

**HOLLYWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
COMMUNITY QUARTERLY MEETING 04 /24/2025**

Call to Order: Jo Schaefer, Interim Chair began the (HyBrid) meeting at 7:15.

INTRODUCTIONS; (In-person)

Officers: Jo Schaefer, Interim Chair; Ian Timm, Treasurer; Peter Sysyn, Secretary (Excused)

Presenters: Lyn Neeley, Community Volunteer CEI Project; Tommy Jarvis, Admin for HR Tran, and Cmdr Rob Simon and Sgt Carrie Hutchinson - PPB North Precinct;

Stakeholders: (Virtual) Dan Frye, Community Supporter of CEI, Lisa, and Mark Boris. **(In-person)** Demaris Martinez, HNA Board, Theodora Saunders and Lyn Neeley CEI Volunteers, Charles Schaefer, Hugh Campbell, Tony Martinez, Kate Sechrist from Rose City Park Presbyterian Church and Todd Coward, HNA Web Master.

Board Meeting Notes 04/10 were sent out by Jo to those in attendance and were approved with corrections.

CEI Presentation; Lyn provided an in- depth review of CEI (Critical Energy Infrastructure) issues and the focus of the citizens group, Critical Hub Task Force to inform the public at all levels. The Hub is built on 6.5 miles of waterfront land and currently contains 500 storage tanks which have a capacity to hold 350 million gallons of liquid fuel. Ninety (90) % are for OR which also provides 100% of jet fuel for PDX airport. Concerns? The HUB sits on unstable land which is located on the Cascadian Earthquake fault. Tanks would explode with possible tremors. The frequent derailment of trains transporting from the site and the age of the bridge that it must traverse poses a real threat to the river as well as local communities. Climate change is a major concern as high heat weather patterns release the toxicity from the tanks that can be smelled for miles from the Hub.

The Task Force is working with neighborhood associations, private and non-profit organizations, all levels of government, and the medical community to inform and address the most critical of concerns. Last year House Bill 1567 was introduced to (1) require storage tank owners to submit a Seismic Risk Assessment to the DEQ (Department of Environmental Quality). (2) Develop a Risk Mitigation Plan and (3) Implement a Risk Mitigation plan with 1-3-5 and 10 year benchmarks. Thus far only 3 of the 17 facilities are in full compliance with 14 of the 17 “dragging their feet” and still have not provided the risk assessment plans which were due in June 2024. Currently, House Bill 3450 calls on the Oregon Department of Energy to develop a transition plan for the CEI Hub, recognizing that the situation is too dangerous now. It establishes a risk bond requirement for bulk oil and fuel facilities covered by DEQ’s fuel tank seismic stability program. It would require facilities to put up the money to cover disasters instead of making the public pay.

We are fortunate in having a new city council and a new form of representative local government. The City Council has taken steps to hold companies accountable and responsible. Neighborhood Associations and other groups do make a difference. Lynn asked us if we would sign a letter of support insisting that the government demand proof of environmental, social justice, health and safety benefits and involve the public in amending land use zoning codes before further developing the CEI Hub.

Tommy Community Engagement Associate for House Rep Thuy Tran

As a way of introduction, Tommy noted that Thuy dedicated her allocated dollars to community outreach services. Any issues or concerns that come up from neighborhood associations and others may contact him.. He will share his email with Jo to pass on to our group. Another resource person is Senator Pham's staff member Amy Dudley. Tommy will not, however, comment on the CEI Hub as Thuy chairs the house committee dealing with those very issues. He is currently involved in helping her with child welfare and foster care initiatives.

Another bill he is working on deals with illicit massage parlors. It was first introduced as a large bill but was divided into 3 parts. It passed in the House 51 - 2; the two representing the extreme left and right of their respective parties. He shared that he was still trying to figure that one out. Our group decided that at least it was a balanced negative vote.

Another component after the massage parlor legislation is funding for victim services for the women involved and preventative items. He is working with Officer Plano and the DA's Office. There will be an enforcement component as well.

In closing he mentioned that he will hold a Listening Session at the Hollywood Senior Center. Date to be determined. HR Tran also holds a 1st Friday of the month session at her office on 45th/Sandy from 5:30 - 7:00. Some amazing ideas have come out of those sessions such as smaller group committees focused on improving Sandy Blvd and byways.

Commander Simon. Police Activity

JR Ujifusa is the DA in charge of prosecuting those cases that Simon's Human Trafficking Unit conducts when they do investigations. The Unit has a community presentation on May 29th on 82nd/Fremont at one of the churches over there. Their intent is to educate the public who most often asks questions about what they are seeing on the street and review how they strategically try to arrest perpetrators involved in illicit activities. It's a harm reduction type model where they are not necessarily targeting ladies on the street but mostly targeting the people who are putting them there. This is a very violent sect of the community that's very small, but very violent. Their motivations are solely money. The Human Trafficking Unit is focusing on these people.

Simon is in charge of a patrol precinct, so is more dealing with the visible, what the public sees every day. **Demaris asked** "how is the prosecution going"? **Simon indicated** when arrests are made of people who are engaged in promoting prostitution these cases are very difficult to prove. **Jo noted** that many times the victims are women who have to get arrested to get help.. **Simon indicated** that oftentimes they are so addicted to the lifestyle or there are narcotics or it's alcohol or it's a combination of things that they end up being hard to use as victims. His unit tries to get the traffickers prosecuted as well and the DA's office is strong in those cases.

Tommy mentioned that the third piece that he was working on had to be decoupled from the existing part of the bill which was the Hearsay Law.. It allows for Simon to arrest traffickers at the site, interview the women and try to get them into services. Oftentimes either because of the abusive nature of the relationship the women don't show up to the hearings and/or they disappear. There is a hearsay law for domestic violence victims. So let's say you know of an abusive relationship in the home, you can take the victim's testimony at the moment and then that's admissible in court. The goal is to be able to do that for these victims of trafficking as well. The thing that is happening in our own backyard is that some of the listed massage parlors are unlicensed. It's known that this is where you are going for illegal sex acts. A lot of that is going after the pocketbook and increasing the penalties on the folks that are dodging the licensing,

Simon's opinion is that there is a lot of advocacy for legalizing sex work in the city which adds another challenge for the police as far as making arrests. It's his perspective that it's a lack of compassion by the city and the county for not being overly aggressive in dealing with the issues.

Jo mentioned that **Thuy** was working on changing the licensing rules for massage parlors.

Tommy yeah, because a lot of times the usage of massage parlors to proliferate this kind of trafficking has been just astronomical. Over the past 5 years it's been a 400% increase. The vast majority is in the Portland area but it's also elsewhere. The main way they do it is trafficker will sometimes get a business license with a single massage license yet, they are not even in the state and then open up a facility..The vast majority of women that we are trying to help are undocumented Chinese migrants who move many times over the year. We need to enable the massage board to enforce the licensing. They do their own stings as well in their own investigations. Then you can start to hit them in their pocketbook, start gathering information that they can pass on to police officers as well. Currently it's a \$1000 dollar fine for infractions.

By increasing the penalty for license infractions, which is also a misdemeanor, adds another tool for police intervention. If it's an abusive case of the license infraction we can increase the fines.

Demaris: So what happens to the undocumented Chinese women stuck in this cycle? Are they sent back to China? **Tommy** said "no". The goal would be to work with groups such as Safety Compass and others that can take them in, provide services and help them with legitimate legal ways for their migrant status. Often they come here thinking that they will have a legitimate job and documented status and end up in illicit paid activity.

Simon for clarification the police spirit doesn't care about residential status, residency, nor legal status. Actually the police can't look at those according to their policies. They don't weigh a case on the person's legality in this country or in this area. He then thanked Jo and his appreciation of her as an absolute advocate for HNA, So it's Demaris who recently joined the PMO meetings as well as the North Northeast PSAC meetings. He is thankful to have built a relationship with both of them over the last few months and years. We need to understand as the precinct representative of where the need is in the community and the voices that he hears and is most concerned with are the people who are actually living and seeing this every day. For example just last week he and Jo talked about the van with the mannequin in it. It hadn't moved from its parked location for months/years and was perceived by neighbors as a beacon for others to park on Broadway and work on their vehicles. An officer was recently sent out to talk with the owner and he moved it a little bit. As a result timelines on what is known as abandoned vehicle or car camping regs had to be reset and legal requirements posted. Finally working with the Impact Reduction Program they were able to assess the amount of filth that was inside the vehicle and spilling out of it. They did an emergency abatement and towed the vehicle. They were also able to tow two other vans that had narcotics being sold out of them. The police are very aware of the 4400 North East Broadway location and many of the problems that it brings to the surrounding neighborhoods. It is number one in calls for service in the North Precinct. They can take care of things outside the apartment building but it is a real challenge that will take time to resolve. The man who owns the Van that the VW was hitched to was offered keys to a tiny house and he declined the offer. The house is off Portland Road which contains a tiny house village. The police have the ability to get people into housing. This is a joint effort project with the Street Services Coordination Center and the Impact Reduction Program .He had nothing but praise for the mayor. Simon is aware of the issues surrounding the Broadway Medical Center, the corner gas station and tenting along 42nd. He mentioned that crime is down by 20 -30%.

Hugh asked what can be done about the activity of people screaming and flaying their arms as they walk down Broadway, the needle exchange on Sundays on Weidler, and the tents that

continually spring up on Halsey? Not much unless it is something illegal. Jo asked Simon to share the event called the Saturday night mission when they did a police street takeover for an event called Swinging to Easter. He explained that with the current budget restriction that he has, trying to get authorization to spend money to combat this type of event would be impossible. He convinced the Chief of police to say yes, we could spend money on that. He called in extra officers to try to tackle the problems before it became a big deal, His past experiences he had with such events always ended in tragedy. So the goal was to try to curtail that activity before it became a big event. As groups started to come into the city they start to amass in little various areas all over. So the officers went into a proactive mode and made 37 different traffic stops. We got four firearms off people all illegally possessed so it was a good night for the city. We use city airplanes to circle where groups are gathering and cars are speeding down the streets. Officers are then dispatched to where the activity is. Recently his precinct received a \$475,000 grant from the Oregon Criminal Justice Committee towards retail theft missions. Retail theft in the Portland metro area has exploded exponentially in the city which hurts downtown businesses more than anywhere else. But it also hurts business around the metro area such as New Seasons, Jansen Beach shopping center and Dick's Sporting on Hayden Island closed and moved. Sixty percent (60%) of theft is in the North Precinct. Chief Day has a good working relationship with the Mayor, meeting with him twice a week and the Mayor has a high regard for the PPB. Business cards were exchanged and Tommy gave out his number 971-253-9151.

Treasurer;s Report - \$9,336.76 at the end of March.

Land Use

The HUB anyone need their Newsletter?

Property Development

- 1) Where Hollywood Babylon used to be is now called Lil Swap
- 2) The building which housed Magnolias, Blackwells and the Smoke Shop has been purchased as part of the Hollywood Film District development, will become Movie Madness, Screening rooms and a restaurant.
- 3) A new vegan Chocolate Shop will open where Just 4 Kids used to be.
- 4) Bar Hollywood opened next to the theatre and can seat 45
- 5) Old Rite Aid building is going to be Planet Fitness
- 6) Starbucks has been sold, no update as to future use.

Kate gave a brief presentation on reaching out to the Sudanese Community

Assoc. of Oregon and SW Washington which is a small newly formed nonprofit, grass roots organization with about 100 refugees and immigrants and second gen folks. They will be signing a three month lease with the church to come into the facility focusing on community building: health resources, education and providing children activities.

Ian The Hollywood N.E.T. will have an Emergency Preparedness table at the CfPA 4th annual block party on June 28th.

Todd Coward is updating our web site to make it easier for people to access. Various programs will be featured and there will be a need for volunteers to provide the information.

JO reminded us that Doug Whyte, Executive Director of the Hollywood Theatre, will be at our July 24th meeting to share their plans for expanding the area around the theatre and across Sandy Blvd. The intent is to create a film district that will bring film buffs and tourists from all over

The tree lighting project is in phase 2. The city has identified 53 street trees and 17 private trees to have lights installed on them. There could be an issue with continuing the lighting project if it conforms to the city's updated Tree Code.

The Junior Rose Parade is on June 4th, from 1:00 - 3:00.

NE Villages is having a housing resource fair at Rose City Park United Methodist Church on 58th and Alameda, 2:00 - 4:00. Approximately 20 vendors will be present.

Thanks for coming.

Ian moved that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

Submitted by Peter Sysyn, Secretary