

KNA Member Meeting 11/9/2016

Board Members Present: Alan Silver, Diego Gioseffi, Matt Anderson, Andrew Neerman, Evan Heidtmann, Derwin Cunningham, Emily Leuning

Neighbors Present: Margaret O'Hartigan

Alan asks everyone to read the proposed bylaws changes. Says we are planning to vote on the changes to the bylaws next month.

Margaret talks about her proposed bylaws changes – says the changes are easily explained and don't have to jump around looking for changes. Bylaws adopted July 9, 2014 had many errors and is particularly concerned because these changes come from ONI and the changes made in 2014 did as well and contained errors. Says requirement for public meetings and open records was removed two years ago – please look through the changes.

***** Margaret makes a motion that the bylaws changes she submitted be read tonight so they can be placed before the membership at a subsequent meeting.

Diego says he appreciates Margaret's effort – the problem he sees is that in the past doing too many changes at once was a mistake. Making the changes slowly would be more effective so we can fully discuss and understand the changes. When we go about changing a lot of things, it hasn't worked in the past.

Margaret says these are just a fraction of the changes that she has suggested in the past. These solely deal with addressing the power of individual members. The only change that was required was the requirement

Andrew says there has been consideration. A member has submitted many grievances preventing the board from focusing on other issues such as changing the bylaws.

Margaret says there is nothing preventing you from accepting the changes and reading them at a future meeting.

Diego says it would take him a while to read through this, it's not that easy.

***** Derwin seconds.

Derwin says we can read through the document and consider it.

Alan clarifies that we are voting to add this to the agenda for the meeting that has three minutes left and another agenda item.

Margaret says if it is added to tonight's agenda, someone could make a motion to give the membership the proposed changes for consideration.

Andrew says it makes sense to consider the changes offered – take the proposed changes into account throughout the revision process as we go forward.

Diego says we shouldn't discuss more than one article in the bylaws at a time.

All in favor: Margaret

Opposed: Alan, Diego, Matt, Andrew, Evan, Derwin, Emily

Alan asks for any comments on the proposed grievance procedure changes.

Diego asks about “other forms of conflict resolution are encouraged” in article 1. What does this mean?

Evan and Derwin point out that the types of resolution are stated later in the article.

Margaret says it limits complaints to Article x section b

Section 2 removes any reference to the violation directly affecting the outcome of a decision. There have been many instances where violating a bylaw has affected the outcome.

Margaret says it limits what can be grieved. What’s being removed is if it affects the outcome of the decision.

Evan says it’s included in the new language – Alan says it actually expands the amount of things that could be grieved.

MOH says the grievant has to allege that they have been harmed – the proposed new language doesn’t give that allegation. They have to have been harmed and have to prove that they have been harmed in order to make a grievance.

Diego says the new version is way more simple – easier to read than the original.

Matt asks what would be an example of someone filing a grievance if they haven’t been harmed?

Alan says ONI states harm is a facet of grievances. Says the proposed changes still say that harm has occurred making grievances.

Evan says section 4 is when committee reviews grievance to determine whether it is eligible.

Alan says this frees up board time by going through grievances to determine whether they are valid.

MOH says Item C specifies that the committee should hold a public hearing. There is no requirement in the new language that a public hearing be held. In the past, she filed grievances in order to get items on the agenda. If a public hearing is removed, it creates less transparency which is not a good thing. It is easy enough to include the words “shall hold a public hearing”

Evan asks whether other NAs use this template?

Yes

Diego asks whether these changes would still require grievance committee meetings.

Margaret says yes but it wouldn’t need to be public. ONI has said that committee meetings where decisions aren’t made do not need to be public.

Alan says yes, if they are making a decision the meeting has to be public.

Margaret says it doesn't require the grievance and the rationale behind the grievance to be read publicly. There is a trend of removing transparency.

Diego says we posted all of the grievances to the website – we are not trying to hide information.

Matt asks where MOH would like the public meeting piece inserted in the language.

Margaret says section 5 or under initial review and response. Neither the committee or the person doing the initial response has the power to act, they can only make a recommendation.

Matt says he is a huge proponent of transparency however these changes could create so many steps that it would paralyze the board.

Margaret says if you look at the ONI standards, they say you don't have to make certain things public: personnel matters, etc.

Evan motions that we present these changes for review at the next meeting.

Alan clarifies that the board chooses at a board meeting when to schedule the next member meeting to address

***** Andrew motions to adjourn

Alan seconds

Board members vote in favor: Alan, Diego, Matt, Andrew, Evan, Derwin, Emily

Margaret abstains

Margaret asks for clarification: it is the full board that schedules the next member meeting?

Yes

Margaret is concerned that members no longer have power in the current structure of the meetings. This needs to be redressed. Need to restore the balance of power to membership.

Margaret says July 9, 2014 vote removed the 8 membership meetings per year and replaced it with one general member meetings per year. This new version specifies 4 per year, so quarterly. Could vote at that quarterly meeting to have a member meeting. This would allow the membership to hold regularly scheduled meeting to fill positions.

Board Members Present: Alan Silver, Diego Gioseffi, Matt Anderson, Andrew Neerman, Evan Heidtmann, Derwin Cunningham, Emily Leuning

Neighbors Present: Margaret O'Hartigan

7:40p.m.Minutes/intros: Alan reviews the agenda

Finance: Diego and Matt present documents regarding the NA's \$10 filing fee for the state of Oregon

***** Alan motions we pay \$10 for the filing fee

Evan seconds

All board members vote in favor: Alan, Diego, Matt, Andrew, Evan, Derwin, Emily

Diego says we should come up with a procedure for the future because he just found out about some of the filing fee recently. Diego and Matt will come up with a policies/procedures doc.

Communications: Diego says newsletter continues to be sent out, going well. Very happy with the process. Talking about getting together to talk about outreach, branding, potential new website. Get this going in December/January. Diego will send a doodle poll to find a time to meet.

Land Use: Evan: Guy Bryant came to the Land Use mtg – proposes three units. Possibly building a duplex and a detached home, possibly a triplex. Current home would likely be demolished. We told him that we encourage front porches, less parking, etc. They would be market rate units. Andrew says they encouraged them to minimize curb cuts or no parking at all, developer isn't interested.

Diego asks when RIP will be decided? Maybe this month but zoning won't be in place for a year or two.

Margaret asks whether the Land Use committee can reach out to the Ocobock mansion folks? Walks by and hears noises but no idea what their plans are for the property. Email Alan and he will reach out.

Alan says speaking of Residential Infill: UNR has been using KNA as a signatory to their platform. Evan says he doesn't know why. They are opposing infill, and KNA is implicitly included when UNR uses KNA's endorsement.

***** Evan motions to demand UNR to remove KNA from their list of endorsements

Andrew seconds

Margaret says if the KNA previously supported them, it would be snotty to demand they remove it. Asking would be more polite.

All vote in favor: Alan, Diego, Matt, Andrew, Evan, Derwin, Emily

Alan says hasn't found place to move the McCoy building- if anyone has ideas, let him know.

Grievance: Meeting on Monday to discuss grievances from 2015. Will render decision at December's board meeting. Thrill the World grievance was addressed last month. Checked with ONI and it didn't meet criteria for a valid grievance.

Allowing a complaint to turn into a grievance on the basis of acting in the best interest of the neighborhood opens the door to all sorts of things. ONI says the grievance was not valid – proposed grievance needs to contain a description of a procedural violation, not a principle. Therefore, Alan suggested the decision be changed to not be a valid grievance.

Margaret says the grievance procedures in KNA bylaws does not require a procedural violation – that term is not included in the KNA bylaws. Consequently, while ONI may talk about how this has to happen, it's not in the KNA bylaws.

Alan says ONI's response is clear: "The KNA Bylaws state that the KNA 'Board has the responsibility of acting in the best interest of the neighborhood but is not specifically bound to act according to the desire of the majority of members attending a particular meeting'. The KNA Board has the authority to define what it believes is in the best interest of the neighborhood. Community members might disagree with the board's judgement or priorities, but this is a matter of the board exercising its judgement, not a matter of procedural violation."

If this is not adopted, a grievance can be filed for any reason and that's not acceptable.

***** Alan makes a motion to overturn the Sept 15th grievance ruling and rule it ineligible based on ONI's determination that it does not identify a procedural violation of bylaws

Andrew seconds

Matt asks what the original grievance addressed. Margaret says the board acting in the best interests of the neighborhood. Says you shouldn't go back now and change a previous decision. Evan says we didn't get this guidance from ONI until a few days ago.

Alan says ONI asked Margaret to run grievances by them rather than filing frivolous ones. Margaret says she rejects any level of government attempting to impose censorship – it's a bad idea.

In favor: Alan, Diego, Matt, Andrew, Evan, Emily

Abstain: Derwin

Green King: Stephanie started a month and a half ago. She is very smart, new to the area. Progress is being made. Design team for the park – Architects without borders and neighborhood architect are designing a community outreach plan. Within the next few months meet with different stakeholders/orgs in neighborhood – Parks and Rec, PPS, NECN, neighbors, etc. Diego has confidence in the team. They have a lot of experience with design, grants. Working to organize a MLK day event. Want to engage the kids since they are big users of the park. Says kids suggested a zipline type of equipment. Could potentially have the architects talk to the kids at school, create an educational component. All great ideas, but we need money to implement them. Would like to ask KNA to put aside some money for outreach efforts for King School park design. Just for the design, need \$50-60,000. Thinking about applying for a Water and Soil conservation grant. Permission to fundraise and apply for grants – specifically for King School design project.

***** Alan motions KNA authorizes Green king to do fundraising for the King School design project.

Evan seconds

Matt asks whether they are asking for money from KNA right now? No

Andrew asks what the \$50-60,000 is anticipated for? Design, community engagement, community outreach, meetings flyers, etc. Are you expecting to find pro bono work for the actual design? Yes, Architects w/o Borders does this. Ideally, would be nice if it was totally free but it is not realistic.

In favor: Alan, Matt, Andrew, Evan, Derwin, Emily

Abstain: Diego

Backpack: Raise money for weekend lunches for kids at King. Spent about \$2,500 and drew funds down to about \$500 total. No particular plans for fundraising now, but open to ideas. Whole Foods funding cut off, a national website has given in past, but not recently.

NECN handles the funds – they do it for free and handle reimbursements.

School decides who in the student population is most in need and gives bags to students.

Margaret says for this and Green King, she would like to see meticulous financial records provided to the membership so everyone can see it. Don't think it's unreasonable that there is some kind of reporting to the KNA.

Diego says we have usually done that – we got a \$250 donation and the rest was grants. Budget is online.

Margaret says getting financial info was very difficult. Shouldn't be that way – membership has a right to see this. Not opposing the projects, just wants transparency.

***** Alan motions we reauthorize the backpack program as fiscally sponsored through NECN and continue to run it.

Evan seconds

All in favor: Alan, Diego, Matt, Andrew, Evan, Derwin, Emily

Update on bylaws: Schedule membership meeting

***** Alan motions we schedule a membership meeting immediately before the next board meeting in December to vote on whether to adopt these grievance procedure changes.

Diego seconds

All vote in favor. Alan, Diego, Matt, Andrew, Evan, Derwin, Emily

Policy: Membership (who and how?) Sign in sheets don't tell us who is a member. How do we deal with people who move away, do they want to be a member? Alan says about 50 people responded to the email asking to be included on the email list – out of about 400. People can identify themselves as a member if they want to.

Margaret says bylaws are specific that bylaws state you must affirm that on the sign in sheet. Minors under 18 have to have a parent/guardian affirm that they can be a member.

Alan says you have to affirm your membership in writing including but not limited to sign in sheets, email, etc.

Accept as a member anyone who signed in on the sign in sheets within the past year. Can't assume anyone who signed in on a sheet in the past how many years wants to be a member.

***** Evan motions to populate our membership list with names from sign in sheets from the last year and continue to accept members who identify their desire to be members going forward.

Derwin seconds

Margaret says there is no expiration date on being a member.

Matt thinks we could keep a contact list and a membership list. Alan says that's what we do now. Alan says assuming that someone who came to a meeting decades ago but has moved away is still a member shouldn't be happening.

In favor: Alan, Diego, Andrew, Derwin, Emily

Abstain: Matt

Adjourn