

Minutes of NECN BOARD MEETING July 23, 2019

Present:

Members: Mariah Dula, Chair;
Donn Dennis, Concordia;
Amy Wilson, King;
Beven Byrnes, at large;
Shirley Minor, at large;
Luke Norman, at large;
Sean Green, Sabin;
Ankur Dholakia, at large;
Kim Jeka, Humboldt;
Dave Brook, Sullivan's Gulch;
Jere Fitterman, Eliot;
Keith Jones, Lloyd Community Association

Staff: Adam Lyons, Jessica Rojas, Anjala Ehelebe

Called to order by Mariah at 6:42.... Introductions and announcements.

Dave Brook: Sullivan's Gulch is wondering about signage promoting meetings, how to cut down expense. What do other Neighborhood Associations do? Discussion of options.

Kim Jeka: in her neighborhood there's a city owned property with a 6 million dollar investment going in.

Vote on NECN BOARD MEMBERS

Vote in Beven, Luke, Dave Brook, Kim as NECN Board members. **Mariah makes motion to approve this slate, Keith seconds, approved unanimously.** Maria asked them to introduce themselves.

Beven is involved in special education and mother of four and works on clean air issues.

Minutes from previous meeting: Not presented for approval.

Vote on NECN Land Use and Transportation Committee (LUTC) MEMBERS

Confirm LUTC members and appoint LUTC Chair: Sean is co-chair of LUTC with Luke. Sean explains the selection process. **Recommends that we select the current roster. Mariah makes the motion to approve the roster. Jere seconds, approved unanimously.**

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| Concordia | Garlynn Woodsong |
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| Eliot | Brad Baker |
| King | Amy Wilson (Later Libby will assume this position) |
| Humboldt | John Ollis (at large) |
| Sabin | Sean Green |
| Sullivan's Gulch | D. J. Heffernan |
| Vernon | Leeor Schweitzer |
| Woodlawn | Anjala Ehelebe |
| Sullivan's Gulch | Luke Norman |
| At large | Michael Barrett |
| Alameda | vacant |
| Boise | vacant |
| Irvington | vacant |
| Lloyd C A | vacant |

Sean and Luke want to continue to serve as co-chairs. Sean makes the motion, Dave seconds, all in favor unanimously.

John Ollis will be appointed to represent Humboldt.

Executive Director's Report:

Adam announces the current HEY NEIGHBOR could use everyone's assistance in distribution.

NECN HR issue; NECN lost staffer Laura Becker as of the first of May. This led to changes in staffing and roles. Now have hired Johnna Davis as Administrative Assistant, starting part-time. Reassessing the various workloads. Jessica has accepted the position of NECN Associate Director. Adam will discuss the City Code Change project later; but with the new staff changes, NECN is as competitive as it can be.

Annual report: Adam creates two reports to the office of Civic and Community Life, once in January, one in mid-year. Copies are available. Thinking of doing his future reports as digital videos. Asks what format board members prefer. They discuss, select digital, its much less

expensive to produce. Will also have a pdf on the website and a page in the next HEY NEIGHBOR.

NECN Active Space Program: Many Community groups work out of the NECN space, paying rent on a donation basis.

Jessica says that City Repair and Central City Concern came in and helped clean up the NECN worksite and parking lot. Portland Harbor Community Coalition will start working out of here next month.

Send thank you's to Central City Concern and City Repair, suggests Mariah. Agreed.

Will soon publish a hip hop video on the NECN Face Book page about NECN's long history helping neighbors. NECN is also doing a video tour of Right to Dream Too.

NECN will get a mural for a couple of months of body positive Serena Williams, that was done by a local P'ear kid as an art installation.

Finance Report

Adam reports: We have hit our target budget; don't have specifics from the bookkeeper though. We have money in reserve.

Mariah asks if there is the possibility of investing some of the budget in obtaining fundraising personnel. Maybe, says Adam, but will first likely have to back-fill staffing with someone to do some of the non-fundraising tasks Jessica did. Mariah says fundraising could be a training offered to Board members, if there is interest. Shirley says that grant-writers can be found that work for a portion of the grants received.

Updates on current projects:

Board project and new partnership development

Jessica Rojas says staff have been working with Portland Clean Air Project, and showed a new map illustrating diesel polluters.

Staff is working with the Center for sustainable Economy.

NECN will partner with Alberta Co-op to show gentrification-related movies Priced Out and The Numbers in November.

Working with the Interfaith Alliance on houseless issues.

Mariah says we have sent out three letters in the past year about diesel issues.

Mariah suggests we nominate Portland Clean Air Project for the Portland Spirit Award. We can nominate more than one group. Any other organization, let her know.

Shirley says there's an organization called National Association of Black Veterans that we can consider. They help veterans and families acquire benefits after the veteran had exposure to agent orange, etc. Agreement to move forward on that.

Code Change Project (This changes how the city would interact with and fund community groups and neighborhood associations.)

Staff Mischa attended the last meeting. The committee issued something they say isn't the draft code, but looks code-like. This iteration doesn't incorporate the changes that were made last Thursday. There are many issues with their timing and processes of informing the public.

Mariah calls out the point in the current draft not-code that the Director will decide who is and is not a partner.

Nominal movement in the draft not-code that officially states that Neighborhood Associations will remain recognized.

Encourage your neighborhoods to pore over this document.

Hearing most of all concerns about the timing of all of this. **Mariah drafted a letter to the task force and Executive Director of the OCCL that asks for 60 days between proposing the code and the vote on the code. It also asks for speedy feedback by email and minor edits. Motion by Beven and second by Amy to give chair the authority to send out the amended letter. Approved unanimously.** Mariah says she'll send out the amended letter to NA chairs.

Adam says we can't provide support to committees and projects and neighborhoods without adequate funding. We can't provide insurance without adequate funding. We have staff, and this uncertainty about funding is not good.

We'll continue to monitor the process.

Mariah asks, even though we don't usually meet in August. **Is there the will to meet on August 20? Yes.**

NECN Board Priorities, FY 19-20 To be decided. . .

Clean Air and Climate. Yes, maintain

Housing

Affordability. Yes, maintain

Displacement. Yes, add

Transportation

Safety

Access

Resiliency from Disaster (and emergency housing)

Inclusivity/Equity/Communication (creating channels for communication }

Education

Fund raising and development- financial capacity

Neighborhood Association support and Leadership Development

Mariah suggests that we table this and wordsmith it next meeting. Mariah has been thinking of having speakers who are related to each of the priorities coming to each meeting. She wants to have the board work on a couple of projects during the year. Maybe create one project around houselessness and mapping resources for houseless people.

Beven says make sure that these selected priorities align with our mission.

Discussion: remove education, we don't have bandwidth for that.
LUTC has Safety and Access as priorities.

Neighborhood Updates

Shirley says Woodlawn Methodist Church will be purchased by Head Start.

Amy says King is dealing with possible Alberta Abbey sale. The developer bought the Abbey because it come with the parking lot across the street which was developable, and the neighborhood is against the loss of the Abbey for many reasons and is meeting with the developer about continuing the use of the Abbey.

Luke says the HB 2001 passed and that will be changing single family exclusive development by allowing building and redeveloping single family lots into multi-family and multi-unit housing.

Jere says Portland Clean Air will survey Eliot neighbors to see if they want to work on cleaning up Diesel engines. DSLogistics in NW has 6k+ trucks that need updating.
Meeting ended 8:03 p.m.