

WELCOME TO THE PDX GENERAL ASSEMBLY. 10/29/11

Facilitator: Adrienne

Notetaker: illona

Announcements:

Greetings GA from Jamison Sq. ½ dozen willing to risk arrest, looking for folks to join them. We need additional people willing to take risk. Media people are needed and it was mentioned people willing to provide support need to not be intoxicated. Located at 11th and Johnson

-Point of Info: 11-13 people

Q: Why focus on that camp when we can't keep this camp in order?

FAC: I will try to have that conversation happen but we'll ask the group after announcements. Tonight we may be having possible breakout group discussion. We have two possible discussions tonight. Both subjects could be covered.

-Talking about Jamison Action and how it pertains to our camp

-Continuing the conversation introduced by Metal Ray about our camp and what we're doing here

TEMP CHECK ON CONVERSATIONS

FAC: It looks split. We'll talk about both.

Q: I would like to know about the rest of the agenda items. Will there be space for proposal announcements and proposals?

A: There are no proposals, but we have proposal announcements, general announcements and committee announcements.

COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS

LEGAL: Randy: Jamison sq is touchy subject. Before mayor and PD made proclamation, we voted that march will take sleeping bags. Since Mayor's response, we haven't revisited that discussion. As of midnight, there will be arrests. We haven't voted on this. We have strong team and we will help you. We don't have gen consensus. Let's solve what we have here before we spread out. I live on site, I've been here since day 2. I've been advised, our info is available. Jamison sq 11:59 tonight, lock arms and come home. I can't help you at midnight. Let's solve what we have here, first.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1) Props to Moon Jin Cakes(SP?) Space to watch political films, please be respectful. Appreciate good stuff that comes out.
- 2) Kip from webteam: Update from GA, proposal passed getting funds out of paypal getting into account trust with attorney. Individual with Paypal account is willing to transfer money. Hopefully this is resolved in the next 48-72hrs.
- 3) I'm trying to protest more, less anger. Let's make a funny group of protesters. Use more humor. Make them laugh, too. Antonio, find him at the sustainability dept.
- 4) Roger Wagner – prosecutor, arrested 22 times, wants to teach you how to file the right docs to protect yourself. Willing to meet with all of you. Available to meet with any of you.

- 5) Justin- helping put on a show Nov 12, pub at the end of the universe, 28th and Gladstone, camp musicians, other musicians, no cover but camp donation (anything for Occupy) gets them into door. 8PM to 2AM.
- 6) Stanford: training at the library on Deep Democracy. Philosophical approach. 2-4PM Sunday.
- 7) From Jamison Sq: Anyone who can come out, please do.
- 8) Tues, Nov 8th, Occupy the Bagdad. Proceeds go to us. Please help Wednesday, Canvas on the East Side. Occupycomedypdx@gmail.com
- 9) Occupy Eugene: August and Lester: Network and exchange info, bring in together more people power. If you see us around, feel free to communicate, talk, more bicycle gens, structural engineering. We're open. We haven't felt full energy of Occupy Portland. Request for Barbaric Yelp. Get all aggression you have in your soul and stomach out...1.2...3....AHGHRGHGHGHGHGHGHGHGHGHGH

PROPOSAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1) TJ AFRICA: Boycott. Use power not anger. We were hit in the pocket. Hit corps back in pocket. Bus boycotts work. To engage in concerted refusal, to have anything to do with, to force concessions. Stop corp. shopping. We have leverage. Major dept stores, sports arenas expect us to support them. BOYCOTT. Big corps will know we mean business when we get into their business. Police brutality is mere amusement for big corps. On big days coming up, we can make a difference. Leave shopping, sports, all excessive spending alone until we are heard. Show quiet dignity. A successful movement doesn't need flags, drum circles, and sleeping bags. We show them our weakness when we are destructive to public property. Look at big corps weakness, they need us more than we need them. Stop supporting big corps. Michael Moore was seen lately wearing sports advertisements. Is this what Rosa Parks would do? Our discomfort doesn't matter to big corps. What big corps care about is if we shop and carry on business as usual. What can we do about Thanksgiving, Christmas, Black Friday....boycott! Stop supporting those not supporting us. Shop, keep it local with intent. Get corps attention. Boycott. Go home and network, we have the technology at our disposal. I have this typed out. Come get a copy, up here in front.
- 2) Oakland General Strike Nov. 2nd, I think it would be too soon to endorse one here on that day, but we should start talking about it. We should have a solidarity march endorsed by GA. If anyone knows about strikes, find Jake.
- 3) Jess: I spent 4-5 nights at Occupy. I'm a member of PCASC. Many are aware what happened in Oakland. Police Violence. Scott Olsen, an Iraq vet had his skull fractured by OPD. After occupiers were displaced, they came back the next day stronger. They took back that space. Oakland mayor has backed down. They won. As the person who made announcement before me, they said they made a call for gen strike Nov 2nd. National day of action called for with occupiers across the land. Upgraded from critical to fair (Scott Olsen) Here in PDX, Iraq veterans are answering call. A rally and march will be here this Wed. With this rally, march, we're saying No to Police Violence and No to Violence in General to our Community. Wed.

4:30 PM at Pioneer Sq. Will hear from IVAW and wider community. At 5:30 we will march and show solidarity with Scott Olsen and say NO to police violence. Our proposal, which we'll bring to GA tomorrow, is for this rally and march to receive official support from OPDX. Tomorrow, Sunday at 4:30 at Terry Schrunk, there will be a public meeting to discuss proposal and wed. actions. You're welcome to spread the word.

- 4) Use power, not anger. What power do 99ers have? Call off x-mas and sports. Do you want to fight big corps or bring about big change? What can 99ers do? Who has leverage for thanksgiving, x-mas, new years, valentines day? We do. Big corps want us to keep rooting for ducks and beavers. Go home and network. You will get their positive attention when you bring attention to what matters to them. (proposal will be made available online)
- 5) Cody: A suggestion on big corporation boycott: I understand that it does take a certain amount of money to become self-sufficient. We need to learn to live without their currency. Without their currency they don't have fuel for their fires.
- 6) In leue of recent attempts to usurp power and finances. This is a proposal for an egalitarian precedent in the future.

3 proposals

- To be an open explanation and QA with two known individuals working with PD, members must explain how they first got involved with occupypdx, intentions were and intentions are for being here now.

- All committee meeting for transparency with QA. How they got involved and what their intentions are.

- A doc of policies and procedures for general and what actions are to be approved in the GA, posted in public and read to GA.

7) How are we not going to fold in the next few days? We have a divisive force occupying over there. We need to figure out how to make this camp work as brothers and sisters. We need to reach hands out to the scary tweaker guys taking apart bikes at 2 AM. And the rowdy drunken uncle types. And Miliano Zapata had a gift of telling the peasant that this was his revolution. Che Guevara had a gift of including the peasants in the movement. Marginalized, Ignored, Belittled, Degraded, a bunch of people are inhabiting here with no hope. How are we going to include him? Let's talk about what we need to talk about.

FAC: We've been exploring breakout group discussions. So we're going to expand upon that tonight. Given these strong sentiments, and the range of emotions with Jamison Sq. What we want, what our experience has been, how we're going to tactically address these issues. It's going to happen by breaking out into groups, not here at this microphone. Groups of 5-8 people. Have this conversation for a solid ½ hr. Not as much time as we need, but I encourage everyone to build on that passion that was expressed by the people up here. Discuss how Jamison Sq effects here. Constructively think about how we can make these sorts of actions the type that we want. In half an hour, we'll see how everyone feels. We'll ask one rep to come to the front and have report backs. So we'll have a clear understanding of how everyone feels about this. Members of

facilitation team will be walking around. If your conversation gets heated, please call us for help. Does that sound good? (YES)

DISCUSSION TIME: 30 MIN

Report Backs

- 1) We were talking about Occupy Houston, a project they did there called “operation cleansweep” put 2 people on every block, 50 blocks, and cleaned the streets of Houston. We discussed operations like that to bring positive attention. We should be the leaders on the west coast, we’re the 2nd biggest. We have the ability to utilize something unique here. We have minimal friction with the authorities. Everyone’s cooperating. We should roll with that. Speak out with something uniquely PDX. The last thing was an inner-communal affairs office. We have organized media cropping up here and there. Conference calls of Occupy across the country. We should be doing a better job communicating with all the other occupy projects.
- 2) We mostly talked about Jamison Sq. One thing we talked about was we felt that we haven’t heard a clear reason for taking another park yet. We feel that doing that and further antagonizing police could negatively affect those here. We have a strong thing here and working to support that should be our top priority and not putting at risk the work done here by occupying Jamison Sq.
- 3) Thanks for coming out but we need more of you out here. The GA is separated from the occupation. There’s people 2 blocks away occupying. This should be in the middle of everything. There’s a stage where they do the GA in Seattle. Everyone can see it from any part of camp. This GA should be something that people drop everything for. This is a place where people are forced to think and act and react. People are living here with valuable possessions. We need to centralize the GA with the entire camp so everyone can participate. What we can do as individuals: One of the biggest problems we have is that we forget we’re on the same level. We’re 99%, broad and wide variety of people. One of the hardest problems we’re going to face is implosion. We should be family. We should be fighting together and not against each other. If you’re not on the top floor, you’re here. We need to take time to step out of our boxes and connect. We should make it as easy as possible for everyone can participate. We should make it so that all proposals are heard by everyone. We need to take time as individuals, step outside of our comfort zones, do necessary acts of kindness to show love and support for everyone here. Take time, look into eyes, shake hands, remember names, if they need something, try to help them. We’ll see more solidarity here in PDX. We need to keep this from imploding. Aside from that, I don’t see any way that this will be torn down.
Also, if we are going to get JSq. Folks, remember that tactic.
- 4) Many people want to be involved. We need to build communities here and in the greater pdx area. We need to be brave and call out negative behaviors. Don’t just observe, call it out. There’s a lot of watchers and not a lot of

talkers and actors. We need to be more involved with this movement as a whole.

5) What action items we can do:

A neighborhood rep to go to those groups

A liaison to go to those groups

Motivate those groups.

Us converging on the group and bringing up and talking to those there, find out who has confidence to join this. Then the mockers will follow.

6) Why are we here? I don't have any other reason to live. The possible future that will come from this is too bleak and unhappy. If we want this to work, we have to survive as a community. Pushing away, kicking them out, we have to figure out as a community how we can control these issues, not hurt those but reach out to them. Absentees: People who aren't here, they've got to have their own way of having a voice in these meetings. They're stuck wherever they're stuck. Not everyone is into the systems right now. We're disillusioned, it's not a democracy. It's a rep. democracy, a portion of us is standing up for all of us. Get proposals written down, passed out, and somehow voted on by those not present.

7) Sovereignty: "slave code" on birth certificate, dmv registration, social security, they want to know everything you're doing with the choices provided for you. What we should do is get reps at city hall, go to meetings they have against us, we have people there to voice our opinion to them to buy us time. Do you think we can last through winter, Mr Mayor? Have them call our bluff. Maybe we can become more functioning to the environment around us. The issue is that we need to get to city hall and talk to the reps that have meetings about us also. We need to be having these discussions with them. Every single one of us.

8) Looking at the idea of implosion and how to not implode. How to become stronger together. We have a serious movement, serious things to accomplish to get the better world that we want. The idea of inclusivity, we are all here together, we need to be creative and loving on how we express that unity with each other. We need to act like family to each other. Calling out behaviors that are destructive to the whole. We need to be taking care of each other. To act in love, to include each other, to build relationships, to introduce each other, look into each others eyes. We are not two camps, three blocks, we are one movement working together as a family, working together taking care of each other, moving forward as a whole.

9) I've received some news, Sam Adams said what happens in Jamison Sq***NOT TRUE** They will certainly view us differently, we need to tell those people there that we want them to come home and that they're more useful to us here, not as martyrs there. If we can just be there for support, for when things go down, meet me after the GA (GAVIN)

10) Discussion on spirit of respect and inclusion, we didn't deal with Jamison Sq sufficiently. People wanted to be supportive of those people. Some confusion about why those people wanted to get arrested.

Please go back to camp and take all of this with you, don't just leave it here.
You can listen or you can act. Please act.

Before open discussion, we have a message from Jamison Sq.

Messenger: There isn't going to be second camp, they may just get brushed away. If there are going to be arrests, it'd be nice for them to get some support. We should acknowledge their right to be there, their right to free speech. The other issue, (IMO) Police are saying they'll take action if there is another camp. This will reflect on us. Ultimately these are individuals, and they're asking that you be there for them. Roles to be filled: stay on the sidewalk and give them some love.

FAC: There have been a lot of wonderful ideas discussed. I'm getting the same feeling from Oct. 6th, over 3 weeks ago. When we all had a chance to speak and be heard. The feeling I'm getting is that we're on the same page, but everyone seems like there is a need for specific action, cohesion, and connecting inside camp, taking this out to the community at large. We need to brainstorm here, we have a lot of collective energy here. Brainstorm on how we build these connections at camp, other issues. There's also a possible need to discuss Jamison Sq more. Some people would like to take away a message to Jamison Sq. It's all time sensitive but that one is more particularly pressing. I would like to put it out there, I'd like to have everyone constructively focus on Jamison Sq and further actions, tactics so that they occur without division of the group.

OPTIONS:

- Continuing this discussion, report backs of camp at large and the movement, focusing on actions we can take, brainstorming.

- Focusing on message to deliver to Jamison Sq.

- Both (concern: complicated mix of issues to tackle)

- Go down to Jamison and have a GA with people down there

FOR TOMORROW: Idea for an open mike GA

TEMP CHECK: go down to Jamison sq had most twinkles.

FAC: If you're still there at 12 am, there's a chance you may be arrested.

Also, as we leave, if we could do a cigarette sweep, trash sweep. Ask people to keep cigarette butts in their pockets. Cleansweep Houston? Maybe we could start that right here, now.

With this decision to move there, there may or may not be a facilitator there

CORRECTION: THERE WILL BE

