



NECN Board Meeting (via Zoom)

5/17/2022

Final Minutes

*Present

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS:

Chair: Sean Green (Sabin)*

Vice Chair: Jimmy Wilson (Eliot)*

Treasurer: Heather Nelson-Kent (At-Large)*

Secretary: *vacant* (with resignation of Dave Brook)

Parliamentarian: Lauren Gross (At-Large)

STAFF:

Executive Director: Justen Harn *

Associate Director: Jona Davis *

Communications Director: Lisa Loving *

Grants and Fiscal Sponsorship: Charlotte MacDonald *

Minutes Taker: Anjala Ehelebe *

GUESTS:

BOARD MEMBERS:

Alameda: *vacant*

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: *vacant with resignation of Dave Brook*

Vernon: Allan Whiting

Woodlawn: Dennis Kennedy*

At-Large: Ankur Dholakia, Woodlawn

At-Large: Erin Martin, Alameda*

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

At-Large: Lauren Gross, Sabin (Parliamentarian)

At-Large: Shirley Minor, Woodlawn *

At-Large: *vacant*

Agenda

6:30 p.m. **Introductions, Announcements:** (Sean asked Jimmy prior to the meeting to facilitate)

Consent Agenda: Approval of Draft April Minutes: most folks hadn't had time to read the minutes. Postponed to next month.

Meeting recording begins

6:44 p.m. **Civic Life Scope of Work (SOW) & Contract Update**
(Jona and Justen)

This year the Office of Civic Life wants more of a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion emphasis of measuring activities. The SOW is now almost 15 pages. Jona and Charlotte are building consensus before showing the draft SOW to the Executive Committee next week. Process improvement; the work that needs to be done to clarify the NECN mission. With a new Executive Director, this is the perfect time to reinvent ourselves. It does give NECN enough room to write in things that NECN routinely does that didn't show up in the contract (example, refer people to a program that cleans up overgrown yards.) NECN often gets calls from community members to help with things that don't show in the job description.

- **Action Item: Full Board to Grant Executive Committee Authority to Approve SOW and Advance it to City**

Motion for this made by Erin, Keith seconds it, vote is unanimous.

Jimmy asks if there could be someone from the office of Community Life to attend the next meeting to help interpret the City requirements. Yes. Jona knows who to invite to this discussion. Just need to figure out how and when.

Community Grant Update (Charlotte, Jona and Justen)

Justen says there was a record number of applicants for the small grants, (26), this year. (Other coalitions averaged 4 applications). NECN conducted very successful outreach, and the number of worthy grants that couldn't be funded inspires NECN to find more funds to support such activities, because they could only pick 12. Charlotte says they gave feedback to the City that the small grants program must be maintained. Jona shares with the Board

the chosen project names and proposals. They looked intently for projects featuring Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.

Refer to the recording for details, its inspiring!

- **Action Item: Board votes to Ratify Community Grant Awards: No motion.** Next year the staff will fold the Board into the Grant selection and awarding process earlier.

Fiscally Sponsored Project (FSP) Update (Charlotte)

Training, education and support from NECN is what is needed to help fiscally sponsored our projects succeed (NECN has 10 now). She mentions an organization that was previously an NECN-supported FSP which is now successful on its own. NECN will be offering courses/workshops to groups of FSPs, and these will be based on current one-on-one efforts.

Jona says, thanks to Lisa, NECN now has Twitter, Instagram, FaceBook pages, a newsletter that is print and online and an updated webpage.

FY '22/23 Budget Development Update (Charlotte and Justen) There will be a finance team meeting in the next few weeks. There is a rough budget based on previous year actuals. Goal is to help all Board Members who are interested be comfortable with knowing the NECN funding sources and understanding the cash flow documents. FSP projects bring in some income, just not a lot. She explains the restricted funding in the budget. The NECN budget is super comfortable with a large cushion.

7:44 p.m. **Review April Financials**(Heather) Reviewed the financials from bookkeeper Phyllis. NECN has money that still needs to come in, but the budget looks fine. The mayor's budget

has been approved, (which is an improvement, many years it wasn't approved until the new fiscal year in July) and we now have a clue how much money might be coming in. Justen says the Profit & Loss report is misleading because it is based on a reimbursement assumption. (We just have to send in the invoices and be reimbursed approximately \$130k.)

7:54 p.m. **Neighborhood Updates** (Everyone)

Jona says that Maranatha church was vandalized recently with paint and graffiti, probably a hate crime. They just got a new pastor in April from Michigan. This church is close to NECN offices and Jona called them and asked how NECN could help. Obviously, they need graffiti removal, paint restored, but the church has not got back to NECN with requests. Keith says there is a meeting tomorrow with Lloyd Problem solvers and he'll bring this up with them. He says the City is not prosecuting graffiti makers. But you can report it here, which is helpful for the City to see patterns. <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/civic/62884>

The program itself is www.portland.gov/civic/graffiti

Sean says (by chat) Interfaith Alliance has an action committee and the chair is Les who can be reached at wardenaar@msn.com. Heather says the Jewish community is experiencing hate attacks as well.

Jimmy says the Elliot NA met yesterday and discussed Victory Outreach, which helps ex-cons re-enter society. They want to change their bylaws to require folks to not re-offend within a year. ENA didn't vote on the change at that meeting.

Also, City needs to create a rapid response team to tackle graffiti.

Woodlawn update by Anjala: houses near 10th and Stafford are being demolished, not because they were a neighborhood detriment, but for a storage facility to be built, with no current notice to neighborhood.

Lloyd update by Keith: the Rose Festival parade will only be in the Lloyd district this year, on June 11. And the Earl Blumenauer foot and bike bridge will open this summer and Lloyd will create events to support that grand opening.

King update by Jona: Good in the Hood celebration will be centered around the King Neighborhood Facility and King Park, starting on June 24th.

Discussion Re: Board Meeting Frequency and Timing
(Justen) Postponed.

8:17 p.m. Meeting Adjournment (Jimmy)

Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 21st, at 6:30 p.m.