

Next Meeting: Homestead Annual Picnic ! Tuesday, August 2, 2011 6:30 p.m.

Duniway Park Lilac Garden

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HomesteadNA.org

Our Annual Picnic and National Night Out Party! Again this year we will celebrate the neighborhood, summer, and our commitment to keep down crime. Join us at the Lilac Garden at Duniway Park and join the fun! Get together with neighbors, meet new neighbors, bring children and dogs comfortable in crowds, share a favorite pot luck dish, join in some games, maybe even win a prize! We hope that Master Chef Rich Davidson will again preside at the grill. Thanks to area merchants, volunteers, and Southwest Neighborhoods, we will provide utensils, paper products, and items to grill. Bring yourself and, if you like, favorite side dishes, especially deserts!

The Lilac Garden is at the western end of Duniway Park where Terwilliger Boulevard turns left and Sam Jackson Park Road begins. Follow the sounds of fun! We could use help setting up tables and taking down same and with general organizing. If you can help, please call Susan Egnor at 503-939-3928 or e-mail stegnor@comcast.net.

June Meeting:

Our Neighborhood Liaison Officer from the Portland Police Bureau, Doug Dickinson, talked about the significant increase in property crimes in our neighborhood. Most such crimes, he said, are crimes of opportunity. Take away the opportunity by leaving nothing visible in your car, even when you are “just” running back to the house for a minute; by not leaving valuables where they can be seen, such as a purse picked up by breaking the screen next to which it sat; by locking your house; and by reporting any unusual behavior or wanderers to the non-emergency number: 503-823-3333. With its winding streets and secluded driveways, Homestead is hard to patrol, so help yourselves, your neighbors, and the police bureau by paying attention to what’s happening here.

Reports: Treasurer Ed Fischer reported that, with this year’s grant money now in the bank, we have \$950 in the treasury. Membership Chair Susan Egnor reported that the picnic will be August 2 and asked for help with door prizes, set up, games, and food. Regarding traffic calming: the Bureau of Transportation will seek City Council approval for extending it’s share of funding. Toya Fick, OHSU liaison said OHSU has already approved extending its share for another year. The focus is on SW Condor Lane and Terwilliger with a hope to slow traffic on Terwilliger and make the intersection safer for the pedestrians who cross. There was a discussion of progress on the sidewalk project on SW 11th; plans are in the works and the city expects to meet with property owners shortly. Toya Fick reported on OHSU’s five year Plan to deal with the invasive species in the natural areas on its property. Speaking for the Veterans Administration, Dan Gutkowski advised construction has begun on the new VA hospital garage but there is no funding yet for the addition to the emergency department. Ed Fischer reported on the open house for new trails in Marquam Nature Park within Homestead. Rich Davidson reported on the school bond issue and the need to get better community support for the schools.

Election: We elected the following officers: President Eric Schnell; Vice President, Anton Vetterlein; Treasurer, Ed Fischer; Membership and Outreach Chair, Susan Egnor. We do need a Secretary—please let us know if you can help. Rich Davidson has served the Homestead neighborhood in many ways over the 30 years he and his family have lived here.

This year, however, was an extraordinary one: while still owning property here, and thus continuing as a member, for family reasons Rich moved to Vancouver, WA. Nonetheless, he helped keep things together for us as Acting President, coming over to chair meetings, remind us of our history, and to represent Homestead in various dealings with the city and other neighborhoods. Those at our Annual Meeting joined in a heartfelt round of applause in appreciation for Rich Davidson's continued caring for our unique neighborhood.