

# the SUNA Times

## Spring 2014



*The Official Newsletter of the South University Neighborhood Association.*

### SUNA President Message:

by Carolyn Jacobs



With the approaching May general membership meeting my time as the SUNA board chairperson comes to an end. I have served the neighborhood association in this capacity for four years (two two-year terms) – the maximum allowed by our charter.

I have, in that time, advocated continuously for what I saw as the livability and viability of our neighborhood. There were times when it was exhausting and times when it was frustrating. But it was well worth it!!

As the University enrollment expanded our neighborhood felt the effects of unregulated parking, incompatible infill, and increased behavior issues. We saw single family homes become rentals to large numbers of students. To meet the challenge we worked with the City to establish the parking permit program in SUNA and increased the required number of spaces required of multi unit buildings. In the high density northern part of the neighborhood we greatly reduced the cap on building heights in such a manner that they step down as one moves south from 18th street and continues across 19th. At the point half way between 19th and 20th avenues where the low density (single family) zone meets the high density zone we were able to put into City code a "transition" set of standards including greater set-backs, lower walls, and a sloped or gradual height allowance to buffer the otherwise jarring differences between the type of developments in low and high density zones. Several of us were also instrumental in the City's adoption of the Ordinance for Unruly Behavior (the "Social Host" Ordinance) which has contributed to the increasing peace and quiet we are experiencing today in our neighborhood.

We are now poised to begin a much needed and long awaited planning process – a promise made to us several years ago in the Envision Eugene process. It is a wonderful opportunity for us as a community to take a long term look at what we might want the future of our neighborhood to be like and to determine how we

*continued on page 2*

### Celebrate Neighborhood Protections

by Bill Aspegren – Board Member

In early March the City Council unanimously passed an ordinance that will limit certain types of development in the South University, Fairmont and Amazon neighborhoods. These protections will be in effect until a more comprehensive Area Plan is put in place. The Area Plan will provide the area most impacted by the University a first-ever opportunity for long range planning. The goal of this effort will be a set of standards appropriate to these specific neighborhoods.

The ordinance will:

- Limit the size and height of new secondary dwelling units, accessory buildings and houses on existing alley lots
- Prohibit new row houses, duplexes, triplexes and other types of attached housing
- Allow construction of additional bedrooms, beyond 3, only if a deed restriction limiting unrelated occupants to three is attached to the property
- Prohibit up-zoning to row houses (R1.5) in the single family zone (R1)
- Prohibit creation of new alley access only lots
- Limit the location and extent of parking allowed in front yards

Additionally, a city-wide set of single family code amendments has been developed and will soon be voted on by the Council. These efforts are the culmination of seven years work, starting with the Minor Code Amendment and Infill Compatibility projects. Many neighbors have contributed time and effort to bring these important changes to this point. The results will help to insure neighborhood livability and limit the impact of infill.



## Friendly Area Neighbors Keep Friendly Park Pesticide Free

One of the best ways to make new friends and strengthen existing relationships is to commit to a shared activity together. Eugene has twenty-three recognized neighborhood associations and Eugene Park Stewards proudly commits to a diversity of organizations and groups, engaging neighbors and the community to share in the activity of stewardship. One such group, the Friendly Area Neighbors (FAN), began ongoing stewardship of their neighborhood park last fall, partnering with Parks and Open Space to make a change in their beloved Friendly Park.



FAN has helped improve and make many changes in Friendly Park over the years. In 2007, through a Neighborhood Matching Grant, FAN added a new slide and swing set, a new hard-service loop path, a water and sand play area, a play table, an ADA accessible picnic table, benches and much more to the park. Friendly Park users and nearby neighbors identified a new concern in 2013 about their neighborhood park- pesticide use. This group brought their concerns to the FAN Board who, in turn, contacted Parks and Open Space to find a solution. Working together, these groups unanimously supported the designation of Friendly Park as pesticide-free. The solution? FAN volunteers agreed to perform maintenance to replace pesticides in the park four times per an-

num, adhering to specific guidelines for the maintenance of the park and keeping it pesticide-free.

FAN volunteer Andrew Fisher said, "The recent designation of Friendly Park as a pesticide-free space demonstrates that residents can affect change in their neighborhood." To learn about park adoptions and other volunteer opportunities, contact Carrie Karl at 541-682-4850 or email [carrie.l.karl@ci.eugene.or.us](mailto:carrie.l.karl@ci.eugene.or.us). Come hear from Carrie at the May 14 General Meeting (see back page) about how we can adopt University Park!

## SUNA President Message

*(continued from page 1)*

might achieve our collective vision. Recently, City Council adopted Interim Protection Measures which will effectively provide us a kind of temporary immunity from building code change which will begin to affect low density areas in the rest of the City sometime in the next few months. We will then have the responsibility to determine what will be most effective for our specific situation.

At this point, I am very much looking forward to working on this new challenge and am hoping it brings a chance for collaboration with both the City and the University!

*Neighborhood Zone Parking Permits are no longer being issued by Diamond Parking. It is handled by the UO at 1401 Walnut Street, 541-346-5444.*

## South University Awarded 2 Matching Grants

*by Mike Westervelt — Board Member*

Two separate projects in the South University Neighborhood were recently awarded neighborhood matching grants by the Department Advisory Committee through Cindy Clarke at Eugene's Neighborhood Services.



The first project will be an art installation along Alder brought to fruition by Allen Hancock. Based on similar projects in Portland and other cities Allen will be coordinating painted street art at various locations along Alder.

The second is a continuation of the STOP sign/street sign pilot project that was implemented along Alder Street from 19th to 24th by Jeff Lanza and Mike Westervelt 2 years ago. Due to the continued support of the UO and their generous donation (thanks go to Karen Hyatt in UO Community Relations for facilitating once again!) of \$4,000, we will be able to install roughly 8 more posts, these will be interspersed throughout the neighborhood.



July 22 - 27 Hayward Field

  
**sunaeugene.org**



Tim Shinabarger – South University Neighborhood has been my home since 2000 when my wife, daughter and I got our place on Agate Street.

Ironically, it was my daughter who selected the location; this is where the kids lived who she was rowing with on crew at South Eugene High School. We got the least expensive house in a great neighborhood on the SUNA side of Agate Street. Now 14 years later, my wife and I are delighted that our daughter, grand-daughter and son-in-law live in Eugene. We also have a son who works seasonally with the U.S. Forest Service and stays with us in the off-season.

My work life has included cafe's and restaurants, factory work, investigative reporting for newspapers, work as a land-use planner, and my current job appraising property for Lane County. I have a degree in Community & Regional Planning from the University of Oregon.

I've been on the SUNA board since 2007. I think it gives me a chance to work with other residents to help keep the neighborhood as someplace where my wife and I can retire in a few years when it's our time. I've been a bit player in local issues that include neighborhood street traffic calming and the building heights issue, and I've been one of the hundreds of SUNA residents who testified at public hearings to save Edison Elementary School and to get the social host ordinance approved as law. In each campaign I've stood in awe at the wisdom, skill and tenacity of my neighbors who made these campaigns succeed. I've scooped ice cream and hung banners at neighborhood gatherings, set up chairs for meetings, and delivered SUNA newsletters door-to-door. I'm currently secretary for the SUNA board. I respectfully ask for your vote to serve another term on the board.



Marsha Shankman, Treasurer – I am a longtime SUNA resident and have served on the Board since 2008. What keeps me motivated is the Board's

involvement in important neighborhood issues and projects - the RPP program, an effective way to respond to complaints in the neighborhood by connecting the Eugene Police, neighborhood residents, and the University of Oregon; the enactment of the social host ordinance; the active support of Edison School; the traffic enhancement project, funded by a neighborhood grant, which provided new posts and stop signs along Alder Street; and the recent Interim Protection Measures, which hold much promise for future neighborhood planning. I look forward to working with other Board members to preserve the livability of our wonderful neighborhood.



Laura Illig – I have lived in the South Eugene neighborhood since 2007. I grew up outside of Washington, D.C. and moved to Eugene from

New York City, where my family and I spent a number of years living and working. I own a management consulting firm, Corinthian Consulting, which specializes in marketing, strategy, and organizational development. For the past few years, I have also worked part-time as the Vice President of Marketing for SELCO Community Credit Union. I was on Site Council at Edison Elementary School and played an active role in organizing members of the South University, Fairmount, and Laurel Hill Valley neighborhoods to fight for preservation of Edison as a neighborhood school and community anchor. I was also the campaign manager for the 4J school bond measure that passed in May, 2013, am the Fundraising Chair for the Democratic Party of Lane County, serve as the Secretary of the Board for Parenting Now! (formerly Birth to Three) and am also the Chair of the City of Eugene Budget Committee. I live on E. 20th Avenue with my husband, Rob, a professor at the UO Law School and my daughter, Emma, a student at Roosevelt Middle School.

### Also running as current board members:



Bill Aspedren



Carolyn Jacobs



Pamela Miller



& Malcolm Wilson

## Board Candidate Profiles

*We thank our departing board member Mimi McGrath-Kato for all you gave while here! Your positive demeanor will be sorely missed.*



## South University Neighborhood Association

c/o Neighborhood Services  
99 West 10th Avenue, Eugene, OR 97401

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This is the official newsletter of the South University Neighborhood Association. 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 official, or City staff.

## NEIGHBORHOOD OPEN HOUSE

TUESDAY May 14TH 7:00 p.m. Edison School Cafeteria 22nd/Onyx



*All of Eugene welcomes you to the 2014 NUSA conference! We have lots planned for you. Great music, tasty locally-grown food, and enlightening neighborhood tours will complement workshops and information about what makes communities special, and how to make them even better!*

*For more information contact:  
Neighborhood Services  
[www.eugene-or.gov/NUSA2014](http://www.eugene-or.gov/NUSA2014)  
541.682.5010*