

King Neighborhood Association General Meeting Minutes for September 11, 2013

King Neighborhood Facility, 4815 NE 7th Avenue 6:30 to 8:00 pm

Alan Silver, KNA Treasurer
David Lomax, KNA Rep to NECN
Russ Eisenberg, KNA Chair
Eileen Kennedy, King Neighbor
Rick Sills, KNA Rep. to SALT
Teri Phillips, KNA At-Large Representative #3
Margo Dobbertin, KNA Secretary
Jeff Scott, KNA At-Large Representative #2
Ursula Morton, Humboldt Neighbor
Tia Factor, Teri Phillips, KNA At-Large Representative #1
Irek Wielgosz, KNA Co-Chair
Ofc. Eric Zajac, PPB
Diego Gioseffi, KNA At-Large Representative #4

No agenda for this evening; very few items submitted.

Russ is resigning as Board Chair.

Announcements: Russ has received a request from an organizer from the teachers' union asking to attend a meeting in order to request that KNA write a letter in support. Also, a rep from a radon testing company wants to give a presentation on radon. Jeff: Andrew Neerman (KNA neighbor) wants to give a presentation on a proposal for creating bike friendly corridors in NE PDX.

Agenda for the meeting proposed: bylaws, Diego, safety updates, Emily's announcement, PDC letter, Thrill the World PDX, new business, discuss chair vacancy, Summer in Sept. update, letter from PDX commission on disability re last Thursday. Motion to make this our agenda for tonight, moved, seconded, passed unanimously (9-0).

Bioswale (Diego) Review of Bioswale project. (Diego has secured plans and funding to build a stormwater bioswale in the King School parking lot to relieve flooding, overheating and other issues). The permitting was accomplished easily, but still waiting for BES and NECN to sign a contract; they are waiting on unresolved insurance issues. New date for DePave event is Oct 26, from 10 am - 2 pm. Depaving on the 26th involves breaking up and removing the concrete from the area with the bioswale will be built.

Margo: Want to print flyers about the bioswale project. Can write a flyer that is not time sensitive so that it can be used throughout the winter. Motion to approve \$100 to print materials advertising the Bioswale project. Moved, seconded, passed unanimously (11-0).

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Diego is still looking for volunteers on October 26th. Diego recruited volunteers from Confluence to weed and maintain the new plantings on the south end of the King School parking lot.

Park bench update (Alan): Emily wrote an email with an update re the Two Plum Park bench campaign. Emily is planning a party to celebrate the installation of the bench, possibly at the end of the month.

PDC letter (Alan): Last month, KNA voted to send a letter to the PDC reminding them of our continued concern for community-oriented development of the lot on MLK. Alan passed around a draft for perusal and asked that anyone with questions or comments to speak with him after the meeting. Alan wants to send the letter next week.

New Business Interjection (Alan): There are several requests from members to join the land use committee. Diego will contact Andrew to see if he still wants to be on the LUC.

Thrill the World (Alan) Alan helps organize the Thrill the World Halloween dance. Alan runs the event as a fundraiser for SMYRC. Alan is pursuing a permit for use of the covered basketball park in Irving Park. Alan discovered that NAs get permits for park events each year; one is used for national night out, the other is available. Alan would like to use the KNA permit for the Dance this year. The event is for Oct. 26. Moved, seconded, passed. (11-0)

Summer in September (David): Last Saturday was the 8th annual Summer in September Jambalaya fundraiser. There was food, black history information, it was very successful event.

Alan added that he has a document from which he drew when drafting the letter to the PDC.

Letter from PDX Commission on Disability re Last Thursday (Rick): Reviewing the statistics gathered re LT events from this summer, there are many instances of improper parking. The PDX Commission on Disability sent a letter to the City Council regarding ADA violations that occur during LT.

Ofc Zajac: In the most recent LT, a homeowner had a car towed because it was blocking his driveway for the second time; the car owners came to the door of his house, attacked him, he fought back, and the owners were arrested.

Suggestion: a policy of enforcement would be more effective than individual enforcement by private residents.

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Safety and Livability Update (Ofc. Zajac): "Apple pickings" or smart phone robberies have been occurring in the neighborhood: the police recently arrested three juveniles suspected of the string of these crimes. The thefts are sometimes a snatch and grab on the street, sometimes with a tackle or at knifepoint, using distractions and other tactics. PPB think the bike thefts in the neighborhood are linked to the smart phone thefts.

Eileen: The abandoned house across the street from the vacant lot on NE Simpson has been secured, but the amount of garbage is increasing, e.g. a shopping cart with abandoned items. Eileen spoke to a City employee who suggested that the owner of the house might be more responsive if he were to receive letters from the neighborhood. Eileen is asking whether KNA would write a letter to either the City or the owner. Currently, the issue is considered by the City to be a level 3 priority. Celeste has also suggested sending a letter. Rick suggests sending it certified mail. Eileen will write a first draft of the letter and send it to the Board for final editing. Motion for Eileen to draft a letter to be shepherded by Alan through Board editing and sent, with photos, via certified mail to the city and the owner of the house and empty lot. Moved, seconded, passed. (13-0) Cathy Saunders is Eileen's contact at the City. There is an abatement and a lien against the property, but the City doesn't have the money to pursue these. (Russ reviewed the history of safety concerns for a new attendee.)

Bylaws (Margo) Review of Margo's involvement in rewriting the bylaws. Concern that this follows a pattern of disenfranchising. Possible outcomes if KNA doesn't pass bylaws that restrict voting. Discussion of Cynthia Cumfer's training from two years ago. David: Rules Committee deferred the decision to the Board.

Rick filed a grievance with NECN as a Member who does not want to be disenfranchised. Rick's concern is that the ORS encourages different forms of non-profit governance, and being told to restrict our process and form violates the intent of the law and that the demands are being made without due process. Discussions of possible courses of action and outcomes. David questions whether we want to endanger our good relationship with NECN. Russ responded that Members are expressing a desire to be provided with solid reasons for the change.

Motion to withdraw consideration of the bylaws. Moved, seconded, passed. (8-0, 1 abstaining)

Motion to request NECN explain their decision and show us the documentation and specific insurance information that is requiring KNA rewrite bylaws, and to specifically invite Shoshana to come to a KNA meeting. Motion to write a letter to

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NECN with such requests, seconded, passed. (8-0, 1 abstaining) Russ will contact Shoshana and make the request/write the letter. Diego questions to what extent retaining voting will change our daily operations. Rick: a member from another NECN NA reported that, after rewriting the bylaws to restrict voting, several very productive and active members resigned. Rick also responded that voting is fundamental entitlement valued by society.

Motion that Alan Silver be Chair. Moved, seconded, and passed. (8-1)

Event announcements: rain garden workshop, DV workshops. The Eliot-King Crime prevention committee was the first spirit of Portland award winner.

Adjourned at 8:24 pm

DRAFT