

Santa Clara Community Organization  
Executive Board meeting  
July 1, 2021. (via Zoom)

Those in attendance – total 14 (7 Board members and 7 others)

Board:

Michael Nieman  
Kate Perle  
Jerry Finigan  
Jerry Mohr  
Louie Vidmar  
Dawn Lesley  
Matt Vohs

Community members:

Gary Haliski  
Mary Leontovich  
Ron Lamie  
Marth Johnson  
Gerry Brown  
Waymon Banks  
Katie Sontag

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by the Chair, Kate Perle. She called for introductions of those present. Dawn moved the June 3<sup>rd</sup> minutes be approved as submitted, Michael seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Kate called on Martha Johnson of the SCCO Social Justice Committee who shared her screen to present some of Oregon's history to explain the unique position Oregon holds in its scarcity of diverse population. This dates back to the Oregon Territory when it was illegal for Black people to live in Oregon. Martha called on the Board to adopt the Committee's proposed Bias Response Team's Process and Purpose statement. Jerry moved the Board approve the statement, Dawn seconded. There was some discussion about Tim Foelker's reservation about the Response Team and its training. Many of the team who will be leading the response have been trained with the Bystander-Upstander workshops. Martha said the response training focuses not on confrontation but on a kindness approach. Motion passed unanimously. Martha invited anyone who would like to be involved in this team to join. Kate asked that her name be added.

Gerry Brown, a member of ENCOM (Emergency Communication of Lane County, Amateur Radio Association) and CERT. introduced himself as part of the Santa Clara district for emergency preparedness. He said SCCO could encourage residents to purchase inexpensive FRS radios (walkie-talkies) in the case of emergencies. One channel on these are designated for the Santa Clara district. He said a manual is available for emergency preparedness and one workshop has already been held at Irving Grange and another one is coming up, available on Zoom. He asked that SCCO support and sponsor this initiative. Martha asked how many people are needed to have these radios and Gerry said ideally it would be the organizers of "map your neighborhood" (a group of about 15 residences). Dawn moved the Board sponsor this effort, Michael seconded. Motion passed. Gerry said to be sure that radios purchased are FRS radios – Dewalt probably being the best; do not purchase GRMS radios.

Santa Clara Community Foundation: Jerry said that members SCCO have already confirmed to the first Board of the SCCF include Tim Foelker, Tom Dodd, Jerry Mohr, and Darcy Davis. Since then Howard Malcom has applied and attended the Board formation with the attorneys. He said Howard Malcom still needs to be confirmed by the SCCO Board. Dawn moved that Howard be approved, Jerry seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Jerry gave an update: The Board met with the attorneys on June 28 for the initial Board formation. Tim was confirmed as the Chair, Jerry Mohr as the secretary, and Howard Malcolm as the treasurer. Other members of the Board include Tom Dodd and Darcy Davis. The formation of the Board frees the attorneys to apply for the nonprofit number to the IRS. This will probably take about 4 months to obtain. In the meantime, it is permissible for the Foundation to collect non-profit donations during this pending period.

Jerry reported on the concert in the park planning that was approved at the last meeting. He has arranged for a musical group to perform at Awbrey Park on Wednesday, August 11. He has applied for a park permit for an event that extends from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Awbrey Park. The entertainment will be from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. People will be asked to bring their own picnics. It was decided that Mary and Kate will hand out informational flyer during the event promoting SCCO and that an MC will be needed to let everyone know who arranged the event. Michael asked for flyers promoting the event be made available so he could pass them out to neighbors.

Fireworks letter: Martha drafted a letter to the Lane County Commissioners recommending limitation of fireworks in the County. Kate proposed the letter be adopted in the name of the SCCO Board. Apparently the Commissioners have already talked to the County Counsel to assess their powers to do this. It was decided by consensus that Kate send the letter as is with the approval of the SCCO Board.

Garden Report: In the absence of Peter Thurston, Jerry reported that it looks like all the garden plots are being used and that Peter is still trying to satisfy the agreement with St. Matthews by obtaining liability insurance. The complication is that the SCCF is still in formation and he would like to use them as the holder of the policy.

Dawn reported no activity on the "Bat Phone". Kate reported on land use action: and annexation request at 801 River Loop #1 and an annexation at 1345 River Road – 1.6 acres, 3 properties. Kate reminded the Board to turn in their volunteer hours to Jerry for recording.

Mary asked when we will move from Zoom meetings to in-person meetings. Kate said she has asked the Church about it but so far they have not responded. There is a guidance that attendees be checked for vaccination proof but no one seems interested in confronting people about that. Michael said that, as soon as possible, he is interested in attending in-person meetings.

Gerry Brown said he is looking for a taller place to place an antennae. Kate said she will talk to Rick Duncan who owns the small mall where Shooters is.

Dawn asked about the idea of placing a conestoga next to the schoolhouse for security. Kate said she is working on it but apparently water and electric service is an issue.

Gerry asked if a central water source has been identified in the case of an emergency. Kate responded that the closest has been identified as Howard Elementary School but that SCCO has discussed in the past putting hand pumps in the area for that purpose.

Michael said there is a problem of trespassing in the Beat property from the park property. Kate said that the City has a policy of not fencing parks but that property indicators could be established.

Dawn announced that she is running for County Commissioner.

Kate was asked about the status of the Schoolhouse. Kate said the City has proposed a contract. The Foundation will be negotiating changes.

Ron Lamie introduced himself as the new president of the Irving Grange and he is attending in order to get up to speed with the community.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Submitted,

Jerry Finigan