

SNG Board Meeting Minutes - APPROVED

June 28, 2023

Attendance

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

Board Members Absent: none

Others Present: Michael Jon Olson, Jasmine Epps-Flowers

Preliminaries

Lisa welcomed everyone and called the meeting to Order at 6:35. Andy Carroll volunteered as timekeeper;

Consent Agenda (items 1-3 in board materials folder):

- Approve agenda
- Approve minutes of May 24 board meeting
- Approve record of board action via email vote - June 2-6

Motion: To approve the consent agenda. Tami moved and Ryan seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Reports

President's Report

Lisa reported that SNG's NRP plan modification was approved.

Garden Tour Recap (Terry)

Terry highlighted the Tour Recap and Ron's financial report. 154 tickets were sold. Bar donations were \$106. \$2000 was raised from sponsors: Trustone, Seward Co-op and Excel.

Community Engagement Update (Jasmine)

A building ambassador has been found for Riverside Flats. The ambassadors promote SNG programs and distribute information provided by SNG and work at connecting the residents. A second event happened yesterday at the BIPOC Healing Space with all the 15 slots being filled.

Hennepin County has come through with funding for the RISE event later this summer (August 20, 11 to 3 at Brackett Park). A mental health specialist has been secured to provide training for volunteers in the community who work with the unhoused. Other resources for the unhoused include health screenings, food, distribution of donated items (clothing, bikes) etc. Updates on this event and volunteer sign up sheets will be distributed to the board in the near future. Jasmine is working on getting transit passes for the unhoused to attend.

NRP Policy Board Election and Related Issues (Ron)

Ron reported on what's happening with elections for the NRP Policy Board. Ron has been part of two meetings and another follow up meeting is scheduled. Neighborhood organizations are working to ensure that the policy board includes representatives of neighborhood/community organizations. Steve Gallagher from NCR has stated that the City will not and indeed cannot claw back NRP funds.

Executive Director Report (MJ)

Michael Jon is putting together a By-laws working group. Anyone interested in serving should let him know.

The Executive Committee recommended that SNG not formally participate in Powderhorn Porchfest as a sponsor this year, but will help with publicity and recruiting volunteers.

The Executive Committee recommended that SNG's response to the LCC letter regarding doing further community engagement about collaboration/merger (in the board packet) be that SNG has no desire to do additional collaborative efforts, but is happy to continue our current collaborations for the time being.

Action Items

Mary Pumphrey and Lisa Boehlke, candidates for President, read statements outlining their rationale for seeking the presidency of SNG. A secret ballot vote was taken using the chat feature with board members direct messaging Michael Jon. The result was 5 votes for Mary; 4 votes for Lisa. **Mary is elected as President.**

Approve hybrid board meetings in the Redesign conference room starting next month (recommended by the Executive Committee). **Diann moved and Lisa seconded. The motion carried unanimously.**

Approve sign-on to letter to MPRB regarding master plan for Midtown Greenway (recommended by Executive Committee). The Midtown Greenway Coalition is advocating for its becoming a regional trail, a status which would make additional funding available. In order to

gain that status, a park has to make a master plan for the Greenway. The letter asks that the Park Board take on this role. Our Park Board commissioner, Becky Alper, supports this. **Terry moved and Tami/Ryan seconded. The motion carried.**

Approve a letter of support for the proposed [Somali American Community Center](#) at 2600 Minnehaha (recommended by the Community Development Committee). **Lisa moved and Tami seconded. Motion carried with 7 ayes, 1 nay and 1 abstention.**

Approve 5-Year Strategic Framework (recommended by Executive Committee). **Terry moved to approve the 5 Year Strategic Framework with the mission statement removed. Lisa seconded. The motion carried with 5 ayes and 4 nays.**

Discussion Items

SNG participation in New Era Collaborative. Michael Jon asked for any questions on this topic so that we can vote on it next month. He stated that by pooling the neighborhoods, the service area is increased, thereby making the combined entity more appealing to large scale funders. Terry asked whether there was interest on the part of any board member to attend the meetings required by membership. Ron suggested it might be better for SNG to concentrate on getting the City to return to provide a better level of funding to neighborhoods. Mary noted that SNG might learn a lot from working with some of the neighborhoods and their staff. Lisa is concerned that SNG might lose sight of its work of community building in Seward if it becomes involved with this initiative. ***After discussion, Andy offered to facilitate a discussion outside of this meeting.***

Coordinator Job Description. In reviewing the draft Coordinator job description, Michael Jon started moving through the comments to the job description. We need to prioritize the tasks since the work listed is greater than the 20-25 hour/week time would allow. Michael Jon suggested that we should start working on a 2024 budget/workplan sooner rather than later. He asked if SNG should create a committee to work on the job description or give it to the Executive Committee. ***Terry, Tami, and Lisa volunteered for the Coordinator Job Description Working Group.*** Michael Jon will see that the Coordinator Job Description group gets the material. Board members should direct questions and input to this group.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:38 p.m.