

NECN Board Meeting Tuesday August 20, 2019 6:30- 8:00 pm NECN Office- Conference Room

Board Members present:

Mariah Dula, Chair, Alameda Kymberly Jeka, Humboldt Donn Dennis, Concordia Dennis Kennedy, Woodlawn Luke Norman, at large Amy Wilson, King Beven Byrnes, at large

Staff: Adam Lyons Jessica Rojas

Community: Senator Robert Boyer

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm with introductions.

Vote to approve meeting minutes from July 23, 2019. Amy requests a minor edit in the minutes. Motion made by Mariah, seconded by Amy, with all in favor for accepting the minutes with the edit.

Senator Boyer, who helped establish NECN, shared some historic context of his relationship with neighborhood coalition system. Mr. Boyer encouraged the board to take action on the expansion of the Zenith Oil terminal. Topic will return in September with a presentation from Elijah Cetas from the Center for a Sustainable Economy. Woodlawn's advocacy letter was shared with the board.

Beven Byrnes, presented on Portland Clean Air's advocacy efforts that have included neighborhoods, next steps, including where we can partner.

Takeaways included:

Portland ranks as #1 in respiratory distress. Oregon is in the top 5 for asthma. Campaign finance reform is critical to making legislative change. HB 2007 is a good start, but there is a lot there that is lacking. Next steps include letters to polluters from neighborhood associations.

Discussion around how can NECN support neighborhoods in advocating, how much the pocket lab monitors cost and what sort of time commitment would be involved. Board discussed ideas of NECN providing financial and staff support for supporting increased monitoring efforts.

Motion was made by Amy, for NECN to partner with PCA, to investigate funding mechanisms and provide staff support for equipment checkout of the air pocket monitors. Kymberly seconded, all voted in favor with Donn Dennis abstained.

Mariah shared with the board that she is working with Keith Jones, to create a Happy Hour on the houseless topic with the board.

Mariah provided a handout on the code change and the Keep Portland Neighborly bumper sticker. She shared with the board that the next City Council meeting on the Code Change topic is in November. She also shared with the board that Portland Marathon has provided space for neighborhoods to represent in the run.

Luke shared from LUTC, in relation to NECN's board priorities, that there is interest in learning more about racial and social justice. Amy suggested that the conversations should include the topic of displacement. Board discussed briefly ways to approach the conversation.

Mariah shared opportunities with the board to serve on Civic Life's Budget Advisory Committee and the Multnomah County Budget Advisory Committee. Board discussed whether it would be helpful to host a county commissioner at an upcoming meeting.

Mariah shared a draft calendar of events with the board - a schedule of possible topics for the year and welcomed feedback.

Board discussed:

Spending some time in October to think strategically on next steps.

Possibly changing the board meeting schedule or looking to host or attend an event in place of a meeting, such as City Club.

Interest in participating in a PUAH (Portland United Against Hate) training in March, such as Trauma Informed Care and/or Interrupting Hate.

Adam provided a report to the board, which included:

Hey Neighbor newspaper progress.

Code Change process/ lack of.

NECN has produced 2 new video primers, one of which can be a fundraising tool for R2D2. Upcoming events with community partners, "Illamette Festival" and Priced Out on Last Thursday.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm

Minutes submitted by Jessica Rojas