

Santa Clara Community Organization
General Meeting minutes
November 2, 2023
Messiah Lutheran Church & hybrid meeting

Those in attendance – total 21 (7 board members, 12 residents, 2 guests)

*hybrid attendees

<u>Board</u>	<u>Residents</u>		<u>Guests</u>
Kate Perle	Chris Fuller	Danny McDiarmid*	Charlie Rojas
Jerry Finigan	Peter Florack*	Scott Sorenson	Erick Burke
Terri Reed	Patty Driscoll	Charlotte Hennessey	Greg Poitra
Tim Foelker	Gary Wildish	Bob Cox	Sharon Poitra
Jerry Mohr	Todd Weaver	Blake Phillips	
Matt Vohs			
Dawn Lesley			

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by the Chair, Kate Perle. She called for self-introductions. Dawn moved the minutes from the October 5th meeting be approved as submitted. Tim seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Under old business, Jerry Finigan presented the proposed amendments to the SCCO bylaws, formerly amended in 2005. Outside of changing the Board elections from January to February each year, a change in how meetings are announced. Other changes comprised of format changes, capitalization changes, and pronoun changes. Dawn moved the amendments to the bylaws be accepted as submitted. Matt seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Announcements:

Kate reported on the joint Count/City Planning Commissions meeting regarding the River Road/Santa Clara Neighborhood Plan. The record for testimony was held open until the end of October. The next meeting discussion the Planning Commission for the City is scheduled for November 14, and for the County: November 28.

Updates:

Social Justice Committee: Dawn reported that lawn signs are still being distributed. The SJC presentation in April will be focusing on accessibility and considerations for disabilities. Tim reported that the County is currently doing a survey regarding accessibility in County parks. the next City Upstander-Bystander training is scheduled for 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. November 18.

Friends of Awbrey Park: Jerry reported that the next work session for the park will be held from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. this coming Saturday, November 4. Kate reported a work session at Wendover Park is scheduled for Saturday, November 11 to spread chips on the trails there.

Santa Clara Community Foundation: Tim described the work parties working at Hileman Landing by the Foundation. Fundraising continues using Bottle Drop.

Land Use Updates: Kate reported four pending applications:

- zone verification requests for the former Knechts store site
- zone verification question for the car wash site at 2585 River Road
- zone change for 594 River Loop#1 to facilitate a subdivision
- lot division at Hyacinth near Bobolink to divide one lot into three

To facilitate 8 units of middle housing.

Kate asked for ideas for programs at future meetings. This brought up a number of subjects, some that prompted further discussion. Matt suggested that someone from EWEB of the Santa Clara Water District explain how the two divides infrastructure responsibility. There were questions and discussion regarding Peace Village. Terri reported that she has filed for grant to continue with summer concerts at Awbrey Park. Kate reported that there is one Board seat open for appointment to replace Patrick Kerr. Bob Cox asked for information about what the status of the open lot next to the LTD station is and Kate gave a report about where that stands now. There was a discussion about the bridge connecting Coburg Road to Division Avenue that is being advocated by Northeast Neighbors. Gary Wildish gave an update on the Navigation Center on River Avenue which prompted a discussion about homelessness and how it can be short-circuited by helping people *before* they lose housing.

Eric Burke began his presentation of Friends of Trees at 8:15 p.m. Among other things he reported on Eugene guidelines about what kinds of trees can be planted and that there is no funding available for planting trees on private lands, though there are provisions for planting trees for low income households. Though most people are interested in planting ornamental trees, Friends of Trees encourage planting of native trees, large canopy trees and food trees. Eric said our culture has lost so much knowledge about our ecoculture. Also, he reported that any look at any aerial-photography of any city show that poorer neighborhoods have the fewest trees and richer neighborhoods are easily distinguishable by its tree cover. When prompted, Eric gave a list of what his favorite trees are to be established.

Meeting adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

Submitted,
Jerry Finigan, secretary