

# ***King Neighborhood Association Membership Meeting Minutes***

Wednesday, October 6, 2020

Virtual (Zoom) Meeting

## **KNA Board Members Present**

John Rooney (Chair)  
Laverne Martin (Co-Chair)  
Sarah Moses (Treasurer)  
John Kim (Secretary)  
Cheri Folsom (At-large representative)

Absent: Libby Deal (At-large representative / KNA Land Use)

## **Community Members Present**

Greg Bourget (Executive Director, Portland Clean Air, Cascadia Action)  
Sierra Dawson

John R called the meeting to order. Because of the current pandemic, this and all future meetings will be virtual until such time as in-person meetings can be deemed safe.

## **Old Business**

Approval of September Meeting Minutes

John K was asked about any results for searching into available help with neighbors facing eviction, and said that he had not yet looked into it and would report on this later.

John R had not yet been able to reach out to Peter Kusyk to see if he would like to reschedule his development presentation

Need for a Legal Advisor for the board. This is currently listed as Ursula Kienbaum and John Kim volunteered to contact her to see if she would agree to continue.

## **New Business**

### **Portland Clean Air**

<http://portlandcleanair.org/>

Greg Bourget (Executive Director of Portland Clean Air) presented information about alarming industrial pollution levels in Portland and its environs.

Greg gave a presentation stating the hazards that Oregon, especially those living along the I-5 Corridor faces. These include:

- State of Oregon does not use human health to factor in what constitutes acceptable levels of pollution
- Portland is one of the worst states in terms of pollution, especially diesel pollution; the I-5 Corridor has some of the worst diesel particulate levels in the nation
- Vehicles that are illegal to operate in other states because they fail their diesel pollution standards are shipped to Oregon because of Oregon's lax regulations (for example, XPO Logistics alone has a fleet of some 8000 of these polluting diesel vehicles.)
- Politicians being allowed to accept unlimited contributions from corporations

Portland Clean Air has been able to:

- Able to rank every smokestack emitter in the Portland area
- Poll data for each regulating agency
- Collect data from industry
- Use computer programming, statistics from a series of experts and volunteers to take above data and make it accessible and relatable to everyone
- Measure of success is that in the last three years, 11 industries have put in control devices to help monitor pollution

After his presentation, Greg offered to send any information that would be useful to the KNA to help neighbors understand the risks in particular to King Neighborhood. Portland Clean Air has liaisons with 39 neighborhood associations, and other associations. He asked if someone would agree to become the liaison for the KNA. John Rooney agreed to be the initial contact, and this was later transferred to John Kim.

Greg also notified the board that Portland Clean Air has reached out to 52 neighborhood associations to consider endorsing negotiation letters to help with current efforts to curtail pollution and that he would be forwarding these letters for consideration, along with a caveat that these are draft and not ready for public viewing as yet.

### **Social Media and Outreach Initiative**

Sierra Miller, a graphic design, web design, and social media specialist from Washington State, was at the meeting to volunteer her services. Being an associate of Chair John Rooney, she was asked to come to the meeting to offer her help in helping the KNA broaden its message, both for giving information and support, but also in soliciting information and more volunteers.

Topics discussed included:

- More community outreach

- Sierra posed that she was willing to go in person to businesses around the neighborhood to meet local business owners
- What are things to avoid?
- What sorts of medium do the community react to?
- What are topics that draw people looking to get involved?
- Consider revising bylaws to allow for electronic voting

On the topic of outreach, John R stated a desire to bring more people onto the KNA board to fill all the vacant positions. Since the bylaws allow younger community members to participate (16+ with parental consent), that recruiting some youth board members to bring more perspective into the team as well as to foster community engagement. There was a suggestion to contact the local high schools for ways to bring this before local students.

It was posed that perhaps it was time to reach out to the local police representative. Given that King Neighborhood has a local precinct office that has seen a lot of protests, perhaps the KNA could be a conduit to foster some dialogue between police and community. There was no action item resulting from this.

### **Community Outreach**

Form a committee for community outreach. This was approved by the board and Laverne will be the focus. Laverne also mentioned that her organization would again be getting ready for Thanksgiving and Christmas, getting ready to deliver more than 100 food baskets to people each holiday to ensure that they have a sustaining meal.