

Santa Clara Community Organization  
Executive Board meeting minutes  
June 6, 2024

Those in attendance:

Board members: Kate Perle, Matt Vohs, Jerry Finigan, Jerry Mohr, Dawn Lesley, Terri Reed, Louis Vidmar and Tim Foelker (via Zoom). Others attending: John Faville of Northeast Neighbors and Patti Zacharay of Peace Village (via Zoom)

Kate called the meeting to order at 7:05 and called for introductions. Jerry F. suggested that the minutes of the Executive Board be approved separately from general meeting minutes so minutes of this meeting would be approved by the Executive Board at the next Executive Board meeting.

John Faville thanked the Board for joining with Northeast Neighbors to advocate for a arterial bridge connecting Santa Clara with the northeast via Green Acres Road. He said there is already much support for the project among the electeds and neighborhoods adjoining beltline, which comprises half the population of the City. A joint transportation team will be in town July 17 giving an opportunity to sell this project to the State and Feds.

Terri handed out a detailed list of arrangements for the Concert at Awbrey Park scheduled for August 4. She discussed some of the arrangements and took suggestions. She will begin a sign-up sheet for volunteer helpers. The last consultation with the City on the concert will be at noon, June 12<sup>th</sup>.

There was a discussion about upcoming SCCO general meetings. There will be no meeting in July since the first Thursday falls on July 4. It was decided that the next Social Justice Committee presentation will feature the Governor's "All In" program and will occur in November. Some ideas were shared as to a possible program for the August meeting. It was decided to try for a joint meeting with the River Road Community Organization to hear plans that Better Eugene Springfield Transit (BEST) might have for the future of River Road.

Jerry Mohr suggested a recreational community project involving geocaching – residents getting to know the community better by finding treasures in public areas. An on-line group could be formed via newsletter and social media. Then possibly 13 geocaches in each of Santa Clara's parks could be created in Santa Clara with possible prizes or incentives.

There was a discussion about the appointment of a Neighborhood Leaders Council representative. This has been shared by Patrick Kerr and Louis Vidmar. Louis will not be available this summer to attend the meetings. It was decided to ask Scott Sorenson if he would be able to take on this assignment.

Kate discussed the Neighborhood Plan process now that it has been adopted. There will be an annual meeting with all City departments affected by the plan to make sure funds are budgeted to match the needs identified in the Neighborhood Plan.

Kate said the work plan required by the Office of Equity and Community Engagement identifying projects needing funding has been turned in. Now we're just waiting to hear back from them regarding next steps. Jerry F. said the OECE is requiring that all neighborhoods submit revised bylaws by October using the Model Charter and including an equity statement. Jerry said he believes SCCO has already met this requirement with the revised bylaws submitted to the OECE in April of this year.

Kate said volunteers will be needed for this summers "games in the Park". These include Arrowhead Park (June 25), Wendover Park (July 30), Ruby Park (August 27)—all from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.; and the movie at Irving Grange (August 16). The movie occurs at 8:30 p.m. and games will precede it beginning at 5:30 p.m. There was some brainstorming as to possible adult games to be offered concurrently with the children's games.

There was a discussion of a potential meet and greet date at Peace Village. The community has get-togethers on Thursdays. It was decided to ask them if we might meet with them at 3 p.m. on June 25.

Jerry Mohr suggested a possible future program. The Lane Audubon Society is offering to certify backyards as bird and pollinator friendly. This could be an informational meeting and it might be combined with Master Gardeners

Matt suggested that, since the intersection now being constructed at Hunsaker and River Road is the first of its kind in the City, they might want feedback in a year or so from the community as to our experience with it.

Terri referenced the surprising pushback the SCCO meeting experienced with the presentation about homelessness. Eugene Police Dept. analytics confirm the statistics do not support the assertion that crime follows these supported shelters and we might strategize as to how we get that information out. We might coordinate with Heather at Community Supported Shelters.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Submitted,  
Jerry Finigan, secretary