

King Neighborhood Association General Meeting Minutes for August 14, 2013

King Neighborhood Facility, 4815 NE 7th Avenue 6:30 to 8:20 pm

Eileen Kennedy, KNA neighbor
David Lomax, KNA Rep to NECN
Offc Andrew Jenson, PPB
Teri Phillips, KNA At-Large Representative #3
Alan Silver, KNA Treasurer
Margo Dobbertin, KNA Secretary
Irek Wielgosz, KNA Co-Chair
Rick Sills, KNA Rep. to SALT
Irene Corbin, King neighbor
Leigh Rappaport, King neighbor
Sarah Cline, King neighbor
Sarah Moses, King neighbor
Shoshana Cohen, NECN
John Beck, King neighbor
Andrew Neerman, King neighbor
Diego Gioseffi, KNA At-Large Representative #4

Motion to approve minutes from July with amendments to add Eileen's contribution to discussion of safety issues; moved, seconded, 5-0 (5 members from the July meeting are present).

Safety Issues (Eileen) Multnomah County Environmental Health sent someone to look at the food carts on the lot. She left a phone message with Greg Warner at the Environmental Health Office. There are "rent" signs on the carts, but there is also one more new cart.

Movie in the Park Recap (Margo) The movie was well attended, with lots of kids running around and playing (and some watching the movie, too). Margo hopes that KNA can choose its own movie next year.

Letter to PDC (Alan) Background: The King neighborhood has been moved to the Interstate Corridor Development Area. KNA is concerned for development of the lot on MLK. PDC ended the urban renewal advisory committees, which it had used to gather input from neighbors, and KNA is concerned that this will decrease participation and input from neighbors regarding potential development and urban planning decisions. Alan proposes that KNA write a letter to thank PDC for good decisions in the past (specifically choosing not to pursue projects unless they foster community), and expressing the hope that PDC will allow for community involvement in the future and use the best possible judgment in future decisions. Motion to write such a letter, moved and seconded. (Margo reminded attendees that all members present at the meeting could vote.) (15-0)

Shoshana added that the interstate renewal advisory committee is still hosting a

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meeting and is actively recruiting from neighborhoods that have not been involved in the past; Shoshana has info re when/where the meeting will take place

NECN Update (Shoshana) asked KNA to officially express its interests re development of the lot. NECN is hiring for 3 part-time positions: one communications manager and two organizers to help with committees. SALT is putting on a forum re gender injustice and Domestic Violence. The Economic Development committee will have a presentation on brownfields in October. Bioswale Update (Diego) Diego just met with Shoshana and representatives from BES. They are currently finishing contract paperwork, then he will apply for the permits, and then he is hoping to depave on October 5th, Saturday. Planting will take place about two weeks after the depaving; we may need about 60 volunteers; Diego is recruiting volunteers (King PTA will also provide many), as well as food donations (some are secured from the Farmers' Market and Whole Foods). Diego is looking to reduce the cost of the dirt disposal. If Diego can get the disposal costs donated entirely, we will have enough money to make another bioswale. Diego is also looking for volunteers to act as team leaders and to help manage small groups of volunteers. Someone asked why the dirt disposal is such a large expense, and Diego replied that we are paying a fair market price for dirt removal; it's just expensive. Motion to create a committee to oversee the Bioswale project on behalf of KNA. Moved, seconded (15-0) Diego has a FB page for his bioswale project.

Shoshana: NECN is now fiscal sponsors for two KNA projects, the Bioswale project and the Backpack program. NECN is considering whether it would be feasible to sponsor all the NAs and is looking at potential capacity (e.g. how many projects per neighborhood NECN could oversee). NECN currently serves as KNA's bank, but other neighborhoods would need to budget further in advance than they currently do, and NECN could have some oversight of spending.

Bylaws (Margo): NECN has asked KNA to limit voting, so that Members vote in elections of Directors (aka Board Members) and in changes to bylaws, and Directors vote on all other matters. The insurance company that insures NECN and KNA has told NECN it will no longer insure KNA, unless these changes are made to the bylaws. The Bylaws Committee has been working to redraft the bylaws, and solicited input on a number of changes, including: number of meetings per year, duties of At-Large-Representatives, eligibility for Board service and non-attendance serving as resignation, election of Directors, and several others. Many voiced concern that the Nomination Committee no longer be used for any purpose. Many also voiced concern about restricting voting, and asked for more specific information regarding the request from the insurance company. Margo will post a draft of the bylaws online ASAP for comment; will send email to all meeting attendees that bylaws are being rewritten. Motion to make the September meeting a general membership meeting to vote on bylaws, moved, seconded, passed (12-2).

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Backpack Lunch Program (Alan) Alan is looking for ideas to raise money for the King Backpack Lunch Program, which starts up again in September. The program has about 50 kids in King who will be served by the program this fall. The KNA Board looking for volunteers to work on specific projects in the coming year, as well as liaisons to other neighborhoods. KNA can be a method for allowing neighbors to channel their passions for issues in the neighborhood. Eileen: would like to see NAs have more teeth on issues, rather than discussing decisions made after the fact. Shoshana: NAs power lies primarily with educating, outreach and organizing. Margo: We can be creative in organizing. Andrew is interested in being a liaison to other neighborhoods.

Rick Sills: Rick shared an email from Tom Peavey, from the Mayor's Office, that anticipates gang violence at last Thursday in August. Also, a Captain from the North Precinct warned that LT is in danger of becoming a more violent event.

Officer Andrew Jensen: The PPB gang team is aware of increased gang violence in the last two Last Thursday events.

David Lomax: Summer in September will occur Sep 7, Saturday, at Dawson Park in the evening. Looking for volunteers to help at the booth/table.

Alan: KNA has an open At-Large position on the Board and Andrew Neerman is interested; the current meeting currently lacks quorum to vote, so will do so next time.