



NORTHEAST COALITION
OF NEIGHBORHOODS

**NECN General Board Meeting
Tuesday, October 21, 2014
NECN Office – Conference Room
Approved Minutes**

Meeting Attendees

Board

Alan Silver, At-Large, President
Loulie Brown, At-Large, 1st Vice President
Margo Dobbertin, King Rep., 2nd Vice President
Katie Ugolini, Concordia Rep., Parliamentarian
Luke Groser, Woodlawn Rep., Exec. At-Large
Diane Benson, Sabin Rep., Exec. At-Large
Jaime McGeathy, Concordia Rep., Recorder

Robert Bowles, At-Large, Treasurer
Jordan Davis, At-Large
Shirley Minor, Woodlawn Rep.
Damon Isiah Turner, At-Large
Joan Ivan, Eliot Rep.
Lupin Morgan, Boise Rep.
Diego Gioseffi, King Rep.
Rachel Lee, Sabin Rep.

Staff

Katy Asher, NECN Interim Director

Guests

Paul Van Orden, Eliot

Meeting called to order by Alan Silver at 6:36 pm

Welcome and Introductions

Review and Approval of Consent Agenda

**Motion – Katie Ugolini motions to accept the agenda as amended, Diane Benson seconds
Vote – passes unanimously**

Review and Approval of Minutes

Margo would like to note that she abstained from the first motion in the last meeting minutes motioned by Paul Anthony. That was not noted in the minutes.

Steve requested that language be put into the minutes and it was approved. The vote happened quickly and people feel they didn't have a chance to discuss or abstain during that vote. A call for abstentions was not made.

Motion – Diane Benson motions to amend the meeting minutes from 9/16 to note there was no call for discussion, abstentions or objections on the first motion, note that Margo, Loulie, Alan, Robert, Katie, Shirley, Luke, and Damon did not vote, and change “passes unanimously” to “passes”. Lupin Morgan seconds.

Vote - No abstention, no objections. Passes unanimously.

Damon notes that during the previous meeting he has stepped out of the room during the Good in the Hood and was not a part of that vote. He would not have voted to approve.

Motion – Katie Ugolini motions to approve the minutes as amended, Lupin Morgan second,

Vote - Rachel Lee abstains, no objections. Motion passes.

Old Business

Organizational Assessment Update

Revised proposal from Solid Ground (Joe) and new proposal from Facilitation and Process (Mark) was sent to the board. Assessment Committee favors (unanimously) the one from Facilitation and Process.

The proposal from Joe is nearly 2x that of Mark. Mark has worked with NECN before and has detailed background on the organization. The assessment proposal from Mark is more detailed and specific to NECN and our needs.

Katie as worked with Mark before as well and found him thorough and enjoyed working with him in the pass.

Motion – Katie Ugolini motions to accept Mark Fulop’s proposal to assess NECN. Lupin Morgan seconds.

Katie amend this motion to rescind the acceptance of Joe’s proposal and adopt Mark Fulop’s proposal from the assessment of NECN. Diane Benson seconds the amendment.

Discussion

Assessment committee will be involved throughout the assessment process. There may be a small increase in expenses to add interviews.

The assessment will need the following meeting dates dedicated to the assessment. Executive meeting 12/3, full board on 11/18, board retreat (date TBD, 12/7 proposed for half day), full board presentation (date TBD, 12/15 proposed), full board meeting on 1/20.

Looking to hire the new ED in the new year. Some of this time would be working on what we need in the next ED and strategic planning.

There are concerns about how much of this is over the holiday season and people being able to make it to these meetings. Discussion about the retreat format and purpose. There are also concerns that the board may not be able to accomplish much business between now and January due to this taking over the schedule. Advantages of the tight schedule is the ability to get this done, hire a new ED, and remove some of the extra work taken on by staff as we normalize.

Diane recommends using a poll to find the date that will work the best for people for the retreat and not to decide on 12/7 today. This will help ensure the largest number of people can attend.

Vote – Rachel Lee and Diego Gioseffi abstain, No objections. Passes

Responding to Irvington Community Association Letter

The people tasked to draft the letter need some additional support. Margo to send the draft to the board for collaboration.

Motion – Luke Groser motions that it be the sentiment of the board to trust the executive committee to work on the letter for the next month and send when they are done. Diane Benson seconds.

Katy suggests that the letter draft go out with the agenda prior to the executive committee meeting so people can comment.

Vote – no abstentions, no objections. Vote passes unanimously.

New Business

Resolving Liability of any actions taken during leadership vacuum

There were a period of 6 days when the board did not vote to confirm Steve as the ED but Katy was also not in the ED role. Several items were done during that time while we were in leadership flux. There are concerns about potential liability from that time. The board has the ability to go back and ratify those transactions.

Six invoices, 4 income transactions and Togo CORE Desk Lease Agreement. Paychecks, phone bills, etc. Includes \$1500 settlement installment payment to Interstate Rental for GITH. The money came from the GITH fund, not NECN.

Robert has fully reviewed these transactions.

Motion – Rachel Lee moves that, to the extent that any documents were signed without proper delegated authority from the board during the period after the full board determined it did not authorize the former board chair to sign on the behalf of NECN and prior to the board hiring Katy Asher as interim director, that the board ratifies the documents signed during that time. Katie Ugolini seconds

Vote – Luke Groser abstains as he was one of the signers. No objections. Motion passes.

Sabin Community Development Corporation Letter of Support

Katy drafted a letter. The Sabin finance committee has not yet formally requested the restructure so this cannot be sent yet. She will let us know when it can go out.

Rachel notes a grammar issues with the second sentence that needs to be resolved.

Motion – Margo Dobbertin moves that we send this letter pending confirmation from Loulie on the date. Lupin Morgan seconds.

Votes – Loulie and Diego Abstain. No objections. Motion passes.

Committee Roster Confirmation

Community committees: SALT and LUTC roster review.

Robert Bowles stepped away

Motion – Lupin Morgan motions that we accept the roster. Katie Ugolini seconds.

Vote – no abstentions or objections. Motion passes.

Luke notes that if we can get more representatives onto the board then we can fill in more of these committees.

Robert returns to table.

Grant Park Special Meeting

Grant Park NA is hosting a special meeting next Tuesday. We have not been invited. It will be at Ken Peterson's house to discuss bikeways and the grant park NA's relationship with NECN. Alan suggests we send a couple of people to the meeting to informally present what we have been trying to accomplish over the last few months to change the board structure and to let them know about the upcoming assessment.

Discussion about whether or not we should go to the meeting without an explicit invitation. NA meetings are open meetings. Paul Van Orden volunteered to attend the meeting. Katy can also attend. Alan thinks it should be a board member. Alan notes that Micah may attend. General agreement for Paul and Micah to attend.

NECN Holiday Party

Traditionally there is a yearly holiday party in lieu of the board meeting in December for NECN. Katie recommends we keep that tradition to help people get to know each other better, but we should not put this on the staff to organize. Loulie and Margo volunteer their homes. Party will be at Loulie's. Board asks for a poll to determine good dates.

Alan steps away. Loulie is chair.

Community Committee Reports

Diane recommends that we only discuss items that need board decisions or input. General agreement.

LUTC

Adding a health overlay to the comp plan. Date on the comp plan extended to March. Paul notes it's good to get comments in early. Loulie has stepped up to be the co-chair of LUTC.

Alan steps back into the room.

SALT

SALT is drafting a letter for the Executive Committee to review.

Board Committee Reports

Finance

No action

Personnel and Ground Rules

Agreement with Katy states that we will come back soon to ask the board to evaluate the relationship and how it is working. It's has been about a month, so we are due for that review. Diane Benson created a survey that needs to go out around this. This will go out to the board soon. Katy will also be able to give feedback on the process, but not on the survey. That will be a separate process.

Committee met today to look at how people act and the interactions during the meetings and how we can be more proactive.

Motion – Luke Groser moves that the NECN board assign to a committee the task of creating a set of guidelines for behavior and language for any participant at an NECN function to be brought back through the executive committee in January for full board consideration and adoption.

Margo Dobbertin seconds

Diane unsure if we need a motion on this. Can the Personnel Committee just draft without a motion and bring us something? Luke is unsure if Rules or Personnel would be the right place for this. Discussion around the right committee for this. Katy has gotten some information on this from Paul Leistner that can be used as a starting place.

General agreement from the board that the Personnel Committee should draft some rules of engagement / ground rules around interaction within NECN to improve our meetings and collaboration.

Rachel Lee motions to amend the motion to assign to Personnel Committee. Katie Ugolini seconds.

Diane volunteers to help with this effort

Vote – no abstentions or objections. Passes unanimously.

Rules

Meeting Oct 30th at 7pm here to talk about Community Committee Guidelines.

Executive Director's Report

New template. Katy asks board about posting NA meeting minutes to the NECN web site. We have to collect them due to ONI regulations. Hunting down and posting those minutes is very time consuming (5-10 hours a month) so staff is proposing that we continue collecting them, but not to post them online for now. NAs are responsible if they want to have them posted to the web.

Alan suggests putting a message on the site to contact NECN or the NA to get copies of the minutes if they are looking for them.

If the collecting is the big time sink, and we just stop posting will that really save time? They are moving collecting to a quarterly, instead of monthly, basis when they gather other information from the NAs.

Agree to stop posting and revisit after we hire an ED.

Other ED report items:

50 people are moving into the building from SEI. Construction is done.

Needed actions were integrated into the rest of the agenda.

Katy reviews the staff roles with the board.

Other Items

Katie makes a call for volunteers for the Oregon Public House. We need people on 11/6 and 11/20 from 4-8pm.

Shirley gives an update on the Woodlawn neighborhood.

Margo gives an update on King development.

Alan gives an update on the backpack program.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Minutes taken by Jaime McGeathy, NECN Board Recorder.