

SNG Board Meeting Minutes - APPROVED

6:30 – 8:30pm, July 26, 2023

ATTENDANCE

Board Members Present: Mary Pumphrey, Lisa Boehlke, Andy Carroll, Ron Schlatter, Tami Traeger, Steve McCauley, Terry Barnes

Board Members Absent: Ryan Morgan

Others Attending: Abdi Mukhtar (MPRB), Michael Jon Olson (SNG ED)

PRELIMINARIES AND CONSENT AGENDA

Mary called the meeting to order at 6:32.

Consent agenda: approval of agenda and approval of minutes of June board meeting

Lisa asked that discussion of SNG office hours be added to the agenda.

Motion: To approve consent agenda as amended. (Lisa moved, Terry seconded and motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS

NCR and NRP Policy Board

Ron reported on the efforts being made to improve the NCR department in general and the changes proposed for the NRP Policy Board. NCR has asked to change the way people are appointed to the NRP Policy Board, which would require a change in the ordinance. Changes to the NRP Policy board will not affect SNG because all SNG's NRP money has been allocated. Other neighborhood groups still have a great deal of NRP funds (circa 26 million dollars) which could be in jeopardy. NCR has claimed that it will not claw back NRP funds that are not under contract and allocated, but NCR has done so in the past. The group Ron is working with is trying to get NCR to be more aligned with the neighborhood groups and that neighborhood representatives should be on the NRP Policy Board. Level of staffing at NCR is another issue.

Anyone who wants to be included on the group's mailing list should contact Ron. Steve asked to be on the mailing list.

Minneapolis Park and Recreation

Abdi Mukhtar from Minneapolis Park and Recreation is a member of the community connection and violence prevention team for MPR. Seward has part of the area he serves. He had no specific information to give to SNG but will be attending future meetings of SNG.

ACTIONS

Truck Parking

CDC is recommending that a letter be written concerning the continued parking of trucks on a vacant lot without a hard stand surface and without a conditional use permit. Abdi pointed out that the property could become an encampment site. He also encouraged a face to face meeting with representatives of the church. Abdi is willing to share a flier about truck parking if one is created.

Motion: to authorize Chair of CDC and Executive Director to write a letter to the City of Minneapolis regarding truck parking on 2629 30th Avenue South if trucks have not been moved by August 1 (Lisa moved and Terry seconded. Motion passed unanimously.)

Pathway to Recovery Conditional Use Permit

CDC is also recommending the following letter of support for a conditional use permit for Pathway to Recovery. The building is currently empty and Pathway to Recovery would do some redevelopment of the property.

Motion: To approve a letter of support for Conditional Use Permit for Pathway to Recovery clinic project at 900 20th Avenue South. (Terry moved and Lisa seconded. Motion passed with 7 in favor, and Steve abstaining.)

Normanna Triangle

Our Park Commissioner Becky Alper has been working to address the Normanna Triangle issue.

Motion: to approve a letter for support for moving forward with Normanna Triangle planning. (Ron moved and Tami seconded. Motion passed unanimously.)

SNG By-Laws Revision

The By-laws Revision Working Group recommended changes to address various issues including: the timing of the election of officers, removal of a dedicated seat on the SNG board for an SCCA representative, also removal of references to the Executive Director and other staff-related references. Lisa had questions about whether the by-laws were specific enough in regard to the timing of the election of officers when there was a contested election. Andy suggested keeping the by-laws basic and supplementing them with procedures, a suggestion that was well received. The changes are recommended by the Executive Committee,

Motion: To approve the changes to the by-laws as presented in the board material. (Ron moved and Tami seconded. The motion passed unanimously.)

New Era Collaboration

Terry asked if there were board members who would commit to attend the required New Era meetings. Tami and Mary said they were willing to attend some of the required meetings. Mary suggested that joining the New Era Collaborative and continuing working with the NRP/NCR group would give SNG two ways to effect change. Moreover, participation in New Era could give SNG access to the wisdom of other neighborhood groups. Terry was concerned that the grants written by New Era could determine the SNG work plan rather than SNG having control of its work plan. Terry suggested that there is a lot of expertise on fundraising in the neighborhood. She is also concerned that New Era business might take up a great deal of the board's time at meetings. Ron pointed out the difference between fund-raising for projects and fund-raising for operations. The City is reducing their support to neighborhood groups next year to \$10,00 even though the City estimates a neighborhood group needs an annual income of \$25,000 to meet the City's requirements of a recognized neighborhood group.

There was clearly divided opinion about the ability of SNG to raise money. Both Ron and Lisa noted the benefit of being able to interact, both as board members and as staff.

Motion: That SNG join the New Era Collaborative. (Tami moved and Mary seconded. 3 in favor, 4 opposed, with Diann abstaining. The motion failed.)

DISCUSSIONS

SNG Office Hours: Lisa asked the board to consider holding regular office hours every week whether in person at Redesign or virtually. Terry suggested having an SNG phone that would be given to the Coordinator. Tami suggested that SNG could get a Google number that would function only during business hours or as needed.

Policies for Inclusivity/Accessibility/Equality. Tami is proposing we have written policies about how we implement the values SNG has set out in our strategic plan/mission, etc. The procedures/policies should address how SNG acts to promote inclusivity, accessibility and equity. She is asking for input from board members in developing such guidelines. Mary suggested setting up a working group. Mary, Tami and Ron are willing to serve. Other volunteers are encouraged to join.

Board members picked up SNG literature for distribution at NNO next week.

Meeting adjourned around 8:30pm.