



**NORTHEAST COALITION
OF NEIGHBORHOODS**

**NECN Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, February 18, 2014
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.
Robert Bowles, NECN Treasurer
Jim Brown, Alameda Representative
Stephen Gomez, Boise Representative
Katie Ugolini, Concordia Representative
Peter O'Neil, Irvington Representative

Luke Groser, Woodlawn Representative
Shirley Minor, Woodlawn Representative
John Prell, Grant Park Representative
Brian Cefola, Grant Park Representative
Joshua Curtis, Sabin Representative
Damon Isiah Turner, At-Large
Lupin Morgan, At-Large

Staff

Shoshana Cohen, Executive Director
Cameron Herrington, Communications Manager

Guests

Jaime McGeathy, Concordia Representation
Jennifer Jardee-Borquist, King resident
Margo Dobbertin, King NA Board Member

Meeting called to order by Chris Lopez at 6:40pm

Welcome and introductions completed.

Chris Lopez reviewed ground rules for discussion.

Cameron Herrington led group messaging activity as part of NECN messaging/branding project.

Approval of Agenda and Minutes

Minutes revised (2 revisions – proposed by S. Cole)
Adopted All-0-1 abstention (Lopez)

Executive Director's Report

Community Grants info session is tomorrow, 2/19, 7:00.
Clean-up coordinator meeting is next Tuesday, 2/25, 6-7pm
Open house a couple of weeks ago with KNA, PSU Art & Social Practice, King School, neighbors
Fred Meyer reward points opportunity

Unfinished Business

Vanport Square South (Alberta & MLK)

Chris began the discussion by sharing that someone has to take charge of this issue, who is not PAALF and is not PDC. This requires a lot of work and no money. Lopez, Turner and staff have been talking about how we can bring people together to talk about this controversy. NECN can be a neutral convener. So far this has fallen to King Neighborhood Association. They had a big, inclusive community meeting on December 18. Another 50 people showed up to the King meeting last week. People on all sides recognized that we all have a stake in this. If we don't listen to each other, no one win. That's what happened when Trader Joe's and Majestic pulled out.

Two weeks ago the Executive Committee turned down a proposal to co-sponsor a visioning process with PAALF. What we are proposing now is different. It is not PAALF's process, it is a neutral convening. We would like to get every single stakeholder to the table, if possible.

It is important that the facilitator is a true neutral organization that is looking after the overall health of the neighborhood.

Steve Cole asks for additional background on the Executive Committee discussion. Shoshana explains that staff has been navigating this issue, talking to various stakeholders and supporting KNA for three months now. PAALF asked NECN to co-sponsor their visioning process and we considered that this may be a way for us to help bring more neutrality to the process they were moving forward with.

Shoshana also explains that staff sees a need to invite everyone to the table and is proposing trying to do that, but is not sure it will be possible. The situation keeps changing and we have been bouncing around responding so we would like to be more proactive. We also still need to consider the many shifting factors and continue talking to people.

The written proposal is read aloud.

There is discussion about the term "future development". Just city-owned properties or all development. The proposal will be amended to specify city-owned development.

Discussion about focusing just on NAs or on all of the stakeholders. We can start with the relationships that we already have with NAs and also invite other stakeholders that are important to this discussion.

We will not be taking any positions at this point, simply convening people to see if there is any consensus on how to move forward. Any specific proposals would come back to the NECN Board.

Shirley Minor says we should not restrict this to inner n/ne. Strike the word "inner" because the PDC money moves all around. Continued discussion about whether or not to do this. We will go ahead and remove the term inner. Right now we are really just talking about convening people. If we are successful then we will see exactly what comes from the group and we can bring other specifics back to the board at that time.

Motion to adopt the proposal as amended. Damon Isiah Turner moves. Paul Anthony seconds. All in favor, aside from abstention by Chris Lopez.

Bylaws Reading

Steve Cole reads the bylaws. Paul Anthony moves to adopt the bylaws as read. Seconded by Peter O'Neil. All in favor other than abstention from Lopez.

New Business

Small Grants Committee Roster

Roster submitted for Board approval. Cohen: We have 11 community/neighborhood volunteers, but no NECN Board Members. We prefer to have 2 NECN Board Members Meetings would be March 20 and April 3, plus about 10 hours dedicated to reading applications.

Paul Anthony volunteers. Steve Cole volunteers. [Cole later says he can't do it after all because he has commitments on the required dates.] Bowles takes Cole's spot!

Unanimous approval of the 13 members of the grant review committee, aside from abstention from Lopez.

Appoint New NECN Recorder

Lopez: State law says we need to have a recorder or secretary. The position entails organizing the minutes, but not taking them. You are the keeper of our documents, which are housed at NECN. It requires a few hours each month. You also become a member of the Executive Committee, which meets on the first Monday of each month. You would have to come to those meetings.

McGeathy volunteers. **Josh Curtis moves to elect McGeathy as recorder. Paul Anthony seconds. All approved, aside from abstention by Lopez. Motion passes.**

Nominating a new board member

Katie Ugolini nominates Jennifer Jardee-Borquist to fill an at-large Board seat. Shirley Minor seconds.

Jennifer describes herself, history in neighborhood, past involvement in NECN. She is past KNA board member, NECN Board President. Volunteers at her kids' schools.

All in favor, aside from Lopez abstention. Motion passes

There is 1 remaining at-large seat.

Community Committee Reports

CEDC

No meeting on 2/25/14.

LUTC

Steve Cole: Metro turned down a proposal for Sullivan's Gulch Trail. Steve testified in Salem about the CRC. LUTC is going to send a letter. Trying to schedule meetings with legislators.

SALT

Katie Ugolini: Next meeting 2/24 will be first in a series of meetings with police command staff. This will be to set the topics for the series of quarterly meetings. Also looking into organizing a forum with ONI about liquor license best practices.

Schools

Josh Curtis: Next meeting will have a presentation from Oregon League of Cities about two property tax reform bills they are advocating for in the legislature. That is on 2/27 at 7pm.

Board Committee Reports

Finance

Cohen Everything is still under budget. We want to spend the rest of our money in the second half of the year. Taxes were filed.

Personnel

Groser: Drawing up potential guidelines for June elections of Directors so that it is "smooth like a bobsled run." Looking for individuals who could be recruited, bamboozled, forced into being candidates to represent NAs or be at-large directors. Looking for people to bring enthusiasm and talent and passion. I went to Vernon to remind them that they have not had representatives at NECN for a long time.

Cohen: NECN staffer Claire Adamsick and her partner had a baby boy named Emory.

Rules

Their work is done now!

Adjourn 8:36 pm

Submitted by Cameron Herrington