

Santa Clara Community Organization
Executive Board minutes
Thursday, May 2, 2019
Messiah Lutheran Church
3280 River Road

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by the Chair, Kate Perle. There were 16 in attendance, including 8 Board members. Those present introduced themselves. George Price moved the minutes from the April 4th be approved as submitted. Ann Vaughn seconded. Motion passed.

• Announcements:

- Gary Haliski reported that all the pieces seem to be in place for the Awbrey Park Wildflower Celebration – a collaborative endeavor between the Friends of Awbrey Park and the Santa Clara Community Organization taking place the upcoming Saturday (May 4)
- Jerry Finigan read an e-mail notice from the Metropolitan Policy Committee and a resolution of the Committee to seek \$600,000 for interim safety improvements to Hunsaker Lane to make it safer until the reconstruction of the street in the future. A hearing on the resolution took place the at 11 a.m. of this day.
- Jerry read a notice from the County Director of Natural Resources announcing the impending removal of 8 fir trees on River Road near Kingsbury.

• Reports:

- Peter Thurston reported that the Santa Clara Community Garden is very nearly sold out. Just this week 2 plots previous undeveloped were rented. Peter said he is working on ground near the food pantry shed that should yield 3 more plots. The next compost workshop is May 11. Even though a tiller has been donated, he is encouraging the use of a Broad-Fork to break up soil in plots developed in the past.
- Jerry reported on the most recent Neighborhood Leaders Council meeting. The main topic was the impact of shared-economy rentals (Airbnb) on neighborhoods as some are turning entire houses into commercial enterprises in R-1 zones. A letter is being sent to the City Council asking that a work session be put on their calendars to discuss how this practice might be regulated.
- Kate Perle reported on land-use issues, including
 - . an annexation on Swain Lane
 - . a partition at 599 River Loop #2
 - . Kempf proposal to change zoning of 8.2 acres from AG to R-1 at 301 Diblee Lane is being evaluate for WR overlay.
 - . Wild Rose Estates approved and moving forward.

Presentation: Spreading Kindness Campaign:

Bruce Abel describe the Spreading Kindness Campaign. Lucy Vinis has endorsed this campaign and agreed to make Eugene a “City of Kindness”. The mission of this campaign is to make people aware of their behavior to others in their environment and to “choose kindness” in their interactions. There is scheduled

a major launch on November 3rd at the Shedd with the former mayor of Anaheim to speak as well as Lucy Vinis describing how she hopes to initiate this campaign. There will be awards to some local groups who are already demonstrating the spirit of kindness. Bruce made about 2 dozen yard signs “Choosing Kindness” to be distributed to anyone in the neighborhood interested in displaying it. He reported that more can be learned on the website: <spreadingkindnesscampaign.org>.

Tim Foelker moved that the Santa Clara Community Organization support the City of Kindness Campaign. Louis Vidmar seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

- Jerry and Kate updated the Board on the assessment of the historic school on River loop #2. There was a tour of the building and a discussion of what might need to be done to make it into a community center. City Parks is willing to work with the community to see if this is possible, but it would be a pretty heavy lift for the community. Informal discussions are proceeding.
- Ann asked about the status of plans for a bicycle boulevard through Santa Clara. Jerry Finigan and Gary Haliski indicated that the route was planned out in detail but so far the plans have not been given any comprehensive discussion with the City and County. Ann said she is interested in working with this committee to move this ahead.

New Business:

- Peter indicated under his report on the Community Garden that he would like a thank you letter to Karen Finken and Greg C. for the donation of a tiller to the garden. **George Price moved that the letter suggested and drafted by Peter be approved and sent to Karen and Greg. Patrick Kerr seconded. Motion passed.**
- Pursuant to a letter of resignation from David Van der Haeghen, the Chair declared one Board seat open. Jerry indicated that the bylaws provide that when a seat comes open, an election for the seat is scheduled for the next general meeting. It was decided that the June meeting would be declared a general meeting and the newsletter would announce the open board seat and seek nominations. The announcement will inform as to who is eligible.

There was a discussion concerning the second part of David’s letter describing how he was uncomfortable with the discussion and final wording of the diversity statement the Board adopted in March. It was agreed that the statement might be conciliatory and the Board agreed it might be revisited. Rene Kane of the Human Rights and Neighborhood Involvement Office said her office is available to provide resources. It was agreed the presentation for June should involve someone with expertise with such statements – perhaps Jennifer Van der Haeghen from the HRNI office.

Jerry collected volunteer logs for the month of April and passed out new forms.

Meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

submitted,

Jerry Finigan, secretary