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Sent: Thursday, September 18, 2014 9:28 AM

To: Stockton, Marty

Cc: Rick Johnson; Samantha Van Der Merwe; Carole Murphy; jbrown@poboyart.com; Kim Knight; ronnawague@juno.com; info@lesliepaintedglass.com

Subject: Displacement (and replacement) of tenants at 1400-1416 se Stark Street

Hello Marty,

Thank you so much for your time and expertise to help guide our Buckman community as we go through this big transition on Stark Street between SE 14th & 15th.

As I think you know, this building at the corner of SE 14th & Stark, was once home to the Bastasch family bakery, the Sweetheart Bakery. There were ovens and packing machines run on a large conveyor belt system (still in parts in the basement), trucks backing into the loading bays on the East end of the building and a little retail shop on the corner of 14th. A place where the neighbors gathered to visit and get fresh & day old bread, rolls & muffins. John Bastasch, the 2nd of the 5 Bastasch siblings spent his entire life working in this storefront as it went from retail shop to his Trust's business office. He ran the family real estate investment business from this space until his sad, untimely death on December 30th of last year. http://zeller.tributes.com/our_obituaries/John-Andrew-Bastasch-97445029 It has been a great personal loss to me as we were very close friends but it has also been a great loss to the community. His kindness and great sense of humor are remembered by many as a shining light in our community.

Shortly after John's death in December, the tenants of the Stark Street building (along with the Bastasch residential tenants elsewhere), started enduring pressure & intimidation by his Trust members to vacate their homes & businesses. The business tenants have had realtors, appraisers and potential investors walking through their spaces and all have been told in no uncertain terms, that "all assets will be liquidated". The commercial tenants were given the message that October 1, 2014 would be the date the building would be put on the market so they'd need to find a place to move. The Real Estate lawyer that has been retained by the Trust is the acclaimed timber sales attorney Mark Stayer, <http://www.schwabe.com/showattorney.aspx?Show=9418>

The commercial tenants on Stark Street are sadly, one by one, finding other locations. It will be a great loss for this community when they go. The businesses in this historic building include:

-Shaking the Tree Theatre & Studio-An award winning innovative theatre and studio. Along with its contribution to local arts, the theatre has had the wonderful advantage of allowing Buckman students to walk to daytime productions. The theatre has also offered learning & apprenticeship opportunities to Buckman students in stage & lighting..

<http://www.shaking-the-tree.com>

-Carole Murphy Sculpting Studio-Again an award winning sculptor that offers classes and guidance as people find their voice through the medium of sculpture. <http://www.carolemurphy.com/artiststatement.html>

-Sekhetmaat, the Gnostic church has had its church & meeting hall in the building for over 15 years. It is a wonderful community, sharing diverse cultural beliefs. <http://sekhetmaat.com/main/>

-Leslie's Hand Painted Glass-Leslie has done her hand painting glass shop in the building for many years employing 3 full time artists.

<http://www.lesliepaintedglass.com/>

-Po Boy Arts & Framing is a working studio for many artists from around the city

<http://www.portlandmercury.com/portland/outside-the-box/Event?oid=2997511> Two of the artists, Chris Haberman & Jason Brown are both known for their many contributions to the artistic community of Portland <http://www.artslandia.com/11230/>

And then there is Kai Fuhrmann, Master Furniture Maker who runs his business in the back of the building facing Oak Street, just North of Stark. This space has been a woodworking shop since the bakery closed in the 1970's. <http://pdxmasterfurnituremaker.com/principal.php>

All of these tenants are being displaced with the proposed sale of the property. I do agree that the building could use some long overdue maintenance and a face lift. But does it need total eviction, demolition and a 40' high, all residential building in it's place? With it's current R-1 zoning, that certainly looks like a possibility.

I would like to suggest that, if we're going to lose all this culture and our long standing artist community, let's at least not lose our sky and all of our sunlight in the process. At the very least, I would advocate for a CN1 designation so that a 30' high structure is the worst it would get. And then hopefully we can get some new (wealthy artists?) to replace those that are here already..

But my most pressing question is...

What does the City of Portland want the future Buckman to look like?

I really appreciate you listening to my perspective Marty and for taking the time to hear some of the back story. Your concern and support mean so much to us here in the neighborhood.

With respect,

Sheila Baraga

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