

Santa Clara Community Organization  
General Meeting minutes  
Thursday, February 7 2019  
Messiah Lutheran Church  
3280 River Road

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by the Chair, Kate Perle. There were 36 present, including 8 Board members. Members of the audience introduced themselves.

Program: Using a power point, Jerry Finigan presented an overview of the programs presented at the meetings during 2018, a summary of the on-going projects created or supported by SCCO, and the projects in progress that will be continued or finalized during 2019. In the discussion that ensued, there was agreement that the issue of affordable housing will probably also be a matter that will be addressed in the future.

Board elections. Jerry Finigan announced that five seats come open in 2019 and one more held by Rebecca Marx. The members currently holding the seats were Tim Foelker, Louie Vidmar, Kate Perle, Ann Vaughn and Patrick Kerr. they were asked if they would want to nominate themselves for another term. Each of them agreed they would but would step aside if someone new wanted to be on the Board. Jerry nominated Matt Vohs to the seat currently held by Rebecca Marx, with one year remaining. Ed McMahon moved that those currently holding these seats be re-elected and that Matt Vohs be elected to the seat formerly held by Ms Marx; Peter Thurston seconded. Motion passed. The current chair, Kate Perle and secretary, Jerry Finigan was elected by affirmation by the Board to continue in these positions since no one else stepped forward. Tim Foelker volunteered to the position for the vice chair position and the Board accepted by affirmation.

Ed McMahon suggested that since there were a number of attendees who had not attended before they might suggest some issues that they would like addressed in the coming year. The topics that came up were:

- traffic issues at the corner of Hunsaker and River Road
- concern over the increasing problematic traffic issues on Beltline
- access to the Northwest Expressway from Beltline – a possible traffic signal to facilitate this.

When asked why people had come to the meeting, it was voiced that people came because they care about their community.

Other discussion included the need for outreach to young people to get involved in their community. It was observed that young people really is not aware of how their lives are being impacted by things happening in their communities. There was also some discussion about how word might be better spread about activities of this organization.

Announcements:

- Jerry Finigan announced that the annual report that is required by Human Rights and Neighborhood Involvement was sent in and that copies were sent by e-mail to Board members.

- Jerry compiled a comprehensive list of internet contacts for Santa Clara neighborhood groups and of other projects that affect Santa Clara and was available on the sign-in table.
- LTD has announced a second round of input regarding future service priorities.
- An announcement of upcoming open houses to procure input for the River Road Corridor Study.

Reports:

- Patrick Kerr reported on the February Friends of Awbrey Park work party and invited anyone interested to join in when Friends continue to meet the first Saturday of each month.
- Peter Thurston reported that plots are currently available in the Santa Clara Community Garden and that compost workshops continue.
- In land use, there are two applications for creating two lots out of one.
- Tim Foelker volunteered to become a collection point for the plastics recycling effort on April 7. This will be put on the SCCO website as an outreach to others in the community.

Old Business – Anti Hate and Bias Statement: The group discussed the statement submitted by David Van der Haegen in January. Discussion involved questions about what actions actually comprise hate; and whether some church positions might be thus defined. There was some concern about the word “reject . . .” as it takes away from the otherwise positive tone of the statement. There was also some concern that if this is followed up by a community labeling project, SCCO could actually represent everyone in Santa Clara. In the end, it was agreed to place the statement on the blog, the website, and as an e-mail list blast to solicit input from the community that might make this discussion more substantive and be placed again on the March agenda.

New Business: none

Jerry collected the activity logs from the Board and handed out new forms.

meeting was adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

submitted,  
Jerry Finigan, secretary