

METRO *Life*

The Portland Observer

SECTION B

City Council Approves New Drug Free Zone



Ainsworth & 15th Represent the South/East Borders for the newly approved "Drug Free Zone" for Woodlawn residential Area

After hearing an afternoon of testimony, the Portland City Council last week approved a new drug free zone, and the expansion of an existing one, in north and northeast Portland. Council voted four to zero to approve the zones, with commissioner Erik Sten absent for the vote.

A new Woodlawn zone will be bounded by Northeast Mallory and 15th avenues, Portland Boulevard and Lombard Street, with a short pan-handle extending south to Northeast Ainsworth Street.

The new zones are small compared to an earlier proposal to take in nearly all the territory between North and Northeast Dekum and Russell streets, North Concord and Northeast 15th avenues, with an extension to Northeast 33rd Avenue north of Prescott Street. The current proposed zone is

"very narrowly drawn around specific drug traffic problems," Hayden said. "The more loosely drawn it is, the more vulnerable we are to charges that the zone doesn't address the (drug) problem."

A police officer can order a person arrested for sale or possession of illegal drugs to be excluded from all city drug free zones for 90 days. A judge can order someone convicted of such offenses excluded for a year. Anyone excluded who is found within the zone is subject to a "criminal trespass" arrest. Anyone excluded has seven days to challenge the exclusion, or to seek a variance to travel to or from a job, treatment program or their own home if it is within a zone.

Sten, the only Council member to vote against establishing the Beech zone two years ago, said he was "pleasantly surprised by the way this has gone. If you're arrested and there's no room for incarceration, it makes sense to exclude." He said that in two years "there doesn't seem to be a ton of evidence that there's abuse going on."

During public testimony the week before, Representatives of the Boise, Humboldt, King, Piedmont and Woodlawn neighborhood associations, the Coalition of Black Men, Portland Community College, Jefferson High School, and the Hope and Hard Work Committee spoke in favor of the proposed zones. Jack Paulson of King called for a six square block addition to the Beech

zone expansion to take in a critical area on the north. Council declined to approve this request.

Piedmont chair Betsy Radigan said that drug houses these days are "less likely to be rentals run by clueless landlords than people with nowhere to go but back to ma or grandma. The tools have to change with the problem."

Several speakers, most of them lawyers, opposed the zone as a threat to civil liberties and discriminatory in its operation. Kelly Skye of the Metropolitan Public Defender's Office said that the written information given to those excluded is confusing, as is the map of the zones. Exclusion puts most treatment and drug-free housing off-limits to recovering addicts, she said.

Frances O'Hallorhan of the Sabin neighborhood said she feared the zone would continue the process of "disrespect" of African-Americans brought on by gentrification. She cited several cases of African-Americans harassed by police simply for being on the street.

Mayor Vera Katz, in response to Skye and others, urged the police to make information as understandable, and legal redress as easy to obtain, as possible.

Several zone supporters said the exclusion actually helped recovering addicts stay clean. Daniele Johnson of Franciscan Enterprise told of being stopped for trespassing in a drug free zone. "It showed me my problem was out of control," she said. "I am a result of this program, clean for two years."

Community Calendar

Voice Your Opinion

City Commissioner Dan Saltzman will discuss issues of interest to minorities in Portland. Discussion with the Asian American Community will be on Thursday, September 16 at Buckman Elementary School in the cafeteria (320 SE 16th) from 7-8:30 PM. Discussion with the African American community will be on Saturday, September 18 at King Elementary School Cafeteria (4906 NE 6th Avenue) from 11 AM until 1 PM. Discussion with the Hispanic Community will be on Tuesday, September 21 at Whitaker Middle School (5700 NE 39th) from 7-8:30 PM. Discussion with the Native American Community will be on Thursday, September 23 at Southeast Uplift Neighborhood Program (3534 SE Main Street - Fireside Room) from 7-8:30 PM.

Juneteenth 2000

The Juneteenth Association NW invites you to the Reflections Coffeeshop on September 25th to become a member in the Juneteenth Association NW. The meeting will begin at 2 PM. Juneteenth 2000 is coming! We are looking for volunteers to staff the planning committee, board of directors, logistics, security, fundraising and most of all you! Call Woodrow V. Broadnax at 503/281-8472.

The Horse Whisperer

Monty Roberts, whose book "The Man Who Listens to Horses" created a breakthrough in humane training for horses, will visit Salem on September 25 to demonstrate his groundbreaking Join-Up technique. The event will take place from 7:30 PM to 10:30 PM at the Oregon State Fair & Expo Center and will benefit Project Agape Institute of Sherwood. Tickets are available by calling 888/U2-MONTY (888/826-6689).

The Wellness Village

The African American Health Coalition need volunteers to staff the 4th Annual Wellness Village, scheduled for October 23rd at the Center of Self Enhancement. The Wellness Village is a one day event drawing people from the community for interactive activities such as health screenings, physical fitness, healthy cooking demonstrations, dynamic speakers, health education workshops and children's activities. Call 503/413-1850.

Acupuncture & Herbal Remedies

The Oregon College of Oriental Medicine in Portland is offering people a way to experience acupuncture and complementary medicine in a safe, educational forum. The college is sponsoring free seminars on September 11, 18 and 25. Each Saturday seminar starts at 10 AM and lasts about 90 minutes. At the free seminars you can learn about and sample acupuncture, herbs and meditative exercise. These natural therapies, used in China for centuries, can be very helpful to people of all ages. To reserve your place at the seminars, call 503/253-3443. The Oregon College of Oriental Medicine is at 10525 SE Cherry Blossom Drive, next to Mall 205 in East Portland.

Dream Ceremony and Workshop

Ed Fox will be in Portland giving a special dream awareness workshop and ceremony based on native Toltec practices from ancient Mexico. Fox is an apprentice to the best-selling author and nagual, Don Miguel Ruiz who wrote "The Four Agreements" and "The Mastery of Love". An introductory lecture on the indigenous, Toltec Path will be given on September 24 and will precede the workshop and ceremony. All are invited to attend. Call Katie at 503/234-9946.

Oregon Tradeswomen Network

The next meeting of the Oregon Tradeswomen Network is scheduled for Thursday, September 16 at 6 PM at the State Office Building, 800 NE Oregon St., room 120. Join us for a discussion on how ergonomics (the science of how you move) affects you at work. Monthly meetings are held the third Thursday of the month and provide information, network resources and fun for all. Childcare is provided. The meetings are free. Call 503/943-2228.

SUBMISSIONS: Community Calendar information will be given priority if dated two weeks before the event date.

National BBQ-Cookoff Hits Waterfront



1999 SAFEWAY'S BONES & BREW NATIONAL BBQ COOKOFF finds, besides being a major success donor to the Oregon Food Bank, It garnered rave reviews from the youngsters for its petting farm and time sensitive play center. All of this made for a great family day, where parents sampled BBQ from cities across the nation. All was vying for the

title to don their, place of business. The variety was immense, something for everyone. Some hot, some mild, some sweet and some tart - but all were filling & dependent on a handful of napkins and several portable water stations. Portland was also experiencing one of its hottest days of the year as temperatures toyed with the 90-degree mark.

BONES & BREW = BBQ