

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

Board Members present:

Mariah Dula, Chair, Alameda
Kymberly Jeka and Brandi Boersma, Humboldt
Donn Dennis, Concordia
Dennis Kennedy, Woodlawn
Luke Norman, at large
Amy Wilson, King
Beven Byrnes, at large
Ankur Dholakia, at-large
Jere Fitterman, Eliot
Dave Brook, Sullivan's Gulch
Keith Jones, Lloyd
Sean Green. Sabin

Staff:

Adam Lyons

Community: Senator Robert Boyer Elijah Cetas

Government:

Cynthia Castro, Commissioner Fritz's Senior Policy Advisor

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

Vote to approve meeting minutes from August, 2019. Kym Jeka moves to approve minutes, Mariah Dula seconds.

Cynthia Castro announces an intitiative to do a charter amendment to allow the Water Bureau to enter into IGAs regarding Bull Run.

Elijah Cetas from the Center for Sustainable Economy presents on Zenith Oil Terminal and the risk of oil trains to our community. The ask to NECN is for a letter to be drafted in opposition to Zenith. There is an event October 17th, to testify for a risk assessment of the situation. Board unanimously agrees to draft a letter to be voted on in October.

Air BnB update from Dave Brook. Irvington testified at council against the reinstatement of an air BnB permit. Council denied reinstating the permit.

NECN budget update from Adam Lyons. NECN finished last fiscal year about \$370 over budget. NECN has had chronic problems getting grant funds from OCCL recently. Board asked for a budget for this fiscal year.

Update regarding candidates in election years. NECN advises caution regarding candidates as this is probably the most common way nonprofits get it trouble. Nonprofits must provide equal time to all candidates. Most commonly through organized forums.

Mariah Dula raises the prospect of doing board trainings this year through Portland United Against Hate. Mariah suggests a Bystander Intervention Training in February, board votes in favor.

Sean Green presents regarding NECN sponsoring a membership to Business for a Better Portland for \$200 per year. Board votes in favor and it is approved 7 votes to 2 abstention. Amy Wilson and Donn Dennis abstained.

Mariah Dula raises the issue of examining NECN's bylaws and creates a working group to begin working on them.

Last meeting NECN board approved NECN staff to look into purchasing air monitors for partnership with Portland Clean Air. NECN staff have looked into it and want to have further conversation regarding cost feasibility, especially given our funding situation with OCCL, with Mariah Dula and Beven Byrnes outside of a board meeting.

Mariah leads a board discussion about Neighborhood Systems Best Practices. Board identifies areas of interest as: better communications, better practices, more resources for training and outreach, and focusing on projects.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm

Minutes submitted by Adam Lyons