

The Southeast Examiner



Friends remodel includes green practices

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By Kathy Hyzya

Multnomah Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) invites the public to join us in celebrating the completion of our remodeling and addition project at an open house on Saturday, January 12th, from 5 - 9:30 pm. The address is 4312 SE Stark Street; off-street parking will be available in the Mazamas lot at 43rd & Stark. The eight-month remodeling project added 3,000 square feet of classroom and common space to the original structure, and required the removal of a small house next door, already owned by the Meeting. Architect Liz Williams worked with Friends to develop an affordable design that incorporated many sustainable features. Barrs & Genauer served as the contractors for the project. They were assisted in their work by roughly 120 volunteers from the Meeting, who contributed nearly 3,500 hours of demolition, site cleanup and painting labor. Total remodeling costs totaled approximately \$860,000.

Throughout the project, Friends worked to ensure that the remodel was as environmentally sound as possible. To clear the way for new construction, the house next door at 4324 SE Stark was sold for one dollar, moved to a new foundation on SE 58th, and is once again serving as a private residence. During the demolition phase, care was taken to recycle or reuse the materials removed. "We wanted to go as green as we could," said John Wish, a volunteer on the project. Other green building practices include Forest Stewardship Council lumber, natural lighting and cooling, recycled paint from Metro, high efficiency lighting, and other water, heating and energy efficiency measures. Signage throughout the building will explain these features to the public. The Energy Trust of Oregon will be giving Multnomah Meeting a rebate of approximately \$750 for the incorporation of energy-efficient lighting and high- efficiency furnaces in the remodeled building. Those interested in joining the celebration are encouraged to bring a finger food item to the potluck from 5 – 7 pm. A dedication will occur from 7 – 8 pm, followed by a song circle, music, and other merriment until 9:30 pm. Children are welcome.