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At least 4 issues per year - The Official Newsletter of the Rose City Park Neighborhood Association
[Submissions Welcome at Communications@rcpna.org](mailto:Submissions>Welcome at Communications@rcpna.org)

March 29th In-Person General Membership Meeting

7:00-9:00 pm at the German American Society located at 5626 NE Alameda St.
Doors will open by 6:45 pm

Spring is a time of new beginnings and this may also be true for candidates vying for three important seats at the City of Portland. Please join us in this lively discussion where half of a speaker's time is allocated to Q&A from the audience. There are a large number of candidates who filed Notice of Intent. That number will drop with required Certification by March 9th. As of this newsletter's printing, the candidates who responded to our request and are Certified Candidates will speak at the **Candidate Fair!** The General Meeting Agenda is on the last page of this Newsletter. The following is information on each candidate for your review.

City Auditor Candidates:



Simone Rede brings over 15 years of public service, including performance auditing at Metro Regional Government and the Oregon Secretary of State. She earned a master's degree in public policy and management from Carnegie Mellon University and a bachelor's degree in urban studies from Vassar College. Simone is a Certified Internal Auditor and a Certified Government Auditing Professional. She serves on the Oregon Department of Corrections Audit Governance Committee. She grew up in Northeast Portland and graduated from Portland Public Schools.



Brian Setzler has been a licensed Oregon CPA for over 30 years. He mixes a commitment to accuracy and best financial practices with a dedication to improving the community. He worked for the Washington State Department of Revenue and was an auditor with two international accounting firms. Locally, Brian founded TriLibrium, the first CPA firm in the world to be certified as a B-Corporation – meaning it met the highest standards of verified social and environmental performance, public transparency, and legal accountability to balance profit and purpose. He holds a B.A in Business Accounting from Washington State University and MBA in Sustainable Business from the Bainbridge Graduate Institute. Today, Brian operates his own small business specializing in supporting sustainable businesses.

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CHAIR'S CORNER

BY TAMARA DERIDDER, RCPNA CHAIR



The saying "think globally and act locally" can cause me to experience vertigo in my attempts to embrace the rapid changes happening in both places these days.

But it was bred into me by my dear parents who, as teachers, carried their work life into our family hours. In the evening, each of us 5 kids were handed a stack of multiple-choice tests to grade before we could watch TV as a family. It was an important step that helped me understand personal responsibility and that doing my small part in the whole could bring us all joy. As I step into my 6th decade on this amazing journey called life, I have come to find small acts of kindness can cause ripple effects in me as well as others. My dear friend and former rector, John Scannell, once shared "Don't ever pass up a generous impulse."

I found myself acting on this just a few days ago in our car by looping back around a couple of blocks near the on-ramp to I-405. I had just passed through a section with homeless folks camped on both sides of the street. I looped back since I saw 3 young women leaning on the concrete wall in that area along the south side. I reached into my wallet for one of the \$10 gift cards I carry from Trader Joes, stopped, rolled down my window, and then motioned to the one who stood apart of the three. She quickly came over to me taking the card. She then said something inaudible and motioned "Thank You" in sign language. The long scar across her face told another story. The joy she expressed both warmed and broke my heart at the same time. I hope I will see her again soon. Maybe with food and a jacket this time.



ABOUT RCPNA

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Linda Hoskin, Editor, editor@rcpna.org
Jennifer Santhouse, Advertising Coordinator, advertising@rcpna.org
Helene & Roger Farnen, Delivery Coordinators, delivery@rcpna.org

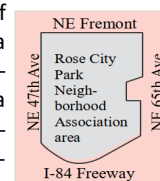
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The Rose City Park Neighborhood Association (RCPNA) is part of Portland's network of neighborhood associations, which represent their neighborhoods' interests in a wide variety of ways, including interfacing with public agencies and governing bodies. RCPNA's mission is to work to maintain and improve the livability of the neighborhood.

Membership in RCPNA is open to all persons of voting age who reside, own property or operate a business, government agency or non-profit organization within the boundaries of the neighborhood area (NE Fremont St. to I-84 and NE 47th to NE 65th Avenues). There are no dues or other requirements preventing a neighbor from being a member.



RCPNA is governed by a board of directors, unpaid volunteers who are elected annually at a general membership meeting, and it operates under the aegis of Central Northeast Neighbors, one of several area coalition offices that provide support to Portland's 95 neighborhood associations. Learn more at www.rcpna.org. For info about partner Coalition members, check out www.cnncoalition.org.



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CANDIDATE FAIR (continued from page 1)

City Council Seat #2 Candidates:



AJ McCreary was born and raised in Portland, serving as a Board Member for Steps PDX and Race Talks, and founding Equitable Giving Circle (EGC) has provided her with authentic opportunities to build community throughout the city. AJ has a deep understanding of the issues Black and brown Portlanders face in maintaining a quality of life that is equally as abundant as those of the white community. Portland has a lot of opportunity to get things right for historically marginalized communities and she feels obligated to do her part in disrupting the continued harm we've seen for decades.



Dan Ryan is working hard in pursuit of thoughtful community-shared solutions to the myriad of challenges faced by Portlanders. In early 2021, he pushed Portland City Council to identify and agree to shared priorities. This led to the Council elevating three priorities to guide our budget and policy decisions: compassionately address houselessness, develop a trustworthy new model for community safety, and stimulate economic recovery.

City Council Seat #3 Candidates:



Rene Gonzales believes Portland is struggling and he cannot sit back idly and watch the city he loves, the city his family has lived in for generations, struggle without working to help solve its problems. We are facing a historic rise in crime that will require well-supported and staffed law enforcement. Some rights-of-way and parks are filthy and unusable which require addiction services and a firm hand with respect to illegal drug sales. We need problem-solvers not ideologues to guide the city at this juncture. Rene, a business lawyer, opened a legal and consulting practice many years ago which serves clients throughout the country.



Jo Ann Hardesty has served many roles in the 30+ years here from Senior Policy Advisor for Bev Stein, Oregon State Legislator, and President of the Portland NAACP. In all these roles, she has seen the power of listening to and working with the community when tackling a range of big issues. She was part of the coalition that set the national standard for local climate action with the Portland Clean Energy Fund. At the height of George Floyd demonstrations, she worked to craft the 2020 police reform measure that 82% of voters approved. She is grateful to have been serving as your city commissioner since 2019.



Chad Leisey built a company employing approximately 50 employees over a 15 year period. He served on the local Volunteer Fire Dept for 8+ years. He currently manages the Portland branch for a billion dollar nationwide company. His specialty is organizing struggling branches to be profitable and sustainable. The key is bringing people together for one comprehensive goal as a team. Chad believes local government lacks communication and collaboration among departments and community groups to use all resources for a solution.



Vadim Mozyrsky is an Administrative Law Judge in the field of disability law as well as a Federal union vice-president. He focuses on immigrant and refugee populations and issues of disability rights. As a refugee in 1979 from the former Soviet Union, his family's personal struggles and experiences have influenced his career and community activism. Vadim is active in the Portland community, having served on numerous boards and committees including the Portland Film Festival, Goose Hollow Neighborhood Association, the Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization (IRCO) and the Public Safety Action Coalition (PSAC). He is also one of twenty Portlanders who were selected by the City Council to serve on the once-a-decade Charter Commission.



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LAND USE & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

BY KELLY DAVIS, CO-CHAIR LU & T COMMITTEE

The LU&T Committee meets regularly on the 3rd Thursday of every month from 7-9 p.m. During the pandemic, we are using Zoom meetings. Information on joining the meetings will be posted on NextDoor and on our website at rcpna.org. The next Committee meetings are scheduled for March 17 and April 21.

Umpqua Bank Apartments at 47th Ave. and Sandy Blvd.

Umpqua Bank has decided to stay in their temporary location. Rivermark Credit Union will move into the first floor retail space in February/March. Our Committee toured the project last week and were informed that they are 59% occupied and 65% leased. They are in process of surveying residents for car ownership and parking. They are also talking with adjacent property owners about possible parking lot sharing.

Slow Streets

After taking input from neighbors, the LU&T Committee at our January meeting voted to recommend to the Board:

1. Encourage PBOT to install a crosswalk at NE 62nd and Sacramento (at the stairway to Rose City Park) and to install traffic calming concrete bollard/planters as designed by City Engineers.
2. Have PBOT combine the two projects (Slow Streets and Safe Routes to School) at NE 64th and Brazee to come up with a more aesthetically pleasing solution that preserves the City-recognized Mt. Hood view corridor. RCPNA will form a subcommittee to develop a suggested design that is acceptable to the neighborhood.

As this is an important issue for the neighbors, the LU&T Committee will take their recommendation to the full RCPNA Board for further action at an upcoming meeting.

Completing Sidewalk Infrastructure

Raymond Saul from the neighborhood came to our January meeting with concerns about the lack of sidewalks primarily around Rose City Park, Normandale Park and NE Hassalo. A letter from the LU&T Committee was sent to the City Engineer's office to schedule a representative to attend an upcoming LU&T meeting to discuss available options and potential grant funding.

Cully Tax Increment Financing (TIF)

We have invited Roger Gonzalez from Prosper Portland to an upcoming LU&T Committee meeting to discuss the Cully TIF program. The RCP neighborhood has some areas within the TIF district boundary (primarily along Fremont).

Watch the RCPNA website for future scheduling information on the above referenced issues.



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NORTHEAST SWAP and PLAY

BY JENNIFER SANTHOUSE, RCPNA SECRETARY

Northeast Swap and Play is a non-profit indoor play space for families with young children. They offer private 2-hour playtimes for groups of up to 10 people. While your children are playing, you can "shop" in their free swap shop. In it you'll find gently used clothing, books, toys, and gear.

The concept of NE Swap and Play was started by Rose City Park resident Sara Tretter when she was a stay-at-home parent to two daughters, who were then 1- and 3-years old. Sara was always looking for fun things to do, especially during the rainy season. While there were some wonderful indoor play spaces in the area, she found them to be pretty expensive. She wanted to create a space that was fun, affordable, and would help her get out of the house *and* connect to the community.

NE Swap and Play opened in January 2020 as a membership-based program, but due to Covid had to close in March 2020. They are now reopened for private playtimes! You can book on their website, www.neswapandplay.org. They offer a sliding scale entry fee of \$10-20. If you don't have young children, you can buy a gift certificate for a friend or relative. Plus, the spaces are available to rent for parties.

The playroom has a small climbing structure, play kitchens, dress-up clothes, toys, books, Legos, art supplies, and so much more! There is part-time access to an even bigger play space with two large climbing structures, bikes and trikes, and lots of room to move. Adults can make a cup of coffee or tea in our swap room, or pop over to Sandino's coffee shop across the street.

NE Swap and Play is entirely run by volunteers and can always use more help. Plus, volunteers earn free playtimes. To get involved, you can email info@neswapandplay.org



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Rose City Park GARAGE SALE!

BY STEPHANIE SINGER, RCPNA BOARD MEMBER



Have you ever seen a neighborhood-wide garage sale and thought, "Gee, why can't Rose City Park do that?" Well, we can! This Spring get ready for the first-in-decades **Rose City Park Garage Sale** on **May 21st and 22nd** from 10am-5pm. Don't miss the chance to declutter your basement and get rid of things you haven't used since the early days of COVID – maybe a pizza stone or an ice cream maker?

We'll have a map of all the participating locations to make it easier for buyers to find treasures for sale. The fee is \$25 per location to cover the cost of the map and to raise some money for the Neighborhood Association. We will be selling advertising space on the map at reasonable rates.

To sign up, or for more information, email events@rcpna.org, with "Garage Sale" in the subject line no later than May 1.



PICNIC IN THE PARK CONCERT!

Mark your calendar for July 23, 2022, 6-8 pm featuring Lil' Queenie. More details to come in the May newsletter.



MULCHING LANDSCAPE TREES

BY DAVID WHEELER, NEIGHBORHOOD REPRESENTATIVE FOR FRIENDS OF TREES

Along with the beauty of Spring, comes the 'Spring time chores'. One of the many considerations is mulching our lovely trees. Many of us have been very diligent about this task and others may need some suggestions.

This article is not about general mulching, rather is mainly about the mulching of trees. People may often wonder - why mulch? According to some knowledgeable individuals, there are several reasons. Mulching...

- conserves soil moisture by increasing water infiltration and slowing evaporation,
- improves soil structure, fertility and aeration as it decomposes,
- moderates soil temperature, protecting roots from extreme summer/winter temperatures,
- helps to eliminate potential tree damage from mowers and trimmers,
- and, some research indicates mulching may increase the growth of a young tree by double.

People often notice the mulch in commercial areas, although it works in private gardens as well. They may see mounds of mulch around the trunks of large trees. But this is NOT a good example of proper mulching.

On large trees, the mulch should cover an area several feet out from the base of the tree, but a small area close to the trunk should be left open so moisture in the mulch does not come in contact with the bark and cause rot or fungus.

Plastic sheet mulches should never be used around trees. They can prevent oxygen and water from penetrating to the roots. There are many types of organic mulches which may be applied.

Understanding the process and importance of mulching is the first step.





RCPNA General Membership Meeting

Tuesday, March 29, 2022 - 7:00-9:00 pm

In-Person Public Meeting (opens at 6:45)

Location: German American Society, 5626 NE Alameda St

PROGRAM

- 7:00 pm Welcome and Announcements
- 7:10 pm Candidate's Fair Introduction
- 7:15 pm City Auditor Candidates
 - 1. Simone Rede
 - 2. Brian Setzler
- 7:35 pm City Council Seat #2
 - 1. Alanna Joy (AJ) McCreary
 - 2. Dan Ryan
- 7:55 pm City Council Seat #3
 - 1. Rene Gonzalez
 - 2. Jo Ann Hardesty
 - 3. Chad Leisey
 - 4. Vadim Mozyrsky
- 8:35 Committee Reports
- 9:00 pm Adjournment



RCPNA CALENDAR

All RCPNA meetings are open to the public

Mar 17, 7-9 pm, Land Use & Transportation Committee	Apr 21, 7-9 pm, Land Use & Transportation Committee
Mar 21-25 PPS Spring Break	Apr 25, 7-8:30 pm Communications Committee
Mar 28, 7-8:30 pm Communications Committee	May 18, 7-9 pm, Land Use & Transportation Committee
Mar 29, 7-9 pm GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING	May 24, 7-9 pm GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Apr 5, 7-9 pm Board of Directors	Jun 7, 7-9 pm Board of Directors

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