

Welcoming, Empowering,
Safe Habitation Initiative with
Neighborhood Engagement



WeShine

WeShinePDX.org

Notes from Builder's Meeting

1/4/22

WeShine Representatives Present:

Chris Tanner, Chair, WeShine Board of Directors and hobbyist carpenter

DJ Heffernan, Retired Land Use Planner, Chair of Siting and Infrastructure Committee

Francis McBride, Retired Architect who with Kevin Lane designed the modular pod structure

Tom Johnson, Retired Architect who will lead the building effort

Chris and team summarized the plans for the first site:

The first village site will be developed in collaboration with Parkrose United Church of Christ at NE 125th and NE Halsey. The village site is a slightly elevated portion in the southwest corner church's beautiful grounds, right on Halsey. There is access to power and water at the site, though connection details are being worked out.

Building schedule:

The building schedule is uncertain currently, and dependent on warehouse availability, and covid, and funding. We are searching for a 4-5K warehouse space with power, lighting and heat for volunteers to build the panels for the pods. Ideally, we will find a warehouse where we can work for two weeks or so to complete the construction of the panels and store them until the site is fully prepared and secured with a perimeter fence and locking gate.

Regarding covid, as we all know, the highly contagious Omicron strain is surging globally. While it is not known how long this surge will continue, it is predicted that it will peak early and then begin to slow down in transmission. In any case, we think it unwise to convene even fully vaccinated people to work together in a warehouse.

We are working with the Tri-county RFPQ process for identifying houseless service vendors qualified for all three counties. We anticipate funding to complete the build-out and to operate the shelter by mid-March. We would like to complete the building sooner, and are currently involved in fundraising.

The building of the pods will need three teams:

Pod Prep - Build the 4'x8' and 6' x 8' insulated panels in our warehouse.

1. Construction lead - provide support, instruction and supervision
2. Panel builders, including installing windows and trimming doors
3. Panel movers

4. Panel primers (paint)
5. Documentarian - take photos and notes

Pod Hauling - move the panels to the village site.

1. Driver/hauler - someone with a truck and/or trailer large enough to move a stack of 8 X 12 panels from the warehouse to the site.

Pod Assembly - Assemble the pods at the village site.

1. Construction lead - provide support, instruction and supervision
2. Pod assemblers, including 3 people who can move the three panels (75 pounds each)
3. Painters, using a paint brush and a roller
4. Floor installer - linoleum floor
5. Documentarian - take photos and notes

17 people attended the Pod Builder meeting, including several folks from the Parkrose United Church of Christ. 14 people have completed the Pod Builder's application (some of whom were not in attendance at the meeting) which provides us information about builders' interests, skills and availability of the next two months. We are thrilled about the number of people who are interested in working with us.

14 people have completed the Pod Builder's info sheet. It's actually a sign-up for the info session but also seeks information about availability during next two months, as well as preference for building team (eg)Pod-builder vs pod assembler, skill level and references. If you've not yet completed it, follow this link. <https://weshinepdx.org/builder-signup-form-1/>