

King Neighborhood Association Meeting  
August 9, 2017 at 6:30pm at NECN office

Board members present: David Kennedy, Emily Leuning, Andrew Neerman, Diego Gioseffi

Neighbors present: Margaret O'Hartigan

6:33pm: David asks everyone to introduce themselves

6:35pm: Margaret points out that we do not have quorum since we have six board members and only three are present.

**6:36pm: Bylaw revision process:** We need to post the suggested edits at least 30 days in advance of voting on changes and need to call a membership meeting to do so.

Margaret says she has been comparing bylaws with the 19 nearest NAs – gave a copy to David Austin at Commissioner Eudaly's office. Clear that King members have the fewest rights of any NA close by, it is shocking. Many of the neighborhoods allow members to call meetings. One of them only requires three members to call a meeting, one requires 12 members, one NA requires 25 members. Most associations have one or two guarantees that safeguard members' rights. Until the bylaws were changed in 2014, King was pretty much in the middle of the pack. She thinks it would be really useful for folks to take a look at the neighboring associations.

Andrew asks her to email us her summary.

David says he thinks the bylaws revision process addresses many of Margaret's concerns – more membership meetings, among others. David says no other NA is like King because no other NA has such great issues with abuse of the grievance process. Our case would be ripe for abuse because of past

Andrew says he thinks we are amending the bylaws to state that a certain number of members can call a membership meeting.

Margaret says she thinks this issue is important because of how far outside the mainstream KNA's bylaws became three years ago. Wouldn't be the need for grievances if KNA had stuck with its 2014 bylaws.

**Emily will prepare** a summary of proposed bylaws changes for September's meeting.

**6:45pm: Establishing meeting norms and rules of order:**

Andrew asks if we have a copy of the code of conduct – doc titled KNA Standards of Conduct and Ethics

Diego says he thinks we should have a person to engage folks, a greeter type of person – sometimes people come to meetings, seem curious, ask questions but then never come again. Should have some way to keep them involved.

Margaret says sign in sheet should include some type of contact info – whether it's a phone call, email, etc. Reach out and say hello, explain what we're doing, etc.

Diego says it's as simple as entering emails from the sign in sheet into our e-newsletter database.

Andrew says having more functional meetings would help too – people have come through the doors and been scared away by the atmosphere of meetings.

Andrew says timekeeping is important, likes hand raising when folks have a comment to make. Says if we are going to have a code of conduct, we need to actively use it, keep it out at each meeting and stick to it.

Diego says meetings haven't usually felt welcoming the whole time he has been on the board. Andrew agrees.

David says he has sometimes felt that we are just trying to push everything through for the sake of it – would like to have a prioritized agenda so that items at the end could potentially be tabled to the next meeting if needed. David says we could have a brainstorming session if there is extra time at the end – think of ways we can improve. Says he likes the idea of hand raising.

Diego says maybe we should pay more attention to what neighbors are actually talking about – would maybe attract folks to come to meetings.

David says yes, if we come across those types of issues, certainly bring the issue and/or person to a meeting to discuss it.

Margaret says she knows of a meeting coming up next week but won't tell us about it because some of the people there don't like the neighborhood association.

Andrew throws out the idea of having a members open mic type of situation – maybe 15 minutes at the end of the meeting.

David says that's a good idea – should have a time limit per person so the entire 15 minutes doesn't get taken by one person.

Andrew asks whether we have the code of conduct posted online – we do not. **Emily will post code of conduct online.**

**David will check with NECN on our printing code** so we can use the office printer

Diego says there was a guy at a previous meeting who offered website design services (JR?) – could we follow up with him?

**David will try to connect with the website guy**

Diego says he thinks the website redesign is good but we need more. It looks more organized than before – would be good to have a home page with ongoing projects/upcoming events.

Diego says maybe Demian can help with communications/greeting needs? Small volunteer projects if possible, not necessarily as a board member. Right now she's working on a project about KNA volunteers.

**David will email Demian about her capacity for volunteering**

David said he met with ONI last week and there might be a possibility for us to partner with them on a communications/outreach pilot project of some sort – more details to come.

### **7:13pm: Refreshing committees and committee updates:**

David says the committees on the website are outdated and should be updated.

Land use: (members on website include Andrew, Leigh, Evan) but Andrew is currently the only active member. Andrew says there was a brief effort to change MLK into a district collector - that effort was effectively squashed by the city. Meetings are 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month at St. Andrews Church Cesar Chavez community room. Andrew is wondering whether anyone else is willing to chair the land use meetings. David would like to amend the committee to be Andrew, Evan and David.

Green King: Stephanie's position ended a couple of weeks ago. Lots of cuts at the federal level for Americorps so the same program no longer exists. There is another program that costs 15 or \$17,000 per year which is substantially more than the \$3,000 we paid for Stephanie's position. Received a grant to keep moving forward, but it's not the same as having someone who is able to work full time on the program. Got money to pay Christine Frank – a landscape architect, expert on nature playgrounds. She's from King neighborhood. Need more human power for fundraising and communications going forward.

Andrew asks what if someone tried to organize a King Neighborhood skill share – foster neighbor to neighbor connections with some sort of list of what people can bring to the table in any sort of volunteer/barter context. Then when someone like Diego needs to draw on someone to do xyz, he could consult the list.

Diego says fundraising usually scares people away. Perhaps retired folks would be interested in volunteering, not sure how to tap into that.

David says this could potentially be part of the larger communications efforts.

Green King will talk a little bit about the park project – Architects w/o Borders was planning to table there, but they are already in draft stage so won't be there to take more input. Will welcome more input in the second phase.

Need to identify someone to give the KNA blurb before the Movie in the Park. **Emily will draft a short list of bullet points for the pre-movie talk.** Come to us with your ideas – we've got a lot of opportunities right now.

Margaret says it might be helpful to go to other NA's meetings to see how they're run, see what's going on. Could be constructive.

Diego is chair of Green King committee, members are Matt Streng, and Matt Anderson. Diego says Christina Frank should be added and Matt Anderson is no longer involved.

Communications committee: Diego is officially the chair but hasn't had time to effectively create a committee. David thinks we should disband the communications committee and fold it into our larger communications efforts going forward. Andrew asks if ONI had a timeline for the ONI pilot project. David says it seems like they wanted to do it fairly soon. Diego says Andrew had been putting together an e-newsletter, tried to do it monthly but was too much effort. Diego suggests perhaps changing this to quarterly – Andrew is willing to compile if content is sent his way. Could publicize the proposed bylaws changes in an October-ish email. Emily is interested in joining committee.

Current members are Diego, Andrew, Alan

David motions that we disband the communications committee for the time being

Andrew seconds

Andrew points out that we don't necessarily have to disband the committee – can leave it and join up with the ONI efforts when they begin. General consensus that this is the best way to go. Motion is withdrawn, no vote taken.

Grievance committee: Currently Alan, Diego, and Derwin. David says that ONI has agreed to directly handle all grievances. David says he will join the grievance committee and serve as chair. Andrew said he will join grievance committee. Diego is no longer interested in being on the committee.

Finance committee: Will table until next meeting when Christen is here. Diego says he would serve on the committee as well.

David says we currently do not have a rep to NECN – Diego says maybe each board member could take a turn going just to have a rep there. Difficult because NECN wants reps to also join committees on their board.

Margaret asks what kind of power NECN has to apply – KNA should not have to have people commit to being on committees in order to be on the board. Why should we be denied representation? Can we find a board or member to be on the board so we have a seat and a vote? David asks whether Margaret would be interested in being the rep on the NECN board. Margaret says not after the election that happened two years ago.

Andrew says Evan has been attending NECN land use meetings as our rep.

#### **7:52pm: Questions/feedback/announcements:**

Diego says it is nice to have a short, simple meeting

Andrew appreciates David's facilitation

Diego asks if David has talked to Adam at NECN – David said he was waiting til we had more members to on-board. David will start NECN process.

**David: get in touch with Anjala about a board training**

Andrew says he will be gone mid-Oct to mid-Nov, will miss Oct land use meeting and Nov regular meeting

7:58pm: we adjourn

Next meeting: approve July minutes and special meeting minutes, touch base on finance committee