

Minutes for NEN board meeting, March 9, 2021

13 Board members present: Lynn Takata, Alan Scott, Jeremy Mills, Delana Beaton, Joan Lloyd, Nick Cantonwine, Ken Simila, Cindy Kimball, Lainy Kruger, Ken Betterton, Ken Houghton, Laura Buhl, Leslie Polson

Ken Betterton moved to **approve the minutes** for February 9th. Approved by acclamation with Jeremy Mills abstaining due to having miss that meeting.

City Council member **Virginia Stapleton** gave report from the Council. Storm debris is still being accepted at Geer Park. Virginia reminds us to be prepared for emergencies and reminds us to sign up to receive emergency alerts. Virginia announced that Brady Rogers, long time leader on city staff is retiring and that his last day of service will be April first. Virginia mentioned that she and city council members Tom Anderson and Chris Hoy will appeal to ODOT to take action to reduce speed on 17th. Laura Buhl asked if NEN will be informed when ODOT will hear this appeal.

Patricia Farrell, Climate Action Plan Manager, reported on the Bush Park Cultural Landscape Management Plan. She announced that city council has adopted an aspirational goal of the city achieving 50% carbon neutrality by 2050. General discussion followed. Alan Scott suggested that re-establishing commercial air travel in and out of Salem would add significantly more air pollution.

Tami Starrs presented from Public Works Engineering Department. She commented generally about the city's Capitol Improvement Plan (CIP) which can be accessed on the city website.

Lynn Takata presented about requests from NEN re protocols for the management of the two shelters in or very near NEN, e.g. the State Street (near 18th Street) shelter and the shelter for 100 residents in the Pavilion building on the State Fairgrounds. Specifically, requests to use ARCHES to assist in locating and selecting guests, to prioritize the vulnerable, and to request on-going drug and alcohol screening of staff, including random UAs.

Action Item: Cindy moved to approve submitting such a request from NEN regarding management of shelters in or near NEN. Alan seconded. Passed unanimously.

Action Item: Lynn requested a motion to have NEN act as a co-sponsor with the Lord & Schryver Conservancy for the annual Garden Tour, usually about the first weekend in June. Cindy so moved. Ken Houghton seconded. Passed unanimously.

Action Item: **Laura Buhl** announces that **Benjamin Witt** will serve as co-land use chair. Delana moved that Benjamin be added to the board. Ken Simila seconded. Passed unanimously.

Action Item: **Jeremy Boyles** has volunteered to serve on a NEN land use committee, but not to be on the board. Jeremy Mills moved, and Benjamin Witt seconded to create a Land Use

Committee for NEN. It is understood that Larua Buhl and Benjamin Witt will serve as co-chairs. This passed unanimously.

Action Item: **Nick Cantonwine** announced that it is estimated that \$10,700 will be needed for the improvements planned for the renovation of the basketball facility at **McRae Park**. Several thousand dollars of donations have already been received or pledged. It was agreed that Nick and **Joan Lloyd** will draft and send thank you letters to these donors.

Action Item: Neighborly Ventures requested a letter from NEN to support a tree preservation plan on D and Park Streets. Lynn moves that NEN support a collaboration with Neighborly Ventures and the City of Salem to work toward the preservation of street trees. Laura seconded. This motion passed unanimously.

The meeting **adjourned** at 8:30. Next meeting of NEN board scheduled for April 13, 2021.