

King Neighborhood Association Membership Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 2, 2021

NECN Office

KNA Board Members Present

John Rooney (Chair)

Libby Deal (Treasurer/ KNA Land Use Chair)

John Kim (Secretary)

Cherie Folsom (At-large representative)

Eryca Morris (At-large representative)

Paxton Rothwell (At-large representative)

Absent: Laverne Martin (Co-Chair)

Community Members Present

Ernie Jones

Heather O'Brien

Marcos Villanueva

John Rooney called the meeting to order.

Old Business

None

New Business

Land Use Report

Libby reported that there are not a lot of updates

NECN - Land use committee is not meeting

There was a follow-up on on Grand trees for Alberta Alive project: those trees are right in the footprint of the building and the architects will not save them -- they will replace them 1:1 but it's looking like those trees are certain to be removed at this point, despite neighbors attempts to save them.

News and Notes from Community Members

Eryca

7th Avenue speed bumps do not slow down traffic; they seem to have increased speeding between the bumps as some drivers accelerate in those sections

Next steps: contact PBOT to do some speed analysis IF the KNA doesn't end up creating a traffic committee

Heather

Reported that the 9th Street barrier has slowed traffic down. Heather is Interested in doing more neighborhood cleanup, trash and general debris pickups.

Heather wanted to know what neighborhood Alberta Park is in.

Answer: Alberta Park is in Vernon Neighborhood, though it also borders directly on Woodlawn to its North and Concordia to its East

Libby and Heather

Libby will work with NECN and Adopt a Block (give bags and gear, but not a place to dump it) to see about getting a dumpster. Heather volunteered to help

Marcos introduced himself and said that he moved to King with his partner.

Ernie

Ernie has lived in Portland for 22 years

There was discussion about issues with noise near King School Park late at night when people are sleeping -- from stereos being played from parked cars

Confirmed when asked that there is speeding down NE Grand Avenue, adjacent to the park
Questions were posed about what could be done about this but there were no immediate answers.

Committees Report

John R. reported that there is a lot of really good progress happening on the committee level. The plan is to shift the KNA work through select committees, which will have a mix of board and community members, including hopefully from community members that we haven't heard from before, such as youth members.

The KNA needs to formally approve of committees. The exact names and number of committees is still being worked out. Names below are tentative but good work is already starting to happen. Committees are meant to be somewhat malleable, forming and reforming as needed.

Committees will have a focus on diversity, equity, and inclusion

New Committee Member: Irene Helman -- 18, moved to just outside the King Neighborhood. Irene is interested in becoming a political science major in college. She is interested in joining Community Engagement and Outreach Program. Eryca and Libby talked with her and thought she would be a good fit.

Community Enrichment, Environment

Adopt a block -- give bags and gear, but not a place to dump it

John R reported he is still trying to get a hold of Principal Sage at D. Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary School

Community Outreach

New branding and images have been adopted for the KNA

Planning:

- Virtual Puppet Show
- Virtual Meet and Greet for Adults
- Working with a sign language interpreter

No reports for these tentative committees:

Arts, Culture, and Commerce

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Fundraising

Housing, Land Use, and Transportation

There was some discussion that committee suggestions might be too broad.

There was a question about which committee manages contact with city officials.

Ernie reminded everyone that Commissioner Hardesty is responsible for PBOT and Civic Life.

Board Elections

Two new board members were elected to at-large positions. A new treasurer was also elected.

Eryca Morris was elected unanimously to At-large Position #2

- Eryca has lived in Portland since 2007 and moved to King Neighborhood one year ago
- Eryca had been on a neighborhood association board before when she served as in the Transportation Committee for the Elliott Neighborhood Association
- Eryca would like to work on land use.

Paxton Rothwell was elected unanimously to At-large Position #4

- Paxton has lived in Portland for three years, two of those in King Neighborhood

- Paxton would like to focus on Environment and Housing & Transportation

Libby was appointed Treasurer unanimously to replace Sarah Moses

John K volunteered to set up email addresses for the new board members.

Other Board Business

There was discussion about what do neighborhood associations stand for? Land use, cleanup, helping neighbors find solutions and contacts, investigations into safety were examples of past work.

In light of some recent controversy with Southwest Neighborhood Incorporated, Jessica at NECN urged neighborhood associations to highlight why neighborhood associations are important, what their value is to the communities they serve.

Letters of Support for Portland Clean Air

Libby felt they were not finished or polished enough to vote on as is and John R suggested tabling writing any support letters for same for now

Meeting was adjourned.