



**NORTHEAST COALITION
OF NEIGHBORHOODS**

**NECN Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, October 15, 2013
NECN Office – Conference Room
Approved Minutes**

Meeting Attendees

Board

Chris Lopez, Sullivan's Gulch, NECN President
Steve Cole, Irvington, NECN 1st Vice President
Paul Anthony, Humboldt, NECN 2nd Vice Pres.
Caroline Dao, Boise, NECN Recorder
Robert Bowles, At-Large, NECN Treasurer
David Lomax, King, NECN Parliamentarian
Lupin Morgan, At-Large, NECN Board
Jim Brown, Alameda, NECN Board

Adam Karol, Alameda, NECN Board
Stephen Gomez, Boise, NECN Board
Katie Ugolini, Concordia, NECN Board
Isaac Quintero, Concordia Representative
Peter O'Neil, Irvington, NECN Board
Joshua Curtis, Sabin, NECN Board
Carol Gossett, Sullivan's Gulch, NECN Board
Luke Groser, Woodlawn, NECN Board

Staff

Shoshana Cohen, Executive Director
Fran Ayaribil, Special Projects Coordinator
Katy Asher, Neighborhoods Program Manager

Guests

Commissioner Amanda Fritz
Sue Glenn, PPR N/NE Zone Manager
Patti Howard, PPR Policy Advisor
Emily Crum, PAT supporter
Ed Abramson, Irvington neighbor
John Prell, Grant Park neighbor
Brian Cefola, Grant Park neighbor

Meeting called to order by Chris Lopez at 6:34 pm

Welcome and introductions, including roundtable question: What issues do we need to be aware of that will impact us as we prioritize our work?

Review and Approve Agenda and Minutes

Katie Ugolini moves to approve the agenda and minutes as written. Joshua Curtis seconds. Motion approved unanimously with Chris Lopez abstaining.

Executive Director's report

Shoshana introduced new NECN staff and outlined respective roles. Shoshana distributed report to attendees. She also announced two up-coming trainings sponsored by NECN: Skills for Effective Communication and Collaboration & Turn Brown into Green (Brownfields Redevelopment). Flyers with dates, times and locations were distributed.

Commissioner Amanda Fritz – PPR and neighbor involvement

Commissioner Fritz announced that she is seeking an NECN representative to sit on the Portland Parks and Rec. Budget Advisory Committee to assist with decision making on the allocation of funds, via Budget Advisory Committee. The committee will meet monthly in November & December 2013 and January 2014.

Commissioner Fritz is also looking for two at-large representatives for the Washington Park Transportation Management Committee, who visit the park but do not live nearby.

Commissioner Fritz distributed hand-outs with service area maps for system development projects, including costs and demographic break-downs per project. There was general discussion around the need to have community input in the selection and prioritization of projects. Commissioner Fritz

advised that her priorities were to place parks where they do not currently exist and to improve accessibility for disabled children and adults in the areas.

There are \$8 million dollars in System Development Funds which will be allocated soon. System Development Funds can only be used to expand the system, not to replace things that already exist. Commissioner Fritz would like NECN to set up a Park Committee to help get community input on parks funding priorities in our area. Because the NECN area has a lot of good parks, it is unlikely a whole lot of money will be coming our way, but it is still important to get our feedback on community priorities.

Chris Lopez asked for volunteers to apply for the two new committee positions. Steve Cole volunteered to apply for the Washington Park Transportation Committee. He will apply directly with Parks. Paul Anthony is interested in attending the Parks BAC meetings.

Joshua Curtis moved to nominate Paul Anthony to the PP&R BAC. Carol Gossett seconds. All in favor with Chris Lopez abstaining. Motion passes.

Steve Cole moves that we form a Parks subcommittee under the Land Use and Transportation Committee. Seconded by Paul Anthony. Isaac Quintero and Chris Lopez abstaining, with all others in favor. Motion passes.

Unfinished Business

N. Williams Project – next steps

Shoshana provided a brief history of the circumstances surrounding NECN discussions about a potential move to the North Williams location. There was group discussion about the pros and cons of the move vs. staying in the King location and/or looking for an alternate site.

For about an equal cost we could get a much smaller site at the N. Williams location, although it would be in a much higher profile place and a nicer building with better amenities. Steve Cole suggests this could help with fundraising and raising our visibility. We would have to do some coordinating of the public space and there has been separate discussion about a contract to also do four events in the courtyard. In addition to cost and space considerations/criteria, there are community impact considerations. There would likely be benefits to being associated with a high profile green building in a new eco-district and drawbacks of being a part of the gentrification of the area. It also looks like there would be no parking during the day and possibly 8 to 10 parking spots at night.

The Board has discussed this possibility a number of times. Shoshana suggests this is a big decision and it would be good to hear from all board members. She passes out pieces of paper and asks everyone to share their top thoughts or pros and cons.

The papers are collected and read. See addendum.

Luke moves that we stop negotiating with the developers and stay put. Joshua Curtis seconds. There is further discussion about the letter to the developers informing them that we will stay where we are. Steve Cole will write this letter. Vote: 1 nay, 1 abstention (Chris Lopez), all others in favor. Motion passes.

New Actionable Items

LUTC: Ratify the Executive Board decision to form a new infrastructure subcommittee for LUTC. Joshua Curtis moves that we ratify this Executive Board decision. Carol Gossett seconds. Chris Lopez abstains, all others in favor. Motion passes.

LUTC: Ratify the Executive Board decision to appoint Carol Gossett (primary) and Ed Abrahamson (alternate) as representatives to the PBOT BAC. Joshua Curtis motions that we ratify the appointments, Jim Brown seconds. Chris Lopez abstains, all others in favor. Motion passes.

Schools: PPS/PAT contract talks

The Schools Committee is recommending that the NECN Board support the resolution drafted in support of the Portland Association of Teachers (PAT). The resolution was amended to strike the last sentence: "We will do our best to mobilize our membership to rallies, marches, and public events in support of the Portland Association of Teachers." **Joshua Curtis moved to ratify the PPS/PAT resolution, as amended. Isaac Quintero seconds. Motion carries with 5 abstentions: Chris Lopez, Brian Cefola, Stephen Gomez, Carol Gossett & David Lomax.**

Schools: Outreach with Our Portland Our Schools

Joshua Curtis moved to allow the NECN Schools Committee to engage in outreach activities with the "Our Portland Our Schools" group. Motion seconded by Isaac Quintero. Motion approved with Chris Lopez abstaining.

New NECN Board Members

Motion by Joshua Curtis to accept two new Board members from Grant Park, Brian Cefola and John Prell and the new board member appointed from Concordia Neighborhood Association, Isaac Quintero. Motion seconded. Motion carries with Chris Lopez abstaining.

Adjourn 8:50 pm

Submitted by Fran Ayaribil