

****Draft****

Board meeting 3/8/18

Board members present: Sabina Urdes, Michael Collins, Lacey Hamerin, Christo Brehm, Barbara Bader, Ray Hites, Cora Potter

6:35 meeting called to order.

Discussion items:

-Urdes addresses logistics: timekeeper, success tracker, note taker. Collins volunteers to be timekeeper. Hites protests.

-Guests: Suk Rhee, Victor Salinas, Paul Liestner, Jamey Duhamel and Winta Yohannes. They are trying to understand how EPNO and ONI can be more useful to the LNA, see letter. Potter says the Equity and Inclusion Committee would like to be involved in bylaw updating. Collins thanks Paul for grievance process assistance and other assistance. Brehm: What would role of commissioners office be? Winta: Usually hear when things go wrong, so it important to stay in close contact if/when things escalate. Example: In Montavilla, really contentious election, they provided city support, gave more resources to meeting. Jamey: Commissioner's office can get involved when policy has direct impact on Lents. Brehm: Is project support available? Like sidewalks on Ellis between 82nd and 92nd? Jamey: Yes that is an opportunity, anyone can call, it does not necessarily have to be as a collective body. Collins: How have other neighborhoods reached out to Eudaly's office? Jamey: When the RV rules were relaxed, the LNA reached out and spent time addressing concerns. Winta: They get a lot of invitations to events and meetings. They are happy to attend.

ACTION ITEM: Follow up on letter, explain how the city can be of assistance.

-Urdes: Grievances. There have been a high number of grievances filed since election. Some members are upset and turning to grievances as a way to solve their concerns. Doesn't want to get into the details of the grievances, but rather discuss process and timelines to address grievances. Discussion on what Urdes has done already and what our bylaws require. Collins suggests everyone should have the same amount of time to be heard, so we should agree on how much time to spend on each grievance. He suggests meeting and discussing right before a board meeting or during the meeting. Hites likes having separate meeting. Bader agrees to help, also likes having separate meeting. Potter concerned about defamatory content in the grievances, Paul Liestner says board has the right to have grievants submit evidence. Most boards set up a grievance committee that includes a board member, neutral person, and grievant. Brehm: How can we convey to folks what kind of evidence or documentation they need to provide that would make sense? Urdes says it is a case by case basis. The board has copies of these grievances so we can coordinate what kind of proof we want. Urdes wants ONI/EPNO support with this. Collins likes idea of grievance committee. Victor Salinas says assistance is available at EPNO. There is further discussion regarding who should be on the grievance

committee and what the bylaws state. By show of hands, Bader, Urdes and Hamerin have interest in being on grievance committee. Community member David Carroll asks if there is formal training available for this process. Leistner is offering training. Carroll volunteers as well. Urdes moves to form grievance committee with Urdes, Bader and Hamerin. Bader seconds. Brehm questions as to why there are so many grievances, is it possible that board doesn't adequately represent community. He would like general members to be part of the committee. Potter raises concerns, thinks it would be useful to say that board members have ultimate say as to who can be on committee. Discussion regarding that. Brehm has assumption that the general membership has the core power, and the board is just a medium for that power. Is his assumption misguided? Leistner: Board is in charge, board is responsible for making decisions. Board is encouraged to reach out and get feedback, but board is legally liable. We are responsible for this organization. Idea is to be as open as possible and engage community members. Grievances have a specific response. This is not the time to open it to general membership, grievant can take it to general membership if they aren't satisfied with board decision. Bader: Thinks the best route is for board members to be on committee. If grievant is dissatisfied with end result, they can appeal it. Thinks that makes the most sense. Collins feels it's important to face your accuser and has a compromise. 3 board members want to be on committee, take 4 community members and vote them on the committee so both sides are represented. Urdes will form grievance committee, send doodle poll to decide on time, both parties will meet, next step is to investigate, make recommendation to board, board deliberates and votes. Grievant can either appeal to general membership or to EPNO. Collins clarifies, do these first round of grievances with just board members. ACTION ITEM: Collins idea is (unofficially) tabled. Revote to form grievance committee, 7 in favor, passes unanimously.

-Urdes: Request for funds. General meeting felt hostile to her. Wants to get to know her community better, interact outside of general meeting. Think it will also help with grievance process. Proposing to meet an hour early of general meetings for community potluck and sharing (photos on projectors, music, etc.) and from that transition to actual meeting. Funds would be for refreshments, snacks. Potter thought this money was already budgeted. Urdes: What is budget for that? Hites: General membership stuff is for childcare and sending postcards. Haven't budgeted for refreshments for general membership meeting. Potter Moves to budget \$35 for general meeting for refreshments. Urdes would prefer \$100. Salinas: folks might be hesitant to bring food and eat food brought by other people. Have the board provide all the food for now. Brehm: We Have \$14,000 in budget, thinks it would be a good idea to invest the money in the community. Urdes clarifies this as being a meal, not just snacks. Bader questions Victor's comments. Salinas says he is serious, but we should also consider that Lents is a working class district, so it might be better to provide the food for them. Doesn't want it to be a barrier. Carroll works with community businesses to sponsor the event/meeting. Zoiglhaus as an example. offers to coordinate that. Potter proposes Up to \$300 meeting for next 4 meetings and also seek donations from a variety of businesses. Salinas suggests we should buy from local businesses. Hites raises a concern that we haven't been doing real fundraising, so fund isn't being replenished. If we want to seek donations from businesses, its good to apply for a project

through east portland neighbors so they can get a tax deduction. Brehm Seconds Potter's motion. Passes with 7 votes. Potter makes a separate motion to apply for account at EPN so we can apply for outreach projects. This is so businesses can make donations and get a receipt from EPN. Bader seconds. Salinas doesn't think we need approval from EPN. A Friendly amendment is made. (We won't worry about it if we don't need it.) 5 in favor, 2 abstain. Urdes doesn't feel strongly either way, Brehm doesn't feel comfortable fundraising when we have money available.

Reports:

-Urdes moves to approve minutes. Hites seconds. 4 in favor. 3 abstain. Potter and Collins apologize for missing previous board meeting.

-Urdes: Moves to appoint David Carroll as new board member. Su moves to appoint Carroll. This is for the at large position that ends in September. Collins seconds. Passed unanimously. To be ratified by general membership in March. Liestner clarifies what abstentions mean.

-Hites: Treasurer's report: checking \$588.27, savings \$13,645.43 for a total of \$14,233.70. Transactions: 53 cent interest savings, \$200 transferred from savings to checking. Accounts payable: \$81.43, \$66.65 for two months of PGE bills for a total of \$148.08. Expecting a third month, reason for delay is the check signatory issues. Hamerin provides update on signatory process. Urdes has two invoices to submit, child care from general meeting and movie screening. Duhamel asks if there is a financial report that is passed out or is it just verbal? Salinas suggests passing out a written report at meetings. There is discussion why Hites can't do that but people offer to help. Collins sees value in providing receipts for all transactions and making that public.

-Hites: Finance committee update. No action yet. Urdes: Now that Carroll has been appointed to the board, and has offered to help, can he initiate the process on behalf of Ray or does his position need to be ratified? Yes, it is acceptable for him to work as a general member. Brehm feels uncomfortable as board member not being able to see statements, etc. Salinas says written statements are standard practice. Carroll offers to work with Ray to make these items available online. Hites will work with Carroll to put together finance report and submit to Urdes just as every other committee does.

-Urdes: Bylaws: Has updated the first half and has a bylaw review timeline to hold us accountable, and get general members involved. Concerns raised about the bylaws committee and the election committee but Urdes says bylaws would be implemented after the election. Social Media, code of conduct and basic officer duties that aren't described in bylaws, but are supporting documents: Urdes suggests studying what she has written up and bring suggestions to her at next meeting. She wants something for general members and board members that will ensure transparency, make clear who moderators are, etc. Brehm says they are on the website. Website: Wants to add a page regarding grievance vs complaint to eliminate confusion and add grievance template. Make bylaws page visible. Create separate page that separates news/blog from meetings announcements and minutes. Potter: The website is at a point where it may need to be scrapped and started over. In the past, community members with experience have assisted. Potter and Urdes are unable to move forward on their own.

-Newsletter update.

-Potter: Land use update: two open cases, changing awning design at Oliver Station. 2nd is Shell station. Community members are also interested in McDonald's site on Powell, especially the old building. She will also be communicating with neighbors on Lafayette, back of Quomar property. Informal feedback during early assistance process. If project goes to land use case she might bring it to general membership. Will convene land use committee and invite neighbors from that area to discuss those two projects, get recommendations and find out if land use committee wants to take a formal stance. More discussion on vintage McDonalds.

-Schultz: Lents fair update: Seems clear the board doesn't support this event. If this is a priority, it should be more participatory. Schultz can't do it himself. Reached out to lents grown, they expressed issue with board. Volunteers, community members also expressed concerns with board. Hamerin would like constructive feedback regarding why those parties don't want to work with the board so we can correct the problems. Schultz will submit that feedback to us in an email. If Lents grown will take it, he's happy to hand it over to them. Time to get started is now. Big problem is the community has a problem putting \$8,000 - \$12,000 in the hands of the board. Schultz will keep working until next board meeting and then we can decide. In meantime, will work with Potter, Collins and Udres.

-March general meeting: any proposed items? Potter would like time to talk about McDonalds and other land use cases. Collins would like April to be "focus on good things that happen in Lents month." Potter might bring a developer to March meeting. Urdes: previous meeting got out of control, goal for March is to get as many informative speakers as possible. Potter proposes a break out session for q and a, more of an open house format. Maybe presenters could come early to the potluck and community members could ask questions before hand. Brehm: In April, hopes to have folks from PBOT come out in advance of May construction on Foster. April would be good timing for that. Urdes: Is board ok with her reaching out to receive confirmation from several bureaus for their attendance in March? Potter wants permission to attend March Flood plain committee, a BES and Oregon Solutions project. Collins moves to have Potter represent board. Bader seconds. 5 in favor, 2 abstain.

8:52 meeting adjourned.