

**West End Neighborhood Association
General Meeting
Wednesday, November 12, 2025
6:30 pm
Reiche Community Center**

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by **Kip Deserres, WENA President**, who welcomed attendees and reviewed the agenda. Introductions were made by attendees, stating names and streets of residence.

2. Secretary's Report – Mark Tappan

- Minutes from the September General Meeting are posted on the WENA website.
- Minutes are now posted after each meeting for transparency, though not officially approved.
- No questions from the membership.

3. Treasurer's Report – Brian VanDussen

The Treasurer reported that WENA currently holds **\$23,026** in assets. Funds are allocated across several designated purposes, including agent place expenses, programming, fundraising proceeds, and a general fund. Membership dues were noted as **\$5 per individual or \$10 per family (lifetime membership)**, with additional donations welcome.

Available Funds by Source

Norway Savings	\$24,587
Paypal	\$33
Petty Cash	\$30
Plus outstanding credits	\$0
Less outstanding debits	-\$1,624
TOTAL	\$23,026

Earmarks

Aging in Place	\$3,632
Swim for Life	\$2,344
Harborview Fundraiser	\$10,238
General Fund	\$2,643

MMC Join In	\$2,969
MMC Reforest	\$897
MMC Traffic Calming	\$273
MMC Reiche Restart	\$0
Petty Cash	\$30
TOTAL	\$23,026

4. General Announcements and Ongoing Activities

- **State Street Church Shelter:** Volunteers are again being sought. Roles include overnight, morning, and afternoon shifts. A background check is required.
- **Reiche Community Center Activities:** Regular fitness classes, afternoon/evening programming, and a new monthly **matinee movie series** were announced.
- **Graffiti Reporting Program:** The seasonal program is concluding, with significantly reduced graffiti compared to last year.
- **Snow Shoveling Program:** Coordination is underway for seniors (65+) and others with mobility challenges. Volunteers are encouraged to participate.
- **Traffic and Pedestrian Safety:** An update was provided on **traffic-calming bollards**, which are being removed for winter storage and are expected to return in the spring, pending funding.
- **SNAP Back Food Drive:** A **10-day food drive** is underway, with donations accepted at designated times and locations. Proceeds will support the **Reiche School food pantry** and the local pantry on Congress Street. Monetary donations are also accepted.

External and City-Related Updates

- **Healthy Neighborhoods Program:** Five housing development proposals are under review by the city.
- **Warming Shelter Grants:** A new grant cycle is anticipated in late winter.
- **Proposed Train Station Relocation:** Discussion highlighted concerns and the need for neighborhood engagement regarding potential relocation to a location on St. John Street.
- **State & High Street Project:** An upcoming public meeting was announced, including an open house and presentation on traffic and bike path options.
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5. Portland Climate Action Team (PCAT) Presentation

Richard Clapp, a representative from PCAT presented on Portland's climate initiatives, focusing on:

- The **One Climate Future** goals
- Recent successes such as solar projects and the coal pile removal

- Advocacy for expanding **rooftop solar on schools and municipal buildings**
A petition supporting rooftop solar expansion was circulated.

PDF of Richard's presentation is available [here](#).

6. Reiche School Partnership and Volunteer Opportunities

Molly Mendola, representing Reiche School, outlined multiple opportunities for community involvement, including:

- Playground escorting and walking school bus support
 - After-school enrichment programs
 - SNAP benefit awareness and food distribution efforts
 - Garden events and food drives
- Volunteer sign-up information will be shared via follow-up email.

7. WENA Board Nominations and Elections

The Nominating Committee presented a slate of candidates for the Board, including both returning and new members. Candidates shared brief statements or submitted written remarks.

Candidates for the Board (3-year terms):

-Erno Bonebakker
-Sarah Carroll
-Phil Caruso
-CaitlinENZ
-Oliver Wight
-Suzanne Hunt
-Curt Sachs

Candidates for Officers (2026):

-President: Ethan Shrestha (new)
-Vice President: Rosanne Graef (continuing, one year left)
-Secretary: Mark Tappan (continuing, one year left)
-Treasurer: Bryan van Dussen (running for re-election to board and willing to serve one more year)

- Steven Scharff made a motion (seconded) to **elect the full slate by a single ballot cast by the secretary.**

- The motion passed unanimously.
- The secretary cast one ballot for the full slate.
- Departing Board members were acknowledged and thanked for their service.

7. New Business

- Steven Sharff made a motion (seconded) to **form a subcommittee to explore funding and purchase of a larger TV** for the community space.
- The motion passed unanimously.

8. Adjournment

Kip adjourned the meeting at 8:10 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Tappan
WENA Secretary