



**NECN Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, November 18, 2014
NECN Office – Conference Room
Approved Minutes**

Meeting Attendees

Board

Alan Silver, At-Large, President
Jaime McGeathy, Concordia Rep., Recorder
Luke Groser, Woodlawn Rep., Exec. At-Large
Lupin Morgan, Boise Representative
Joan Ivan, Eliot Representative
Loulie Brown, At-Large, 1st Vice President
Rachel Lee, Sabin Representative

Damon Isiah Turner, At-Large
Micah Meskel, Humboldt Rep., Exec. At-Large
Shirley Minor, Woodlawn Representative
Paul van Orden, Eliot Representative
Robert Bowles, At-Large, Treasurer

Staff

Katy Asher, NECN Interim Executive Director

Guests

Mark Fulop, Consultant
Jim Brown, Alameda
Dave Johansen, Alameda

Meeting called to order by Alan Silver at 6:35 pm

Organizational Assessment: Board Presentation 1 – Assessment Summary

Mark Fulop presented initial findings to the Board.

Review and Approval of Consent Agenda

Luke Groser requests addition of committee representatives to the Personnel Committee section.
Katy requests that Rules Committee Report be removed from agenda.

Motion: Robert Bowles moves to approve the agenda

Lupin Morgan Seconds

Vote: Passes Unanimously

Review and Approval of Minutes

Board Meeting Minutes from 10/21/14

Rachel requests that the word “Verbiage” be changed to “Language” in the second paragraph, replace “sync” with “sink” on last page.

Motion: Robert Bowles moves that we approve the amended minutes for the 10/21/14 meeting.

Loulie Brown seconds.

Vote: passes unanimously

Emergency Board Meeting Minutes from 11/3/14

Motion: Robert Bowles moves to approve the minutes from 11/3/14.

Luke Groser seconds.

Abstain: Jaime McGeathy, Rachel Lee as they were not at the meeting, none opposed.

Vote Passes.

Confirm New Eliot Neighborhood Association (NA) Representative, Paul Van Orden

Paul van Orden is here representing the Eliot NA in his capacity as a private citizen, not in his capacity as a city employee.

Motion: Luke Groser moves that NECN affirms the appointment of Paul as an Eliot Representative through the end of the Board year. Joan Ivan seconds.

Vote: passes unanimously.

Note: Paul cannot vote until after this meeting.

Old Business

Ground Rules

Ground rules for NECN events handed out for review. Luke gives background information on the Rules Committee's deliberations on the topic.

Motion: Luke Groser moves that NECN adopt the ground rules created by the Personnel Committee. Lupin Morgan Seconds.

Discussion:

The ground rules are intended to be used organization-wide, including at committee meetings and events. The ground rules don't yet set specific procedures for enforcing the ground rules or raising issues in a way that is comfortable and effective. We need to develop a culture on the Board that encourages everyone to participate in enforcement, and everyone to speak up if they feel the rules have been violated.

Luke feels the Executive Committee should track how well these are being used by the committees and the Board and report back in May.

Katy will work with Claire on communicating these out to the committees.

Vote: Passes unanimously

Press Release

Board reviews a statement to go out to community members of NECN, NAs, eNewsletter, etc. about the recent changes in the Board. Rachel and Loulie suggest a few stylistic and grammatical changes. Clarify this is a communication to our constituencies, not a "press release."

Motion: Luke Groser moves that we accept the letter with the noted changes and we direct the Interim Executive Director (ED) to send it out. Robert Bowles seconds.

Vote: passes unanimously

Talking Points

Luke moves to accept the talking points. Luke withdraws his motion.

These are to help ensure the Board are on the same page about the history of NECN. These are informal, internal Board documents and not for publication.

Rachel suggests changes to the second section about the ED. Katy has also gotten feedback on this section that it may not be accurate. Alan mentioned that Katie Ugolini has suggested that the first section needs to be more specific.

Motion: Robert Bowles moves that we accept the amended talking points and have those distributed to the Board.

Lupin Morgan seconds.

Vote: passes unanimously

Liaison Representatives

There are vacancies that need filling and need to be approved by the Board.

PBOT Budget Advisory Committee – Garlynn Woodsong, Concordia Land Use Chair and Co-chair of LUTC expressed interest for the 1-year term.

Port Advisory Committee – Damon Isiah Turner has offered to go to these on a quarterly basis for a 2-year term.

Katy suggests having them report to Claire and Land Use Committee and the LUTC will bring any issues forward to the full board as needed.

Motion: Robert Bowles moves that we accept Garlynn and Damon for the above positions. Luke Groser seconds.

Vote: passes unanimously

Need people for:

Parks Budget Advisory Committee. 1-year term.

ONI Budget Advisory Committee, alternate.

ONI Directors and Chairs meetings, alternate.

New Business

Staff Holiday Thank You

Will be discussed and decided at the December Executive Committee meeting.

NAACP Fundraiser Invitation

Some Board members might purchase seats at the event for themselves. \$300 for a table. We will not be using NECN budget for this.

Community Committee Reports

SALT

SALT voted to recommend that the Board review and endorse the Oregon Climate Declaration, and then invite other community members to do so via NECN's communications channels. Jaime expresses concern about a lack of information about what this may do to budgets.

Motion: Luke Groser moves that NECN endorse the climate declaration. Lupin Morgan seconds.

Discussion: Clarity over the letters given

Vote: abstain: Jaime McGeathy due to not enough information on potential impact to City budgets, Opposed: Rachel Lee and Loulie Brown. Vote passes.

Board Committee Reports

Finance

Will discuss and decide policy at the December Executive Committee meeting.

Personnel

Luke proposes approval of committee assignments of Board members.

Diego – SALT

Lupin – SALT

Diane – Personnel

Jordan – LUTC

Paul – LUTC

Jaime – Rules

Motion: Luke Groser moves to approve the above list. Jaime McGeathy seconds.

Vote: passes unanimously

Luke reports that the Personnel Committee reviewed the state of the agreement with Katy via a survey. Results were positive and a strong admiration of Katy's role as Interim ED. The Personnel Committee is putting a letter of gratitude into Katy's personnel file.

Executive Director's Report

Alan notes that Irvington Community Association (ICA) has requested reimbursement for a recent newsletter. ONI has some parameters around not using communication funds for anything that may be defamatory. We have a communications agreement with ICA that includes reimbursement for communications and that agreement does not specifically address the ONI parameters. The Board is in general agreement that we should not reference the content in the decision to pay, and should reimburse per contract.

Katy shares highlights, including concerns about staffing capacity, from her Director's Report for Oct-Nov.

Motion: Luke Groser moves that the Executive Committee be directed to create new staffing structure by the January general Board meeting. The structure *may* contain a new temporary Interim ED hired to a part time position from an outside consulting resource to handle the items that will overwhelm time in January: relations with the board, liability and risk, NAs that are considering changing their relationship with NECN. Financial support for the structure will come from NECN reserves. In addition, temporary office management will remain under the supervision of Katy until a permanent ED is hired.

Loulie Brown Seconds.

Discussion: The Executive Committee and Katy will work together to figure out what that structure will look like, with the expectation that Katy will continue to assist with day to day office and staff management. We have some money saved from the last few months and some reserves.

Vote: passes unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

Minutes taken by Jamie McGeathy, NECN Board Recorder.