**September Minutes Regular Monthly Meeting of the Board of Directors**

Publication Date:

Approved:

Meeting Day, Date & Time: September 13, 2016

**Attendance of Members of the Board of Directors – Quorum of 12 of 14**

Andrea Meyer and Jack Frewing excused

Present: Chris Tanner; Deb Bridges; Dave Brook; Dan Lerch-Walters, Daniel Pirofsky; Julie Hoffinger; Kathy Hansen; Kari LaForge; Michael Brown; Michelle Johnson; Marty Rowe; Stepan Simek

Note: All votes were completed by show of hands.

**Opening Comments:**

* Roll call and introductions
* CTanner: Thanks to Stepan Simek for incredible Gulch-O-Rama
* SSimek: Thanks to everyone for their help. Stepan has uploaded all planning material into SGNA shared [Google drive](https://drive.google.com/open?id=0BwPBffwq6qtMLThLQlM1R0RfZlE) for institutional memory.
* KLaForge: All hot dogs were consumed, upped from previous numbers. Kept track of plates, cups etc. to help estimate numbers (300 cups). Lights were fabulous addition.
* MBrown: 90 surveys completed. $270 in proceeds generated from raffle.

**Open Mic:**

* Heather Ashlock (HA): Provided updates on homeless camp on Multnomah, and has been liaising with city enforcement officer. Since initial clean-up, there has been a resurgence of homeless activity. KLaForge: The activity takes place behind shrubs. HA: The property owners may be willing to meet with neighbors; the recent fire caught their attention. HA would like to know how they will prevent future fires and keep safe for neighbors; a recent visit revealed needles, excrement, knives, trash. Also, owners of that property have applied for Marijuana grow permit (tier 1) – business license. How should we organize meeting with owners? DLerch-Walters offered to work with HA on this; it is relevant to the work of the Safety and Livability Committee. MBrown would like to clean it up and corresponded with HA on neighborhood listserve about this. HA feels we should leave it for City to clean up and is concerned that even photo evidence would not have the same impact on documenting the problem for the city. MBrown noted that photo documentation could serve that purpose and added that cleaning up would disincline others to dump there in the future. HA agreed to document and create record and then clean up. She will create a shared file with name, description of action taken, date, before and after photos. MBrown proposed to meet on Friday 9/16 to clean up. CTanner offered to organize a sharps container if needed. DBrook: If meeting with owners, a member of the Safety and Livability committee should be there to represent board. Thanks to HA for efforts.

**Old Business:**

* **Approval of August 9 minutes**: KHansen motion to approve minutes, SSimek seconded. All approved, motion carried.
* **Approval of Agenda**: No comments - agenda is approved as distributed.
* **Appointment of members to Land Use and Transportation Committee**

KHansen: **LUTC** needs to be reconstructed. Four members are already on the committee. There are three potential new members. KHansen recommends closing committee membership at eight. This does not mean that community cannot bring issues to the group, but that numbers of regular members be limited. The committee needs to meet and prioritize issues for remainder of year. Community and committee members will need to suggest issues for consideration. - for example, the homelessness issues raised by HA and responding to the grow permit. Deb and Dave Galaty (24th and Weidler) have expressed interest in the committee. CTanner: Should they have one or two votes? DBrook: this can be procedural issue decided by Chair. DJ Hefferen, land use consultant who has been working on SG Trail has been proposed as well. SSimek: Do we have anyone on committee who is not long term resident? Yes, Julie. Andrea, Daniel, John are longer- term residents. DPirofsky notes that condominium owners are not represented and suggests Bob Leopold, as nominated last time. CTanner: Last nomination of Leopold was for Board. DPirofsky meant to nominate him for this committee. DPirofsky: motion to nominate Bob Leopold for LUTC. MBrown: second. KHansen: Membership now stands at nine. KHansen hopes that members will agree to meet October 18 to get acquainted and possibly begin developing some standards and guidelines around infill and development planning.

* **Appointment of Board member to fill vacant seat.** CTanner recommends leaving vacancy until next election because recruitment efforts have not been successful. We will need to recruit for next election when we may have up to seven vacancies.
* **Transition to annual election cycle**: CTanner two options, taking as a starting point when current terms are up. Assumptions: Annual elections will be in fall; We aspire to an 18 member board; It is important that no more than half of the board positions are open each year. **Plan 1** would involve KHansen running again. Four additional members would shorten their terms by four months and could run for re-election in November. In the Fall of 2017, five would be up for re-election plus two for whom the term would not change. Half of those elected spring 2016 would shorten by six months, half would extend. From Fall 2018 all positions will have transitioned to the new annual cycle. CTanner prefers this first plan. DPirofsky: Faster transition opens more slots up at a time, which means more slots to fill. Slower version is less dramatic. CTanner prefers first model because it gets the transition over faster. KLaForge: Ground breaking on new neighborhood projects might interest people to get involved. DBrook: Motion to approve plan A to transition to annual election plan, KHansen: second. All in favor. Motion passes. CTanner: Down the road, some will need to opt for shorter or longer plans.
* **PBOT overcrossing plan**: CTanner realized that we never officially responded to PBOT to indicate SGNA not in support of project and drafted a response recapitulating issues raised by LUTC. The letter noted that we were taking up the matter of the signal with PBOT’s Carl Snyder. MBrown: Carl Snyder was familiar with the intersection and the problem. He seemed to understand our concerns, but was not encouraging about ability to affect change. Has not yet followed up. MBrown to call back next week and is willing to raise to next level if seems Snyder is unable to take action. Snyder seems to understand that classification of Multnomah as residential may be inaccurate. However, MBrown does have concern that if signaling is streamlined, traffic might cut through Sullivan’s Gulch more. CTanner: Motion to approve letter? DPirofksy so moved. KHansen seconded. JHoffinger and SSimek abstain; DBrook, opposed. All others in favor.
* **Bikeways Project**: There has been lots of discussion on Gulchnet this week about bikeways. CTanner proposes that the city present the 20s Bikeways project at general meeting on Nov. 15. SSimek: Is there any advantage or disadvantage for the Board to have position? CTanner: It is important to have a presentation on the overall plan to help neighborhood understand and to provide information. We can also get input on the extent to which we can influence. Any objections? No.
* **Intent to demolish house at 22nd and Weidler**. The builder is Vic Remmers from Everett Custom Homes. CTanner had conversation with Vic today. He claims to be doing nothing illegal. He plans to demolish the house and build two two-unit townhouses, facing 22nd. He plans to build using a modern design. CTanner suggested he speak with LUTC. Currently he plans to demolish, not deconstruct, but is willing to assess whether the house can be deconstructed. There is a new resolution by city that any house built before 1916 or of historical significance has to be deconstructed, as of October (31?). The process of appeal requires various documents which we may or may not be able to procure. DPirofsky: The objective of the appeal would be to delay until after new city resolution kicks in. SSimek: LUTC should try to affect design to extent possible. KHansen: LUTC has no influence. JHoffinger: He might be grandfathered in because his demolition application is already in. A delay might not accomplish anything. JHoffinger noted she is advocate of property rights. KHansen doesn’t disagree, and agrees that we need to be civil and see if there is any way to influence design issues. KLaForge: Deconstructing responsibly is very important. It is worth effort to try to get builder to do the right thing. CTanner: We should contact person from permit office to see if delay would affect outcome and then invite the developer to meet with LUTC. HA suggests Board reach out to Gulchnet and channels to share what info we have with the broader community. DBrook: Should we try to speak with him to share our preference for deconstruction? CTanner: Shall we present unanimous motion strongly encouraging to deconstruct? DBrook so moved, KHansen seconded. JHoffinger opposed. All others in favor.
* **Sullivan’s Gulch Trail:** DPirofsky has shared composite document on changes to the Sullivan’s Gulch Trail, which is part of the Rose Quarter to the Gorge Trail a bike and pedestrian corridor, grade separated, which would connect all proposed N-S bikeways. SGNA has been supporter of this trail from the start. The city council adopted the idea in 2012, but no action followed. A trail committee has been working to re-start project. PHK has endorsed the project idea to connect to the trail behind their development on 21st and Multnomah. The city has put stars on the comprehensive plan map. Originally PBOT put funding for the first segment of the plan in the second of their 10-year plans. PBOT has now moved funding to the first 10-year plan. Commissioner Novik has been investigating funding possibilities for the Sullivan’s Crossing bridge and trail. NECN sent letter of support for this project on August 5. Renaming the project expanded the vision of the trail, involving more stakeholders and more potential funders. DPirofsky showed slides of renditions of plans, including the access point at 21st CTanner: How wide is trail? DPirofsky: 12 feet, probably. Funding sources come from public private partnership. The city is looking for partners: Nike, Adidas, Kaiser, Providence, etc. – companies interested in business of health or well-being of employers. They are now looking for funding to engineer the first segment, Rose Quarter to 7th. They are also discussing urban renewal area along I-84 with developers building on bridgeheads. KHansen: How can this project be prevented from becoming another Springwater Corridor and 40 miles of homeless camping? DPirofsky hopes that regular commuting activity would control homeless encampments. MRowe: This is a huge problem along Springwater and in Gresham. KHansen: Thoughtful collaboration with the city needs to take this aspect of the changing social realities with the practical impacts of the project. DPirofsky: In entirety, Rose Quarter to Gateway would cost approximately $30 million. Railroad and MAX need to be part of this conversation and future planning.
* Motion, as submitted in writing by DPirofsky. MB second. All in favor.
* SSimek: Is going to Europe for three months, and will be absent from meetings.

**Concluding Comments from Chair**

* Next meeting 18th of October.