



**Hosford-Abernethy Neighborhood Association Board
HAND Board Meeting
February 10, 2026**

Attendees:

HAND Board members		
Name	Title	Present?
Chris Eykamp	Chair	X
Mark Linehan	Treasurer	X (online)
Michelle Sprague	Communications chair	X
Barbara Stross		
Karen Girard	Secretary	X
Peggy McDaniel	SE Uplift Board representative	
Jill Riebesehl	SE Examiner liaison	
Phil Cox	Land Use	
Kim Nurmi		X
Kayla Kennett		X
Andrew Wilker		X

Guests: Mercedes Callahan, Nancy Chapin, Brian Hochhalter, Debby Hochhalter, Lauren McCune, Linda Nettekoven, Diane Odeh, Hank Smith (City of Portland), Joanne Stainbrook, Juno Suarez

Chris opened the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Announcements:

- Zoom: HAND is continuing to test using Zoom for a hybrid meeting.
- Newsletter committee: there is interest in reactivating a newsletter committee. Michelle will send an email out about forming a newsletter committee. If you're interested in participating, let Michelle know. You do not need to be on the board to participate.

Approval of January HAND Board Meeting minutes and December & January treasurer's reports

- Andrew moved to approve the January minutes and the December and January treasurer's report. Kim seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Hank Smith - City of Portland, Deputy Director of [Portland Solutions](#) joined the meeting to provide updates on the Clinton Temporary Alternative Shelter Site and The People's Depot bottle drop site.

Future of Temporary Alternative Shelter Sites (TASS)

- Clinton TASS
 - Lease was for 3 years, expires at the end of June 2026
 - Currently negotiating an extension to the lease
 - Meets with Clinton Triangle Oversight Committee (CTOC) every month
 - Waiting on city budget appropriation from City Council
- Chris asked the group what they want to happen around the Clinton TASS.
 - Mark: feels it has been successful; continue to support
 - Kim: wants to see more of an emphasis on sobriety
 - Debby: asked about the good neighbor agreement (GNA). Chris said the value of the GNA is providing the structure for ongoing, productive conversation.
 - Kayla: asked about experience with Urban Alchemy.
 - Brian: wants the Clinton TASS to continue; appreciates the programs available to residents
 - Michelle: important to continue to address jurisdiction issues, such as ODOT responsibilities along Powell
 - Karen/Juno: continues to support better coordination and collaboration among city, county, state, etc. efforts to address very complex issues affecting houseless population

The People's Depot update

- The group discussed the City's involvement in The People's Depot alternative bottle drop center - this is part of Hank's portfolio. Not much of an update at this time.
- Attendees requested that the City function as a convener to bring engaged neighborhood groups and The People's Depot stakeholders together to discuss the potential site. The neighborhood groups have not been engaged since October and are not part of discussions at this time.

Rapid Response Committee - validate letter of support approval

- Michelle moved to validate the Rapid Response Committee's decision to send a letter of support for the Human Access Project's grant application to Metro to support river clean up in HAND. Andrew seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- Karen made a motion that the HAND Board issue a blanket approval for Human Access Project grant proposals of up to \$50,000 through the calendar year. Andrew seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Abernethy PTA - Mercedes and Lauren

- The Abernethy PTA has many opportunities for neighbors to be involved in Abernethy. Please contact Mercedes or Lauren if you're interested in getting involved. The PTA Community Meetings are the 3rd Thursday of every month 6:30-8:00 in Abernethy Auditorium. All are welcome.
- Upcoming events:
 - Bike Fair - April; bike swap, bike repairs, obstacle courses
 - Auction - April 18th; need volunteers; PTA's biggest fundraiser
 - Carnival - May 15th; need volunteers; biggest community event
 - Spring Clean-up: grounds committee meeting tomorrow
- There is a fiber arts installation at Abernethy (tomorrow @ 8:30 a.m.) - community knit hearts to install along the fence
- Portland Public Schools are facing budget cuts - \$55 million cut. This affects Abernethy Elementary - 1st and 2nd grades will be blended classrooms; 3rd & 4th grades will be blended; losing support staff.
 - One way to help is to volunteer with the Eagles Reading Club. Abernethy PTA is looking for tutors to join our community led reading intervention program at Abernethy this Fall. Our structured phonics based program has been running for the past 3 years, and community tutors help students strengthen their reading skills to grade level in small or one-on-one groups.
 - This program offers tutoring to students who are falling behind in reading.
 - The Eagles Reading Club operates October through May on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 8:20-10:20.
 - They are building a substitute list to cover time off. Training is provided for this phonics-based curriculum.
 - Contact Felice Lamb to learn more or set up a time to chat (felice.lamb@supportabernethy.org)

82nd Avenue of Roses Parade - Nancy Chapin

- Nancy Chapin shared information about this year's [82nd Avenue of Roses Parade](#). It is the parade's 20th year (theme: History of East Portland).
- Expanded 3-day event with multiple activities happening each day including the famous Roses in the Heart of Portland Parade, Funtastic Carnival, classic car show, farmers market, and two contests. Roses of 82nd Avenue Parade
- Parade is on April 25th
- Rose photo contest - submit pictures by March 6, 2026

Neighborhood Association volunteer recruitment and retention project - Diane Odeh

- Diane Odeh is a PhD candidate @ PSU Hatfield School of Government
- For her dissertation, she is studying what motivates people to join and sustain involvement with neighborhood associations
- Goal is to help neighborhood associations learn what helps recruit and retain neighborhood association board members
- Diane is recruiting neighborhood association board members to interview (30-60 minutes). Chris will forward Diane's flyer and booking link to the board.

Vice Chair position vacancy on HAND Board

- The HAND Board has a vacancy for the Vice Chair position. The position term is until June when new officer positions are elected.
- Jill Riebesehl volunteered to be Vice Chair. Mark made a motion to appoint Jill as Vice Chair. Kim seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Web communication budget

- \$1,000 communications funds were deposited into the HAND account.
- Michelle made a motion to cancel Fast Comet as the HAND web hosting platform, and spend a maximum of \$100 combining web hosting and domain names into one company (Name Cheap). Karen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Neighborhood clean-up

- A neighbor in HAND is interested in scheduling a neighborhood clean-up; is anyone interested in working on the organization of a neighborhood clean-up? If so, let Chris know and he will put you in touch.

Public comment

- All attendees are invited to participate in discussions at HAND Board meetings. If you have a general comment to share, just let the chair know and time will be made available for you.
- To join the HAND listserv to receive information about HAND meetings and general announcements, send an email to handannounce+subscribe@googlegroups.com. It is not a high-volume listserv and there are usually only 1-3 announcements per month.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Karen Girard
