

Santa Clara Community Organization  
General Membership meeting  
January 7, 2021 (via Zoom)

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m. by the chair, Kate Perle. There were 16 present: all nine Board members as well as Gary Haliski, Mary Leontovich, Jerry Mohr, Peter Thurston, Pat Walsh, Michael Nieman, and Kevin Jones. Kate called for introductions. Dawn moved the minutes from the December 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting be approved with the correction of the spelling of her last name; Patrick seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Program – summary of 2020 accomplishments: Kate began by sharing her screen and showing a video of an original song summarizing activities of the Santa Clara Community Organization. Following that she catalogued these including taking down a barn in February (material to be later used for the schoolhouse project), establishing meetings on Zoom, creating a “Recovery” site, active in the community park planning process, being involved in the urban reserves process, working with LTD in the transit station project, working on the Neighborhood Plan project, and starting the schoolhouse restoration process. She gave kudos to those who had contributed over the last year.

Kate then called for a report from Gary Haliski about Friends of Awbrey Park; a report and update from Tim Foelker about the Santa Clara Community Garden; and a report as to the progress of the Neighborhood Plan.

Old Business:

- Kate said that Santa Clara needs to have an alternate for the Citizen Advisory Committee. Jerry Finigan and Michael Nieman both expressed an interest. Mary volunteered to let these candidates know about the expectations of the position and Jerry said he would find the application that is used for these nominations.

- Kate said she has talked to two LTD Board members to let them know what priorities SCCO has had over the years about the surplus property at the Transit Station. She said she has also contacted appropriate parties at the City to let the City know about SCCO’s hopes for the property. She said this is now on the City Manager docket.

- Paperwork and monies have been sent to the non-profit law firm to begin work on establishing a nonprofit for Santa Clara (Santa Clara Community Foundation).

- Kate reported on the progress toward development of the Santa Clara Community Park. The last forum was in November and the plan hasn’t changed much but the time phasing has been established with the first phase being planned for construction in 2022 and 2023. Specifics can be found on the Engage Eugene website.

- Kate reported on the micro-housing site being planned at Peace Presbyterian Church. She and Dawn have been reaching out to nearby neighbors to let them know what will be happening. Presently it looks like only one neighbor has concerns but 9 out of 10 are either supportive or neutral to the project. Nineteen neighbors were contacted. Presently it is planned that five more conestoga huts will be put up in January. There was some discussion about some other possible local institutions that might also be interested in doing this.

New Business: Kate reported that Rene from the City Human Rights/Citizens Involvement and River Road and Santa Clara Board members discussed the possibility of requesting Lane County to fund outreach to unannexed residents, especially in terms of newsletters as well as funding for Cahoots in Santa Clara. Dawn, who is also a member of the County budget committee said this was a reasonable request and that, since the budget process has just began, is timely. Kate moved that SCCO support joining with the River Road Community Organization approach the Lane County Board of Commissioners to support this request. Ann seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Kate suggested we think about who we might want to nominate to the Board. Elections will occur in February since there is not a quorum for a general meeting and there had not been a general meeting mailing sent out regarding elections prior to the meeting. Gary and Jerry will work on a postcard to be mailed before the February meeting.

Announcements:

- A blood drive by Bloodworks NW is scheduled for Santa Clara Jan. 11 and 12 at Irving Grange and Feb. 15 and 16 at Riviera Baptist and donations to Bloodworks gives a chance to win a car. Kate suggested this might be put on the website and let people know.
- Kate reminded that the meeting with the developer of the lot on Ava Street is scheduled for January 11 at 5:30 p.m. on Zoom.
- There is a CAC meeting on Zoom on January 19.
- Kate announced three land use applications:
  - a partition of one lot into three at 290 Wilkes Drive
  - a partition of one lot to two at Peace Presbyterian
  - zone verification at 2630 Lone Oak Way
- Dawn announced there have not been any calls on the “bat phone”.
- George said that SCCO might be a better resource for the neighborhood when there is confusion about service issues like street lights.
- Pat announced that LTD will resume charging for bus rides after Feb. 1 as protective shields have been installed around drivers.

Jerry reminded that if we are to be successful at our Board elections we need to make sure that we get good attendance at our February meeting to assure a quorum. There was some discussion about a possible program to attract attendance, possibly something dealing with Covid testing or the Covid vaccine roll-out.

meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

submitted,  
Jerry Finigan