged. Come meet your neighbors and take home some new plants. Following the seed and plant exchange, Tom Bettman, an OSU Extension Service Master Gardener and an instructor at the University of Oregon Urban Farm, will speak at the May 18th Fairmount Neighbors general meeting. May's general meeting will be held at the Many Nations Longhouse from

7:00 to 9:00 pm. We've asked Tom to focus on two Fairmount gardening challenges, summer water conservation and clay soils, but there will be plenty of time for questions from the audience. We plan to bring an easel and paper tablet so meeting attendees can write down questions for Tom, as well. Hope to see you there!

--Katherine Lieberknecht

Fairmount Sense of Place Grant Application Receives Funding

Congratulations to all the volunteers who helped us collect information and support for the Fairmount Sense of Place Historical Booklet grant application—our project has won \$4,100 of funding from the City of Eugene's Neighborhood Matching Grant program! Last November, we applied for a grant from the City for the research and production of a booklet about Fairmount Neighborhood's history and unique characteristics. Our plan is to use archival research, interview long-time residents, and link history to the current potential for sustainable neighborhood practices. After we've printed and distributed the booklet, we'll have a walking tour and celebration in the early summer of 2011.

In May, we will have a general volunteer meeting focused on the first part of the project—oral history interviews of long-time Fairmount residents. If you've already contacted us about helping with this project, we'll be in touch as soon as we confirm a date and place for the meeting. Meanwhile, the advisory committee for the project (Camilla Bayliss, Judi Horstmann, Katherine Lieberknecht, and Karen Seidel) had our first advisory committee meeting on April 13, and we're busy finishing grant paperwork and creating an oral history interview protocol.

Although this project has been fortunate to receive lots of enthusiastic support and offers of help from Fairmount neighbors, we do have a need for more volunteers who are willing to conduct oral history interviews, transcribe the interviews using a computer program, and edit the final transcripts for accuracy. More interview volunteers will allow us to interview as many long-time Fairmount neighbors as possible. No previous experience is necessary—we are putting together an interviewer training session where we can all learn interviewing techniques and how to use the recording and transcription equipment that we're borrowing from the City of Eugene. If you are interested in volunteering as an interviewer or transcriber, please email FairmountProject@gmail.com or call Judi Horstmann at (541) 345-1264.

--Katherine Lieberknecht

Ribbon Trail Update

The Ribbon Trail is a new and improved version of older routes which in places crossed private property.

Only about a kilometer in length (.8 mile), the new Ribbon Trail --constructed last summer with help from a federal stimulus grant -- has a history considerably longer.

Connecting a southern corner of Hendricks Park to the city's ridgeline trail system beyond 30th Avenue, the Ribbon is a new and improved version of older routes which in places crossed private property.

It's also been declared officially off-limits to bicycles, which has some riders registering protests, although at

certain points the trail is less than three feet wide. To explore this often steep and secluded path, consult the large map located near the main Hendricks Park parking area, or use the city's web link located below.

Walk southeast uphill to the saddle area of the park, then down over the saddle on an old roadbed until a signpost directs you onto the northern end of the Ribbon. Some rather precipitous climbs and descents await you, but rewards in solitude and shade with dappled sunlight will be all around.

Residents have been trying for more than 45 years to site a trail south out of the park, but it wasn't until the city bought a strip 200 feet wide that an undisputed right-of-way allowed for installation of an all-weather rocked surface and good drainage.

For more information about the Ribbon Trail read the July/August 2009 Obsidian Bulletin or follow this link: http://www.obsidians.org/bulletin/Issues/2009_Bulletins/2009_07_Bulletin.pdf

City of Eugene Map link

http://www.eugene-or.gov/portal/server.pt/gateway/PTARGS_0_2_334302_0_0_18/RibbonTrail_Map.pdf

Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart.

*~Elizabeth
Andrew*

There is still time to join the Fairmount Neighborhood Association's board!

Why Join?

- * Know what's going on in the Fairmount Neighborhood, the University and the City that will affect you and your property!
- * Make your voice heard on neighborhood issues!
- * Meet up with old and new friends!

These neighbors have been nominated to the 2010-2011 FNA board: Sue Jakabosky, Danny Klute, Jim Lobben, David Sonnichsen, Camella Bayliss, Tom Holser, Katherine Liberkecht and Sonya Margerum

Come vote May 18th at the FNA General Meeting

Latest Happenings at Edison Elementary

It has been a great school year for Edison students. Parents are pleased too as we received the news that a pedestrian activated warning light will be installed at the intersection of Agate and E. 22nd Ave. to make crossing for walking and biking students that much safer (expected in 2011). We were also relieved when voters passed measures 66 & 67 to help secure funding for the 4J school district. Unfortunately, those measures don't come near covering the growing costs to provide our children with a comprehensive education in our neighborhood school.

As you may be aware, the Parent Council at Edison is active year-round to raise on-going funds to provide enrichment and support for our kids. This year, the majority of our parent generated funds (nearly \$60,000) has gone to secure staffing that provides literacy support to both struggling and excelling students, as well as full-time Physical Education and to continue to provide music instruction. Without these vital dollars, our children would not enjoy these added benefits to their standard education.

This past month, Edison hosted our annual Spring Fling - a silent auction heavily supported by the community by way of gifts and donations that are then bid upon to raise money. Our expectations for the event were low considering the struggling economy, but we were surprised and pleased to discover that we were able to exceed our expectations and raise more than \$10,000 with a record 221 items donated for auction. Thank you to anyone who participated in this event!

Our upcoming and final fundraiser this year is our annual Edison Jog-a-Thon. If you see small children roaming the neighborhood, knocking on doors, they're looking for "per lap" sponsorships or flat donations. The event takes place at the South Eugene High School track on Thursday, May 13th from 9:15-10:15 AM. During the hour and a half of the event, children are encouraged to run as many laps as possible to raise money for school. In previous years, kids have run anywhere from 1-10 miles. I was shocked when my 4th grader passed the 5-mile mark. This seemingly simple event often raises upwards of \$18,000 for Edison Elementary and the kids love it. As the music (we get a DJ) pumps on the track, the kids run laps with their parents, their teachers and their beloved principal, Tom Maloney. Feel free to attend and join the kids on the track or just cheer them on.



Finally, this past week, April 19th, Edison celebrated its favorite annual event, Ocean Week. During this time, the entire school focuses on marine biology-related content and the kids love it! Everything from a custom made giant jellyfish in the school entryway, to squid dissection, sushi rolling and habitat studies entertain kids of all grades. This year, we even enjoyed Disney's recently released, "Oceans" to celebrate Earth Day.

Thank you for all of your support of Edison School. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at lisa_mac2004@msn.com.



We're on the web!
<http://sites.google.com/site/fna411/home>

A BIG THANK YOU to those neighbors who have worked so tirelessly for the benefit of the neighborhood over the past two years. These persons have put in countless hours attending meetings, attending hearings, writing letters and giving testimony on behalf of our neighborhood.

Neighborhood Chair Person:
Shellie Robertson

Newsletter:
Heather Kliever-Turpin

Arena Committee:
Jeff Nelson

Walnut Mixed Use Committee:
Susie Smith & John Barofsky

Neighborhood Arena Liaison Committee:
Shellie Robertson, Daniel Klute and Susie Smith



This is the official newsletter of the Fairmount Neighbors. Newsletters are published and mailed courtesy of the City of Eugene. Newsletters are produced by neighborhood volunteers and are free to residents and businesses of the neighborhood. Space is available for letters to the editor and editorial comments from neighbors. All signed letters will be published as space permits. Editorials express the author's views, not the position of the Neighborhood Association, the City's elected officials, or City staff.