Riverfront Board Meeting 11/3/03 Minutes

Members present: Verbout, Green, Klein, Martin, Stacey

Absent: Loaiza, Wall

John Kahl, the Business Manager from the Milwaukie Waldorf School, met with the Board to discuss ways that the Waldorf School might use Milwaukie Riverfront.

Kahl noted that the school has 350 students in elementary school and 45 high school kids.

Kahl noted that he was a sailor and would like to get the kids out on the river sailing, kayaking and crewing. The Riverfront would need a dock for this type of use. He said there are a lot of parents interested in water sports like dragon boats but they would have to use Oaks Park to put in at this time.

He said the school is interested in nature and biodiversity. He said we might contact Lauren Johnson for more information regarding volunteers or educational opportunities.

Kahl said it is a goal of the Milwaukie Waldorf School to be part of Milwaukie. He noted that the gym at the school and the soccer field are used by other organizations for a fee of \$5/hour.

Verbout said that Kahl might contact Steven Loaiza regarding crew clubs in Portland and Lake Oswego. Herrigel said she would get Kahl Loaiza's e-mail address.

Klein agreed that we do need a boat dock and asked what that would take.

Kahl said he thought he could get some of the parents from the Waldorf School to chip in for shells and they could circulate them for use among the kids. The issue of a dock remains, however.

Green said he thought the river provided a great environmental education opportunity as an outdoor classroom. Its location between the two creeks is ideal for learning.

Kahl said the school has a monthly 12-page publication that is coordinated by Mara Rice. Any information regarding events should be forwarded to her.

Kahl noted that 8th graders are required to organize projects of their own. Seniors also have projects that involve community service. Diane Rowley is the principal and would know which teachers may have interest in River related issues.

Michael Martin said he thought securing a boat dock for the riverfront might be a good project for a Waldorf student.

Riverfront fund raising

Ed Zumwalt addressed the group about ideas for fundraising for development of the Riverfront Park. Here is a summary of his comments:

- He agrees that a dock would be valuable for the Riverfront.
- He has spoken with Jim Bernard about various fund raising ideas
- Celebrate Milwaukie is building up their Board of Directors to include more people
- He described a theory of a financial consultant he'd spoken with that if you get folks with money all in one room they tend to compete with one another to fund projects.
- He feels we need to raise awareness of the Riverfront and its financial need through the Pilot, Library newsletter, cable TV and the Oregonian
- We should pursue grants from foundations where possible
- We should continue to get folks involved, interested, excited and committed to the Riverfront.
- He will begin working hard on this project in January after the Centennial events have been completed
- He said we have to make it easy to give money to this project

The Board made the following comments:

- Martin suggested a Polar Bear swim
- Green said it is not a comfortable place to hang out right now but with a bit of upgrading it might be used a lot more (benches, picnic tables etc)
- It was noted that we might advertise the Riverfront as a good recipient for end of the year donations.

Minutes

Stacey moved to approve the September 22, 2003 minutes. Martin seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

Other

Gary Klein invited all to a December 9 get-together at his house at 7 pm to view the Christmas Ships.

Green gave the group an update of the McLoughlin project and said that we would send the meeting minutes to the group.

Stacey/Verbout motioned for adjournment – motion passed 5-0.