

Meeting Summary for D4C BoD Meeting

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Quick recap

The meeting focused on the adoption of a new grievance policy and bylaw amendments, with concerns raised about director liability and conflicts of interest within the grievance committee. The board also discussed the approval of minutes, finance committee updates, and the recommendations from the agreements committee. Additionally, the meeting covered updates on the land use and transportation committee, the success of a recent retreat, and changes in Venture Portland's structure.

Next steps

All board members to RSVP for the new Board Member Training on either February 6th (in-person) or February 12th (online).

Board members to review the draft agenda for Board Member Training sessions and email any suggested additions to Darlene and Carl.

Darlene and Carl to work on improving accessibility of the District 4 newspaper based on feedback from Beth and Joyce.

Leslie and newspaper team to work on making the newspaper more accessible.

Executive Committee to determine the meeting schedule and calendar for future board meetings.

Jessie to get more information about Venture Portland's new structure and report back at a future meeting.

Board to discuss and decide on the proposed change to the email disclaimer statement at a future meeting.

Marianne to share the "year in review" planning document with the board for consideration.

Mary and Darlene to continue working on improving the land use notification process for neighborhoods.

Carl to investigate options for providing neighborhood associations with copies of their submitted quarterly report forms.

Summary

Meeting Attendance and Logistics Discussion

The meeting begins with participants arriving and discussing logistics such as food, Wi-Fi, and hybrid meeting capabilities. As they take attendance, they realize they are short of the two-thirds quorum needed to vote on agreements. Jessie texts Vadim, who is parking, and Claire joins online, bringing them closer to the required number. Margo begins calling roll, and they decide to start the meeting while waiting for Vadim to arrive.

Grievance Policy and Bylaw Amendments

The meeting focused on the adoption of a new grievance policy and bylaw amendments. The policy outlines the process for handling grievances, including the creation of a grievance committee and the assignment of a panel for resolution. The bylaw amendments aim to incorporate this policy into the organization's bylaws. There were concerns raised about the timing of when board members would be notified about grievances and the potential for conflicts of interest within the grievance committee. The board ultimately voted to approve the bylaw amendments and the grievance policy.

Grievance Procedures and Board Tensions

The board votes on adding grievance procedures to the bylaws. Initially, the vote falls short due to an abstention by Joyce, who expresses concerns about director liability and lack of information. This leads to some tension and debate among board members. Eventually, another member joins the meeting, providing the necessary vote to pass the grievance procedures. The chair then reflects on recent positive developments for the organization, including City Council interest and a productive retreat. He expresses optimism about the organization's future and thanks everyone for their hard work and participation.

Diverse Group Approves Meeting Minutes

The meeting involved a diverse group of representatives from various neighborhoods and associations. The main discussion revolved around the approval of the minutes from the previous meeting, with no significant changes or objections raised. The Finance Committee's update was also discussed, with a focus on the proposed policies and procedures, and the decision to hold a financial education meeting on March 25th, followed by a vote on the final updated policies in April. There was also a discussion about the date for the finance education meeting, which was initially set for March 25th but was later corrected to March 27th. The conversation ended with no open questions or unresolved issues.

Grievance Committee Updates and Grants

The meeting focused on the grievance committee updates and the recommendations from the agreements committee. The committee voted to accept the recommendations for both Sean Strahan and Alan Claussen, with some members expressing concerns about the handling of recordings and the need for clear policies. The meeting also discussed the Oregon Community Foundation's 4.05 grants for three capital improvement projects. The discussion highlighted the need for clear guidelines and procedures for handling public records and the importance of consulting with council or the Department of Justice when necessary.

District Court Coalition Nominations and Elections

The District Court Coalition discussed the nominations for the Executive Committee. The Nominations Committee had recommended a slate of nine members, including one person who expressed interest in serving as President. The committee proposed a voting process to elect the Executive Committee and then the President from the nominated list. The bylaws were consulted to clarify the voting process, and it was decided to open nominations for the Executive Committee first, followed by an election. The slate of nine nominees was then voted on, and Jesse Burke was elected as the inaugural President. The conversation ended with the understanding that the newly elected Executive Committee would hold its first meeting to elect its officers.

Land Use Committee Updates and Concerns

Mary provides an update on the land use and transportation committee. The steering committee met in January, followed by a general meeting. There were discussions about the group's structure, mission, and work plan. Some issues were raised regarding land use notifications and how to improve the process. The group is working on developing a Land Use 101 class for neighborhoods new to land use issues. Several participants express concerns about the timeliness and efficiency of land use notifications, particularly for time-sensitive matters like demolitions.

Retreat Success and Board Training Plans

In the meeting, the team discussed the success of their recent retreat, with attendees expressing their appreciation for the opportunity to connect with others in person. They also discussed the upcoming Board Member Training sessions, with a preference for the first session to be in-person due to the large number of attendees expected. The team also discussed the importance of planning and succession, with a suggestion to create a year-in-review document to aid in future planning. Lastly, they touched on the newspaper update, with Leslie and Dean set to provide updates.

Editorial Board Updates and Changes

In the meeting, Leslie shared updates about the editorial board, including the addition of two new members and the hiring of a layout specialist. She also mentioned the success of the second edition of the paper and the goal of reaching \$2,500 in donations. Jessie then moved on to the last item on the agenda, which was a proposed change to the disclaimer statement. However, the motion to table this discussion until the next meeting was passed. Jessie also informed the team about a change in Venture Portland's structure, where representatives will be assigned to coalitions. The team decided to table the decision on their meeting frequency until the next meeting.