



Hayden Island Neighborhood Network

General & Board Meeting Minutes September 14, 2023 Time: 7:00 – 8:30 PM

**I. Call to order – Presiding Officer, Martin Slapikas, Chair, HINooN
Secretary – Ellen Churchill, BOD**

II. Board Member Roll Call: [P] Present [A] Absent

Association of Unit Owners of Riverhouse	Martin Slapikas	Chair	P
At Large & Communication Chair	Pam Ferguson	Vice Chair	P
Columbia Point West	Michelle Wemyss	Treasurer	A
Lotus Isle HOA	Ellen Churchill	Secretary	P
Waterside Condominiums	John Stach		P
Hayden Bay Homes	Vacant		
HI Manufactured Home Owners	Christina Fletcher		P
HI Manufactured Home Owners	Jan Roxburgh		P
Columbia Point	Janet Mack		P
Marina River House HOA	EC Mathews		A
Tomahawk Floating Moorage	Be Friend		A
At Large	Tom Dana		P
At Large	Ned Schmidtke		A
At Large	Sam Churchill		P
Non-Profit Hayden Island-CSI	Gary Clark		P

Committee Members:

Shelbie Loomis	Community Garden	P
Pam Ferguson	Communication	P
Sam Churchill	HINooN Website	P
Gary Clark	Safety	P
Be Friend	Just Crossing Alliance [JCA]	A

Guests:

R Schneiders same		
503-334-8190 same		
Tim Seeling		

II. Establish quorum of voting members

Meeting called to order by Martin Slapikas at 7:01 PM. A quorum was established with 10 Board members present.

III. Approval of the June 8, 2023 and the July 13, 2023 and August 10, 2023 HINooN Meeting Minutes .

The June 8, 2023 meeting minutes, July 13, 2023 and the August 10, 2023 Board minutes were approved as written.

V. Reports of Officers & Standing Committees – 15 minutes

1. Martin Slapikas, Chair & Executive Committee Chair

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Bybee Lakes Hope Center [Oregon's largest homeless shelter] has stopped accepting shelter admissions due to lack of funding. Bybee Lakes asked Multnomah County for additional funds to keep the doors open. Multnomah County has \$65 million in the unspent homeless services budget.

Jantzen Beach Carousel has found a permanent home at the National Neon Sign Museum in The Dalles, Oregon. While the Hayden Island Community is happy the carousel is safe and has a permanent home, we are sad that we weren't able to bring it back to Jantzen Beach.

The Interstate Bridge Replacement Program representatives requested another opportunity to give a presentation to HINooN. While the IBRP did present to HINooN on August 10, 2023, they felt they still had more to share.

HINooN members expected the August 10th IBRP presentation to be more about urban design. There was considerable disappointment from Board members that the IBRP presentation was primarily about their decision-making process. There was very little time spent on explaining the changes that will occur to our community. The HINooN Board agreed to bring them back for another in-person presentation.

Discussion on tolling the Hayden Island community. Pam Ferguson volunteered to represent Hayden Island at the Kearns & West on-line Tolling discussion to be held Tuesday, September 19th.

News article on tolling: <https://www.clarkcountytoday.com/news/legislators-get-update-on-designs-funding-transit-and-tolling-for-interstate-bridge-replacement/>

Maria Verano from Kearns and West **email attached.** Also, a lengthy Hayden Island Board member tolling discussion is at the end of these meeting minutes.

2. Pam Ferguson, Vice Chair & Communications Chair

Pam was disappointed that HINooN did not go forward with applying for a mini-grant from the IBRP. We received the information late and were unable to get the whole Board's approval in time to get the grant. The grant would have been especially helpful for the Manufactured home community.

3. Michelle Wemyss, Treasurer – absent from the meeting. Ellen read the treasurer’s report

The full report is attached to these minutes.

Business Checking	\$6,528.18
Business Savings	<u>\$2,531.92</u>
	\$9,060.10
Bottle Drop	\$2,027.59
Addition to bottle drop	<u>187.91</u>
	\$2,215.50

Cash on June 30, 2023 \$11,275.60

4. Ellen Churchill, Secretary

North Portland Neighborhood Services is changing. The office of Civic and Community Life (OCCL) is reorganizing. Mary Jarron Kelly is moving to the Mayor’s Office. Her duties will be redefined. We are not sure what the new structure will look like or exactly what will happen with the Kenton Firehouse building that has always been important as a meeting place for the North Portland Community.

Tolling - Aria Vernano from Kearns & West has asked HINooN for a volunteer to attend an online focus group on tolling. Pam Ferguson, as Vice Chair and Communication Chair of HINooN, has offered to attend the Tuesday, September 19th meeting.

Bob Ortblad wrote an editorial for the Clark County Today. He believes the Interstate Bridge Replacement Program lost credibility. The IBRP’s “Tunnel Concept Assessment” disqualified the immersed tunnel alternative. A recent public disclosure confirmed that the IBRP’s calculations were wildly inflated by millions of cubic yards. The IBRP admitted the massive error but continue to disqualify an immersed tunnel alternative.

<https://www.clarkcountytoday.com/opinion/letter-ibr-dishonest-or-incompetent/>

Sharon Nasset has requested time on HINooN’s agenda to explain her idea for a third bridge. The HINooN Board decided to forgo this presentation. While HINooN is still interested in a third bridge, they are not interested in discussing her proposal at this time.

The local government is once again proposing a “Rain Tax”. Docks, boathouses, covered marinas, any overwater impervious surfaces, will be subject to a stormwater fee. This is a fee without a supporting service. A large community push back is organizing

5. Gary Clark, Hayden Island – Community Safety Initiative

Nathan Vasquez, Senior Deputy Multnomah County Prosecutor, is running for Mike Schmidt's job as District Attorney. Gary Clark will invite Vasquez to one of the Hayden Island CSI meetings. Crime on the island hasn't gotten better and we would like to see what Nathan Vasquez proposes to turn things around. The island community would like to see the DA's office prosecute misdemeanor crimes. A change in direction is needed.

The island security firm, Talon Protective Group, has been expanding the patrols on the island. The Portland Police force lost a lot of experience due to retirements and policeman leaving the force. Currently we are nowhere near the number of officers we need. It will be a few more years before the vacancies are filled and the force is up to speed.

If you need to report homeless camps or issues, complete a report on <https://pdxreporter.org> or send it to Gary Clark and he will enter it for you. Inconspicuously take pictures of the vehicles or camps, note the location and file a report on line.

6. Sam Churchill, HINooN Webmaster

Pam requested a **Facebook page on the HINooN website**. That has been done. We imbedded Facebook to help with the community engagement. There is also a translator so you can read the page in both English and Spanish. The top right menu is where the translator is loaded.

Sam asked the BOD members to review the site and let him know if changes are needed.

Sam attended the **Washington State Transportation commission tour of the Interstate Bridge** on September 7th. The tour was given by the I-5 Bridge supervisor, Marc Gross. The commission will work with Oregon Transportation Commission to set toll rates for the I-5 bridge with a daytime rate estimated to be \$2.05 to \$3.55 per trip. The tolling rates will go down in the evening. Tolling is expected to last until around 2060 or even being a permanent revenue stream.

VI. Reports of Special Committees – 15 Minutes

Just Crossing Alliance (JCA) - Be Friend, HINooN Representative – absent, no report

Google Workspace - Shelby Loomis

Shelby will get together with both Sam and Martin to bring them up to speed on the workspace project. Ellen is currently receiving emails to the secretary and distributing them as needed.

Community Garden –Shelbie Loomis, her letteris attached.

Before Shelby Loomis left on her vacation, Ellen and Shelby had the opportunity to meet with Angela Moos, one of the founders of the Kenton Community Garden. Our discussion with her shed light on the practical aspects of maintaining such a community garden. Angela emphasized the importance of a dedicated core group of at least 40 individuals who are committed to volunteering their time to ensure the success of the garden.

The community is not ready at this time to commit to the support of a community garden. There are a lot of logistics with the land, water rights, etc. that still have to be worked out if our community really wants to dedicate themselves to it. The support is just not there today.

Shelby's Motion

Shelby Loomis, as the leader of the Hayden Island Community Garden, made a motion to postpone the community garden initiative until we observe a greater willingness and enthusiasm among the majority of the community members to support the garden. The motion proposes that we withdraw the PCEF Community Grant application at this time and explore the possibility of reapplying when circumstances are more favorable.

Pam seconded the motion and the HINooN Board took a board vote. The motion was unanimously approved by all the Board members in attendance.

VII. Unfinished Business

Update on the report for the three major developments on Tomahawk Island Drive - Janet Mack

Janet Mack has spent a considerable amount of time trying to get ahold of a city of Portland contact to discuss the three major developments on Tomahawk Island Drive.

She discovered recently that the island has been assigned a contact, Portland City Engineer, Katey Perko. Janet Mack will get her phone number so we can call her when traffic issues arise with the opening of the three new resident buildings on Tomahawk Island Drive.

It is expected that around 1,000 new residents will be moving into the area. Traffic on this narrow roadway is expected to increase dramatically. In addition, there is a lack of sidewalks and street signs. Therefore, traffic management is expected to be a significant issue.

If anyone has an issue with a traffic problem on the island, they should call 311 and report it. Pictures and videos will be helpful.

Tolling Board Discussion – Pam Ferguson

The arguments for tolling: [Climate change; a new revenue source; congestion management]

1. **Climate change** has caused more and more folks to turn to electric vehicles. While good for the environment, electric cars will take away **DOTs reliance on the gas tax. Road repair** needs are going to require another revenue source. Tolling is thought to be the current fix.
2. Tolling itself will force some people to **move to alternate forms of climate friendly transportation.**
3. Tolling has been an effective means of **forcing folks in some communities out of cars and on to public transportation,** which the DOT hopes will help with congestion on I-5.

The arguments against tolling on Hayden Island: “Islanders should be exempt from tolls”

TOLLING WILL HAVE A DISPROPORTIONATE IMPACT ON ISLANDERS: Because we live on an island, tolling I-5 will be a bigger burden on Hayden Island residents than any other community. Our community connections cover about a 3-mile radius that includes both Portland and Vancouver. We believe this community should be exempt from tolling.

As our island is tied to both Portland and Vancouver by bridges, our community relies on both sides of the river. Typically, communities build their familiar routines within a 3-mile radius of their homes. Therefore, Vancouver is very much part of the Hayden Island Community. Many Hayden Island residents work, go to doctors, dentists, grocery stores, and many other daily activities and may even have family connections in Vancouver. While it may be reasonable to change directions to avoid tolls in order to pick-up groceries in Portland, it is not reasonable to ask folks to re-establish doctors, dentists, hospitals, or social connections.

HAYDEN ISLAND IS A MIXED COMMUNITY WITH A LARGE POPULATION OF RETIRED SENIORS, LOW INCOME RESIDENTS: AND MINORITIES: Over half the people on the island live in the RV park or the manufactured home community. Many of these people have moved out of Portland proper where rents are extremely high. These are low-income folks that can't afford to move to another neighborhood so that they don't have to pay tolls for daily activities.

Hayden island is also burdened with a proposed wider [double the current width that further cuts our community in two] and higher I-5 bridge over the island. Some residents' homes will even be lost due to eminent domain taking their land to build the bridge. Some businesses are also expected to be lost. Altogether this is a huge equity issue for islanders! Our livability is threatened.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION IS CURRENTLY UNSAFE: It is unfair to force elderly and low-income residents out of their cars and onto public transportation at this time. A recent article in the news described finding fentanyl and methamphetamine on public transit and all TriMet vehicles in Portland.

There is also the violent crime that has been regularly occurring on the trains and buses, plus on train platforms.

The UW study: Most Oregon, Washington transit surfaces test positive for meth.

<https://www.koin.com/news/portland/uw-study-most-oregon-washington-transit-surfaces-test-positive-for-meth/>

PORTLAND IS CURRENTLY BUILT FOR CARS NOT PEOPLE: While public transportation works great around the world and has gotten people out of their cars, it cannot work in Portland until the city is built to support people.

Singapore for example, has a population density that matches New York City but people living in Singapore don't find congestion on their roadways. Cars are expensive and you need one of the limited number of certificates from the government for the right to drive. Those certificates are also expensive and you have to bid on them. A ten-minute walk will get you to any bus stop and you never have to wait more than 3 minutes. Their communities are built with all the necessities within walking distance. It is a very walkable city without crime. They have extremely strict law enforcement. In addition, the population has a very high standard of living.

CRIME AND HOMELESSNESS IS CURRENTLY OUT OF CONTROL IN PORTLAND: Asking seniors, low income and minorities to turn to alternative forms of transportation in today's high crime climate is unacceptable.

VIII. New Business

IX. Open Forum

X. Adjournment – Meeting was adjourned at 8:34 by Martin Slapikas

Notice: The next General Meeting will be Thursday, October 12, 2023, at 7 PM.

The next Annual Membership meeting will be next year at 7 PM, Thursday, March 14, 2024

Minutes respectfully submitted by Ellen Churchill, Secretary, HINoon

DRAFT

Email written 9/21/2023 to the HINooN Board from Shelbie Loomis

Hello Everyone,

I hope this email finds you well. I wanted to provide you with an update regarding the community garden project that we have been discussing.

Firstly, I would like to express my gratitude for your understanding and support as I took some time off for my wedding. I am now back and gradually getting back into the swing of things, attending to the loose ends that have accumulated.

Before I left, Ellen and I had the opportunity to meet with Angela Moos, one of the founders of the Kenton Community Garden. Our discussion with her shed light on the practical aspects of maintaining such a community garden. Angela emphasized the importance of a dedicated core group of at least 40 individuals who are committed to volunteering their time to ensure the success of the garden.

Since my return, I have been contemplating the current collective sentiment on the island. The prevailing uncertainty caused by the bridge situation has left many community members feeling hesitant to fully engage and invest their time in endeavors that involve "setting down roots" metaphorically and literally. It is clear that a strong desire to participate and commit is essential for the community garden project to thrive.

Given this perspective, I believe it might be prudent to consider postponing the community garden initiative until we observe a greater willingness and enthusiasm among the majority of the community members. With a heavy heart, I propose that we withdraw the PCEF Community Grant application at this time and explore the possibility of reapplying when circumstances are more favorable.

I would kindly suggest that this matter be included in the agenda for our next meeting, allowing the board to discuss and vote on the best course of action moving forward. Your insights and perspectives on this decision are invaluable and will help guide the future direction of the project.

I will eagerly await your input and guidance on the next steps. I want to express my heartfelt appreciation for your unwavering dedication to this passion project. Your support has been crucial, and I remain committed to assisting our community in any way I can.

Thank you once again for your time and consideration.

Warm regards,

Shelbie Loomis-Hill

From: Maria Verano <mverano@kearnswest.com>

Hello Hayden Island Neighborhood Network,

Does the community you serve live, work, or travel on I-205 or I-5? Please join ODOT and members from the tolling advisory committees for a focused virtual discussion on the draft rules for tolling on I-5 and I-205 on **Tuesday, September 19 from 5:30 – 7:00 pm**. During the meeting, we will share updates on the Oregon Toll Program and seek input on topics related to discounts, exemptions, and the Low-Income Toll Program.

If you would like to participate in this discussion group, please email mverano@kearnswest.com. We truly appreciate your involvement in this discussion. Please note that compensation will not be provided for this discussion group.

To request an accommodation: For Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or Civil Rights Title VI accommodations, or translation/interpretation services, please contact mverano@kearnswest.com. Requests made with less than 3 days' notice will be difficult to fulfill. Please make the request earlier to allow us time to find accommodation for you.

Visit OregonTolling.org to learn more and stay up to date.

María Verano

Project Coordinator (she/her)

Kearns & West

direct: 971.314.1997

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Hayden Island Neighborhood Network

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION FOR THE CURRENT PERIOD ENDING August 31st 2023

WF INITIATE BUSINESS CHECKING

Beginning Balance August 1 st , 2023		\$6,938.15
Deposits/Credits:		0.00
Withdrawals/Debits: Jantzen Beach \$350.00 Blue Host \$59.97		<u>-409.97</u>
Balance on August 31st 2023		\$6,528.18

WF BUSINESS MARKET RATE SAVINGS

1st 2023			Beginning Balance August
Deposits/Credits	Interest	\$2,531.60	.32
Withdrawals/Debits			
Ending Balance on August 31st 2023			<u>\$2,531.92</u>

Total Combined

Wells Fargo cash accounts August 31st 2023 \$9,060.10

HINooN BOTTLE DROP (OBRC)

Bottle drop Account as of August 31st, 2023		\$2,027.59
Withdrawal from Bottle drop		
Addition to Bottle drop		<u>\$187.91</u>
Bottle drop Account as of Sept 13th, 2023		\$2,215.50

Total HINooN Cash on August 31st, 2023 \$11,275.60

DRAFT