

Northeast Neighbors

October 13, 2020

SUBJECT: Board Meeting minutes

Call to Order: 6:30 p.m.

Board members present: Kevin Reed, David Martin, John Faville, Rick Edwards, and Anne Millhollen.

Board members absent: None.

Visitors in attendance: Bob Siegmund, Dan Rodriguez, and Omar Farah.

Approval of September 15 Board Meeting minutes: A motion was made by Kevin to approve minutes as written by Rick. The motion was seconded by Anne and the Minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

Review of November 10 General Meeting Agenda:

Commissioner Farr will be invited to give a report on Lane County's coordinated work on housing and homelessness. The discussion included inviting Marissa Cade to talk about Home Share Oregon. Commissioner Farr will be given 20 minutes followed by 10 min of Q&A. Marissa Cade will be given 15 minutes plus 5 min for Q&A.

Phil Spears from Shephard Motors was discussed as a possible speaker. Kevin asked David to contact Phil Spears and follow. John suggested asking him to sponsor the newsletter. Kevin said he is thinking about having Phil Spears speak at the December meeting instead, and suggested asking Becky Taylor to talk about the new timeline for improvements to Gilham Road. Kevin said he would talk to the owner of the land on the corner of Ayers & Gilham Road about "gifting" the land needed for sidewalk improvements. He also raised the idea that the City should use SDC funds received from North Eugene development, to repay Lane County for upgrading Gilham Road to City standards. David said he sent out an

email to the Board that explained changes to the timeline for upgrades to Gilham Road.

Kevin asked if an invitation to speak at the November General Meeting had been sent to Councilor Jennifer Yeh. Rick confirmed that an invitation had been sent to Councilor Yeh but she has not replied yet, so Kevin said he would follow up with her. Kevin then asked the Board about the process of submitting applications for naming the Park. John answered that the process for re-naming the Park hasn't been decided yet. Kevin said he would talk to Councilor Yeh about the process of naming Striker Field Park and possibly having a naming contest. John suggested making her a marquee speaker and suggested that if we have a naming contest, we also ask contestants to include their address. Kevin embraced both ideas and decided to make Councilor Yeh the marquee speaker and list her on the agenda as the first speaker instead of Commissioner Farr. David asked how much time she would have on the agenda and Kevin said to give her 10 minutes.

Kevin asked if Representative Nathanson or Councilor Mike Clark would be participating in the meeting and Rick said that neither of them had responded to the invitation. Kevin said he will follow up with Mike Clark but indicated that he wanted to budget 10 minutes on the agenda in case he attends.

Kevin said he also wanted to let Anne talk about the Food Drive and suggested that she follow Marissa Cade's presentation. Anne said the food would be collected and given to Food for Lane County.

David suggested drafting an agenda based on the discussion as/of this Board meeting. Everyone agreed and the draft agenda follows:

Kevin opens the meeting.

Minutes from the Annual Meeting will be voted on for approval.

Presentations by elected officials:

Senator Manning 10 minutes

Commissioner John Brown 5 min

Mike Clark 5 min

Councilor Yeh 10 min

Commissioner Farr 20 minutes followed by 10 min of Q&A

Marissa Cade 15 minutes plus 5 min for Q&A

Anne Millhollen 5 minutes

After the Board agreed on the draft agenda for the November meeting, Kevin wanted to discuss the possibility of a December general meeting. He said that developers have started Phase 2 of River Ridge, and are now considering buying the remaining 9-hole golf course for development. He said that they would build single family homes, townhomes, and apartments for a total of 612 units. David asked how many homes are being built on the East side. John said there are 192 lots on the East side and 360 Townhomes on the West Side. Kevin wants to talk to them about turning the wetlands portion of the 9-hole golf course into a park. John said if they want to add more development, they will be required to have a public forum. Kevin said the developer is Jim Stephens of Evergreen Housing & Development.

Land use updates: John Faville

WINCO: The Director of the Planning Department approved development of the former SHOPKO site, but two appeals have been submitted. John said the appeals will not stop WINCO from developing the SHOPKO site, but could cause WINCO to make changes to their plans.

HB 2001 is still pending and the City has until November to comment.

Candidates for Board vacancies: Kevin said he talked to the Chair of Crescent Meadows and will try to get them to send a representative from their neighborhood to attend our meetings. Then he called on Dan Rodrigues to comment. Dan Rodrigues introduced himself and said that he will talk to the members of his neighborhood association about taking turns representing their neighborhood at our meetings. Kevin said he will also reach out to Cathy Lindsley who spoke about Gilham Elementary school at our last Board meeting, and go to St Vincent De Paul to see if they will participate on our Board.

Outreach recommendations for November thru February: John said we spent all of our budget for the July-October trimester and went over budget by \$20.00 which was as close to breaking even as possible. He said we should be able to send out a newsletter after the General meeting on November 10th, but we will probably find out by early in November how much funding we have in the budget for the November-February trimester.

Food Drive: Anne talked about having a food drive in December, and explained that it would be for the benefit of Food for Lane County. David asked about the timing and Anne said it would be within the first two weeks of December.

HRNI's hate and bias report: John clarified that the report and the letter came from the City staff, not the Neighborhood Leaders Council (NLC). Kevin questioned whether or not the report was a polarizing issue, and asked the Board to consider if it was the kind of issue that we should avoid in order to maintain our neutrality. David said he embraces the intent of the report, but questioned the need to sign the cover letter because we are already actively trying to increase diversity and inclusiveness in our neighborhood. He also highlighted the initiatives we have undertaken to meet the needs of our neighborhood, and raised the concern that we could be heading towards "mission drift" if we sign on to every new initiative that comes from the City staff. After the discussion, Kevin called for a vote and the result was a split decision by the Board; there was one abstention, one vote to sign the letter, but the majority had three votes not to sign the letter.

Next board meeting: Monday, November 23, 2020.

Other Business: John said we should discuss the new vision statement and objectives that the NLC is proposing for itself. He suggested getting a Board vote on the current draft so that whoever attends the next NLC meeting can vote on behalf of the board. John said he had sent out an email to the Board with a summary of their newly stated mission, vision, and objectives. David said it seems like their goal is to be a political action committee. However, some of their ideas are good. John said that attending NLC meetings were useful for info about land use, but we shouldn't sign on to their proposed Strategic Planning policies because we don't speak for the neighborhood. Anne highlighted the diversity goal and asked if anyone disagreed with that. John added that their goal of improved capacity building is good. Kevin said NeN already reaches out to get representation and educate others about development. The reason is that we're

approaching diversity as it pertains to our neighborhood. Kevin concluded by stating that he believes we're already doing a good job, and called for a vote on whether or not to endorse the new NLC proposal. The Board voted not to endorse the NLC mission statement and vision as written, but continued discussing the merits of several objectives. After further review, three specific objectives were voted on and accepted as goals that the Board would support:

- Increase capacity of NHAs for disaster response and recovery
- Increase capacity building for neighborhood leaders
- Improve engagement by NHAs in NLC

Public comment period: Dan Rodrigues said that in his neighborhood somebody wanted to put up signs opposed to Trick-or-treating and they had to deal with it on the board and decided to follow the guidelines.

The meeting was gavelled closed by the Chairman at 7:30 pm.