



NECN Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, September 20, 2022

6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

[Zoom Link](#)

***Present**

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS:

Chair: Sean Green (Sabin)*

Vice Chair: Jimmy Wilson (Eliot)*

Treasurer: Heather Nelson-Kent (At-Large) (Announced absence)

Secretary: Lauren Gross (At-Large)

Parliamentarian: Lauren Gross

STAFF:

Executive Director: Justen Harn *

Associate Director: Jona Davis *

Communications Director: Lisa Loving

Grants and Fiscal Sponsorship: Charlotte MacDonald

Minutes Taker: Anjala Ehelebe *

GUESTS:

Josh Bale, New President of Sabin Community Association*

BOARD MEMBERS:

Alameda: Robert McConville*

Boise: Karis Stoudamire-Phillips*

Concordia: Joseph Fraley

Eliot: Jimmy Wilson (Vice Chair) *

Irvington: Peter O'Neil

King: John Rooney

Lloyd: Keith Jones

Sabin: Sean Green (Chair) *

Sullivan's Gulch: Ted Schenck* (tpschenck@me.com)

Vernon: Allan Whiting*

Woodlawn: Nancy Flynn* (Taking over from Dennis Kennedy)

At-Large: Ankur Dholakia, Woodlawn*

At-Large: Erin Martin, Alameda*

At-Large: Heather Nelson-Kent, Sabin (Treasurer)

At-Large: Lauren Gross, Sabin (Secretary)

At-Large: Shirley Minor, Woodlawn (May join later due to a conflicting meeting)

At-Large: vacant

Agenda

6:30 p.m. Warm Welcome, Introductions, Announcements (Jimmy and Sean)
Consent Agenda:

- Approval of Draft Minutes: [June](#) / [July](#)

Sean said he added a table of Board members to the draft June minutes. And he also corrected the list of at large members. Ankur asked that his last name be corrected in the minutes as to spelling and it was. **With those changes Sean asked for agreement to approve the June and July minutes, and the minutes were approved with no objection.**

6:45 p.m. [FY 21/22 Annual Report for Civic Life](#) and Staff Appreciation (Jona and Justen)

Justen says that a significant detail from the report is that the NECN was able to triple the money it received from the City by significant fundraising. Please read this report. Much appreciation to Charlotte and Jona and Lisa on staff who helped make this all possible. Shout out to the Board members for their constant support.

Jona says a key thing staff is working on is reconnecting with small businesses and agencies and former partners. Staff is working with the NAACP and also on initiatives with the City. Board members are bringing in new connections, thanks! NECN also worked behind the scenes to help with the vandalism troubles experienced by Maranatha Church. And they are working as hard as they can to address livability issues in the inner NE.

7:00 p.m. Review July / August Financials (Jona and Justen)

With Heather absent, we'll review the financials at the next meeting.

7:01 p.m. Introductions all around. Sean, Erin, Ted, and Nancy introduce themselves and their positions (To be confirmed)
Jimmy, Allan and Ankur introduce themselves and their positions.

Sean moves to confirm Nancy Flynn and Ted Schenck as reps for their neighborhoods, Jimmy seconds. Unanimous agreement.

7:10 p.m. Discuss and Vote on [Amendment to the Bylaws](#) (Sean)

This proposed amendment creates the ability for the NECN Board to designate co-chairs instead of Chair and Vice-Chair. This proposed amendment has been presented at two prior meetings, as required. Tonight there can be a vote. He opens the floor to questions, discussions or comments and there are none. **Sean calls for the vote. Unanimous agreement.**

Sean moves to designate himself and Jimmy as co-chairs, Ankur seconds, the vote is called. Unanimous agreement.

7:20 p.m. Board Recruitment Update (Jimmy)
Jimmy says he is working on recruiting candidates to the Board. Also working with the District Attorney's DOA program (?) to recruit people to serve on it.

Still have vacancies on the Board for Humboldt and Concordia, says Sean. He met with Concordia and it's a new board, and he doesn't know if they have the capacity to send us a representative yet.

Karis Stoudamire-Phillips joins us and is introduced. She's representing Boise.

7:30 p.m. Fall Director's Report (Jona and Justen)

Justen says the Civic Life budget was approved, which is the basis of NECNs income; huge props to Heather and the Executive Committee for helping this happen.

NECN helped get solar panels installed on the King facility. There will be a community benefit of excess solar energy being distributed.

NECN is re-upping an agreement with Bonneville to create STEM programs for King School kids with Bonneville.

Engagement grants to raise awareness and allow folks to be involved with Portland Harbor Cleanup activities.

There will be a celebration of the small-grant awardees later this year.

Working with a HR consultant to upgrade the employee handbook.

Changing the phone system for the better, (so all calls don't end up ringing Jona's phone).

Diversity Equity and Inclusion trainings are offered in partnership with Central Northeast Neighborhood free of charge for NECN staff and Board members.

Jona says Staff are anticipating faster response time by increasing our contract hours to include check distribution from our current bookkeeping service since we are not presently in a position to hire a replacement for our vacant position. Also they're making improvements in air quality to the building, important in this time of COVID.

Sean says he and Justen are going to attend training by the Nonprofit Association of Oregon at the end of this week. Topics include "the limits of advocacy".

7:40 p.m. Neighborhood Updates: How Can We Support Each Other? (Everyone)

Ankur says his veteran's association (Do Good Multnomah) is looking for board members who are also veterans.

Ted says Sullivan's Gulch Neighborhood is meeting at Grace Memorial in November on the 7th, all are welcome. Neighbors are feeling insecure walking in the neighborhood for a number of reasons, homeless encampments being one such reason. Who do they call other than the Neighborhood response team to get folks the best help they need? Could someone do a presentation at the meeting on the 7th, 7:30?

Jona says a lot of NECN board members have contacts that are working on homelessness, she'll spread the word.

Ted says they talked to their precinct captain who said the police are at capacity. Robert says they're planning a survey as to what neighbors are most interested in pursuing. He thinks emergency preparedness and civil engagement - community dialogue are two top interests. Will program one or two events for the next year. Their newsletter gets a good response, especially because they give recognition to small and minority owned businesses.

Jimmy suggests that Alameda have regular monthly meetings/get-togethers in one of their parks like Eliot does in Dawson Park. He suggests concerts or job fairs. Robert says they had a couple of impromptu concerts.

Alan said becoming a Fiscally Supported Project of NECN has made Vernon a small but effective NA. The small-grant supported history walking tours have generated lots of interest. October 19th is their Board meeting, and they would like someone from NECN to shepherd their election.

Nancy Flynn suggests working with Kent Ford, who does Black Panther history tours through Vanport Mosaic, to create events with him and them.

7:46 p.m. Meeting Adjournment

(Sean)

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 18th, at 6:30 p.m.