Piedmont Neighborhood Association
General Meeting

PNA General Meetings are held the third Thursday of most months, 7:00-9:00pm .

Date: Thursday, October 15, 2026
Time: 7:00-9:00pm
Location: Peninsula Park Community Ctr, 700 N Rosa Parks Way, Portland, Fireside Room
Via Zoom: Zoom recording

Minutes

1. **Welcome** and **Introductions** (Rhett Lawrence, Vice Chair)
    a. ~~Raziah Roushan (Chair)~~[excused absence], Don Robinson, (Secretary), Deanne Gomez (Treasurer), Ben Meyer-Crosby (Member-At-Large), ~~Brian Borrello (Member-At-Large)~~[excused absence], Vic Vencill (Member-At-Large)
    b. **22 Attendees**: 10 members, 5 Board members & 1 guest in person; 4 members & 2 guests online

2. **Annual PNA Board Election** (Rhett)
    a. All current Board members were running again
    b. Any new nominations?
        i. Yes: Sharon Nasset
    c. Reviewed slate of candidates
        i. Raziah Roushan
        ii. Rhett Lawrence
        iii. Don Robinson
        iv. Deanne Gomez
        v. Ben Meyer-Crosby
        vi. Brian Borrello
        vii. Vic Vencill
        viii. Sharon Nasset
    d. Optional candidate statements
    e. Needed quorum of 10+ Non-Board members
        i. Had 14 non-Board members so **achieved Quorum**
    f. Voted on slate of candidates by show of hands in person and online
        i. Members unanimously approved the slate of candidates
        ii. Newly elected Board members will elect the Board's Executive Officers before or on the next Board meeting (Nov 12), and their terms will run Jan-Dec 2027.

3. **Amazon Drone Update** (Ben)
    a. Summary of Neighborhoods' Engagement so far
        i. In 2027, Amazon is hoping to launch a drone small package (<5 lbs.) delivery system from the N Schmeer Rd Fulfillment Center extending up to 7.5 miles (that could include St. Johns, downtown Vancouver, downtown Portland).
        ii. Pre-Permit meeting at City Hall was canceled recently by Amazon but is believed to just be a delay.
        iii. The City Council voted 11-0 yesterday to work on the research and then craft the language of an eventual commercial Drone moratorium. They have 45 days before a moratorium vote.
    b. **Hybrid Public Meeting: Amazon Drone Livability Neighborhood Discussion**

i. The following NAs (Arbor Lodge, Bridgeton, East Columbia, Humboldt, Kenton, and Piedmont) have held urgent meetings in recent days to coordinate our efforts to oppose Amazon's proposal. We've invited our three Dist. 2 City Councilors and members of the press to join us in this hybrid meeting where we will provide the latest updates on our efforts and then will solicit your ideas and concerns as we move forward in organizing our growing opposition.
ii. Date & Time: **Sunday, Oct 18, 3-5p**
iii. Meeting location: **NECN** (NE Coalition of Neighborhoods) office at 4815 NE 7th Ave, Portland, OR 97211
iv. Meeting Link: **Zoom**

4. **Guest Speakers**
   a. (7:20pm) *Lutheran Community Service Northwest's (LCSN) **Justice Forward Program*** crime prevention presentation by **Maxwell Olwaon and Akanksha**, including citywide restorative justice efforts in partnership with the Portland Police Bureau (20 min)
      i. Maxwell is a training supervisor with the **Justice Forward** program of Lutheran Community Services Northwest, and Akanksha is a restorative justice facilitator
      ii. **Restorative justice is an alternative approach to the court-based system**. Rather than pursuing punishment, restorative justice seeks to repair the harm through the use of practices that focus on the 5 R's of restorative justice: Relationship, Respect, Responsibility, Repair, and Reintegration.
      iii. They explained how this is a different approach to justice where all involved parties have a voice in the process to repair harm by rebuilding relationships and addressing needs, especially those of the harmed party. In a criminal justice system, the harmed party are the victim, and the responsible party is the person who causes the crime.
         1. In the criminal justice system, we ask what crime was committed, who committed the crime, and what is their punishment.
         2. In restorative justice, we ask: What happened? Who was harmed and what are their needs? Whose responsibility is it to repair the harm and address those needs?
         3. Their main focus is rebuilding relationships and addressing needs, while the criminal justice system is to follow the law.
         4. Accountability is understood as taking responsibility for the impact of their action and repairing the harm.
         5. While in criminal justice, it is about punishment.
      iv. The Portland Community Justice Partnership was initiated by a lieutenant in the Portland Police Bureau. He had worked as a school resource officer and referred cases to Lutheran Community Services. He had seen the benefit of restorative justice.
      v. LCSN receives referrals directly from the police–as an alternative to arrest, where instead of issuing a citation, the police ask if the involved parties would want to go through a restorative justice program.
         1. Cases they get referred include minor assaults, burglary, unauthorized use of vehicle, graffiti, theft, vandalism, hit and run–NOT cases like murder, rape, domestic violence.
         2. LCSN can also get referrals from neighborhood associations or individual community members as well as from Multnomah County's deflection program, Portland Public Schools
      vi. LCSN also offers training for facilitators for conflict resolution for the Tri counties.
         1. They offer further support from their Crime Victim Advocacy Program

2. They also involve volunteers, in the form of surrogates and community members, which means that if people have experienced harm and they want to share about how they have been harmed, they involve such people in their restorative dialogues or community circles, so they can also register as surrogates and volunteers

vii. As an example of their workload for Multnomah County's Juvenile Services Division, in the month of September, they had about 20 active restorative justice cases

b. (7:40pm) *Participatory Budgeting, Ballot Measure 26-267 rebuttal* by Protect Our City Services Campaign (20 min)
   i. **Tony Morse**, with the *Protect Our City Services* campaign presented the opposing view of the Participatory Budgeting ballot measure. PowerPoint Deck
   ii. It's coming at a tough time when even the 2% budget guarantee (about $16 mil/yr) written into the City's Charter will risk vital services in areas already cut severely the past several years.
   iii. It has many unknowns; it's not well-defined, and folks on the Yes campaign will say that that's an intended feature, not a bug, because it gives Council flexibility later on to come up with rules that Council thinks is the best way to administer.
   iv. Half the City Council, the Mayor and City Administrator oppose it.
   v. The 3 main newspapers oppose it: Portland Mercury, The Oregonian and Willamette Week .
   vi. Councilor Pirtle-Guiney is opposed but sees its many merits and has suggested that the City could do a trial run on a project–instead of writing this into the Charter.
   vii. We do now potentially have a more representative form of government with 12 Councilors much better representing their districts, so wasn't one of the main arguments for changing the City's chart was to gain greater representation and accountability? So is this Charter change even necessary?

5. **Committee and Community Updates**
   a. Successful Sept Dumpster Day (Don)
      i. Over 250 cars drove through
      ii. Nearly $1,000 was raised by this event for each of the four NAs
   b. Rosemont Court update (Don)
      i. Trell Andeson (Exec Dir of the owner NW Housing Alternatives) said the city is pushing our closing date from November into December due to staff capability and the number of transactions that the city is processing. He was assured by the City that all is still in line (budget-wise) and on track, and it's just a matter of their capacity.
      ii. Don let Trell know how these continual delays are very frustrating to all of us–especially the former residents who would like to return.
   c. New PNA Logo Project (Don)
      i. PNA has now earmarked some funds to re-design/update the PNA logo.
      ii. We're reaching out to members to solicit your ideas on what you'd like to see in a new logo.
      iii. Submit your response by October 20th to: https://piedmontneighborhood.com/contact/
   d. Yard Tree Giveaway by PP&R Urban Forestry (Rhett)
      i. Check out the species being given away this year.
      ii. REGISTER NOW for up to (3) trees and go pick them up for Free!
   e. Creo Chocolate Tour, Tasting and Build a Bar (chocolate) Experience
      i. Sunday, Dec 6, 2:00p (experience takes about 90 minutes)

ii. Creo Chocolate Factory Store at: 100 NE Farragut St (in Piedmont)
iii. $53 per participant (includes children age 8+)
iv. To reserve/pay online: https://creochocolate.com/
    1. Click on *Build a Bar→Book now*