

Santa Clara Community Organization
Executive Board meeting
August 6, 2020 (via Zoom)

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by the chair, Kate Perle. Others attending included board members Jerry Finigan, Matt Vohs, Dawn Leslie, Ann Vaughn, George Price, and Louie Vidmar. Also in attendance were Gary Haliski, D'Arcy Martin, and Mary Leontovich. Kate called for self introductions.

Reports:

- The Santa Clara Timber Co. – Jerry reported that five people met at the behest of Tim Foelker to discuss possible projects to make use of the wood salvaged from trees SCCO claimed when they were cut down by the County. The group decided to begin with something modest – an entryway to the Santa Clara Garden.
- Santa Clara Schoolhouse. Kate reported on the progress of trying to obtain the historical building on River Loop #2 to be used as a temporary community center. She reported that she and Jerry met with David Atkin, an attorney specializing in forming not for profit organizations, about the possible formation of a 501(c)3 for SCCO so that projects like this might be possible. She said it would cost \$4500. Kate is in discussions with Carolyn Burke, the head of City Parks and Recreation, to try to determine what an agreement with the City might look like in acquiring the school house. Dawn expressed a concern that it might be challenging to find more volunteers to form a non-profit board. Ann said we should probably have a better plan of action before we move forward. There was general assent that forming a non-profit would be a good idea. Kate said there is a meeting scheduled with the City Planning Department to discuss what might be needed for approval for this project on August 18th. Dawn suggested that this be an item of discussion at our next meeting after we have better information.
- Kate said that currently the charter between the City and our neighborhood associations for work on the neighborhood plan is being updated. This will need Board approval and we should expect it in our in-box asking for an e-vote on it.
- Jerry reported the NLC is attempting to get an Oregon Health Authority grant to address the issue of student spread of the covid virus throughout the city when they return to campus. If the NLC is successful, funds would be handled through Eugene Neighbors, Inc. to respond to initiatives to inform students about their responsibilities to the community to keep from spreading the virus. The NLC will be asking for permission from neighborhood associations to do this.

Board Discussion: getting general meeting approval of the Diversity Statement approved by the Board. Dawn said it is not clear when our meetings are executive board meetings and when they are general membership meetings. Making this clear in our announcements will be important on voting on not only the diversity statement but other important items coming down the pike like voting on the neighborhood plan. There was a discussion about how meetings should be structured to allow for executive board votes as well as general membership votes. It was decided to bring this up at the next meeting after the board reviews the bylaws. Jerry was asked to send a copy of the bylaws to board members in preparation for this discussion.

Board Discussion: Dawn said she would like to follow up on the presentation from last meeting by Dan Bryant from Square One Villages and the project of establishing one of these villages on property currently owned by Peace Presbyterian Church. She said we

might be able to help him network with other institutions in Santa Clara. Kate said that discussions with churches highlights the fact that congregations at churches are no longer necessarily composed of people in the neighborhood. There were some possible institutions that we might introduce Dan to for his outreach. Dawn asked D'Arcy about the upcoming Ryan Meadow sale and the possibility of setting up an information table there. Ann said we need to be advocates of information, not of the actual project. Matt suggested we hand off any of these contacts to Dan to do his own advocacy. D'Arcy gave information to Gary to help spread this information through Facebook. Also, the idea of having Carleen Riley include this in her newsletter was suggested.

Louie said there are only two more meetings before the elections and wondered if there were some local elections we might inform the community about. It was suggested that we might invite Julie or Nancy to one of our meetings for a legislative update,

Gary said that there is a Zoom meeting scheduled August 25th for the community to review current plans for the Santa Clara Community Park and that they are looking for venues to place posters or yard signs to let people know. We can contact Julie Fisher or Mark Kosmos.

Jerry said he got a phone call from Margaret Thumel on Green Lane to let us know that since the construction began on the transit station, there has been a number of accidents as people tried to enter River Road from Green Lane. She also expressed her concern to LTD about this concern and it looks like contractors are taking steps to mitigate this situation.

Dawn said there has been no current activity on the "bat phone". She said of the two calls from previously there is still the problem of the nuisance property on Scottdale. Responsible government agencies have been contacted by both Dawn and the complainant. Matt observed that at some point we need to recognize that this is in government hands. D'Arcy suggested that squeaky wheels get the oil and continued calls keeps the issue on their front burner. Ann suggested that other neighbors around the property might also call in. Dawn said there doesn't seem to be a record kept by the City of these complaints. She said that the virus also limits their possible response as their policy is that anyone from their office must not check on these alone and the virus makes it impossible to have two people in a vehicle. Kate said Jerry Moore lives close to the property and possibly she could take pictures of the property and send them to the City.

Kate said she got a complaint from a neighbor that every morning a loud logging truck is started up at 3 a.m.

Louie said he got an e-mail saying that Recovers websites are being merged and he gave them the go-ahead to include our site, which means we will not be responsible for this any more.

There was a reminder to send to Jerry the log of volunteer hours for the month of July.

meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

submitted,
Jerry Finigan