



UUFCO NEW HOME STEERING COMMITTEE

Chair: Leslie Koc (uufconewhome@gmail.com)

“Architecture is reaching out for the truth.” ~Louis Kahn

The following is a brief update on the progress of the New Home Project (NHP) as of mid February when this update is submitted for the newsletter. To read news that is more current, check the weekly ACE and the updates in the New Home section of the UUFCO website.

The Land: There's quite a bit to report with respect to the general topic of our land. First, the fire abatement was successfully completed. We received compliments from the City of Bend Fire Dept, Oregon Dept of Forestry and our neighbors. We have qualified for the grant of \$4,550 to partially defray the cost of the abatement. Second, we received recommendations from both the City and County planning offices for approval of our Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) Amendment. That was followed by a public hearing on February 6 where the Hearings Officer heard support from two neighboring neighborhood associations. Results of the hearing are due in the next few weeks. And third, the County assessor's office has approved the tax exemption of all of our tax lots for a religious organization tax exemption. Although these highlights have been captured in a few brief sentences, each of these projects is the result of many volunteer hours. Thank you to all who have created these successes.

Design: We are continuing the schematic phase of the design of our new home. On February 15, the Design Committee had an all-day workshop with our architect design team from THA to review a more detailed site plan and to review a preliminary floor plan. The intention of THA in this visit was to present a full picture of what we considered essential in phase one of the New Home Project (NHP). They've assured us that although the preliminary floor plan most likely has more in it than our budget will allow, this is a process of prioritizing our needs and will take us to the next iteration. The Board and Steering Committee joined the meeting in the afternoon for a summary and to provide their input on the floor plan. The next day, February 16, THA presented a recap of the process to date and presented a preliminary floor plan and design at an all-congregation meeting. They included input they received the previous day and left time for questions from those present. Here it was stated again that what THA was presenting was the whole vision of what we considered our essential spaces. What follows will be balancing what we can afford in our initial capital campaign with what we will set aside for future phases of our master plan. At the end of the presentation there was an opportunity for all to take a closer look at the picture boards. Those boards were also shown at the Pasta & Probabilities evening on February 22. The next stage of the design process will be the costing of the floor and site plan. The results of that important exercise will be available to us at the March 16 all-congregation meeting. At that time we'll have the opportunity to consider our various options.

Capital Campaign: Current information about the Capital Campaign is covered by Don Hartsough in another article in this newsletter.

Construction: The first formal activity for Kirby Nagelhout Construction Company (KNCC) will be in mid February when they join THA in costing the construction project. The results of these meetings will be shared in our all-congregation meeting in March.

Timeline: The timing of site preparation and ground breaking is dependent on the successful approval of the UGB Expansion and the Conditional Use Permit (CUP). Currently we are expecting site preparation to begin in the summer and groundbreaking in the late summer or early fall. More specific details will follow as each of the UGB and CUP activities progress. Stay tuned.

Save The Date: Saturday, March 16, 10 am to noon. This all-congregation meeting with the architects is to share progress and to listen to your feedback. We'll hear the results of the costing process and we'll begin to make decisions on what the building will look like based on what we can afford. Your attendance and participation will be important so mark your calendar for these dates and times. We'll be meeting in Old Stone and child care will be provided. Read future ACE notices for more specific details.

Communications: You can stay current with the NHP activities in one or all of these ways: 1) the New Home display board at Sunday service, 2) on the public page of the UUFCO website (under the "About Us" tab), 3) in the members' area of the UUFCO website, 4) in All Congregation Emails (ACE) when we have date sensitive information to share and 5) by asking a member of the Steering Committee or subcommittees. (See list on the display board.) We will also have a Q&A opportunity on Sunday, March 17, following the Saturday all-congregation meeting.

New Home Project Steering Committee: Dale Clark, Design Committee; John Coltman, Finance Committee; Don Hartsough, Capital Campaign Committee; Melissa Hochschild, Communications Advisor; Jerrie Jones, Secretary and Website Update Coordinator; Leslie Koc, Chair; Dave MacGurn, Land & Site Committee; Vernon Threlkeld, Construction & Technical Advisory Committee

If you've been thinking about getting involved, now is the time to step forward. Approach any of the Steering Committee (SC) members and let us know where you have experience, energy and interest. We'd appreciate hearing from you.