

NWNW Board Meeting
February 13th, 2019
OCOM

MINUTES



In Attendance

NWNW Review Board:

Kristi Wuttig, Arlington Heights
Steve Pinger, Northwest District
Les Blaize, Forest Park (Secretary)
Carol Chesarek, Forest Park (alternate)
Kristin Shorey, Sylvan Highlands (President)
Kevin Kohnstamm, Hillside
Brian Owendoff, NW Heights
Eric Simon, Goose Hollow
Aleeya Kim, Linnton (Vice President)
Stan Penkin, Pearl
John Maxwell, Linnton (alternate) (Treasurer)

NWNW Staff:

Mark Sieber
Anastasia (Stacy) Zurcher
Doretta Schrock

Guests:

Mark Velky, Kal Toth, Wendy Rahm,
Alan Classen

The regular meeting of the Neighbors West-Northwest board is called to order at 5:33.

Notice is given that the meeting will be recorded. Discussion of issues around recording. The recordings are not minutes. Completeness or even existence of recordings is not guaranteed. Minutes will continue to be written documents as before. Recordings will be archived as digital audio files.

Personnel and Legal Matters

Motion 1: Shorey moves and Blaize seconds that the board go into executive session to discuss personnel and legal matters per the ONI Standards. Passes with Pinger and Simon abstaining.

Motion 2: Board leaves executive session.

Motion 3: Blaize moves and Kohnstamm seconds to adopt the following statement: (which then passes unanimously)

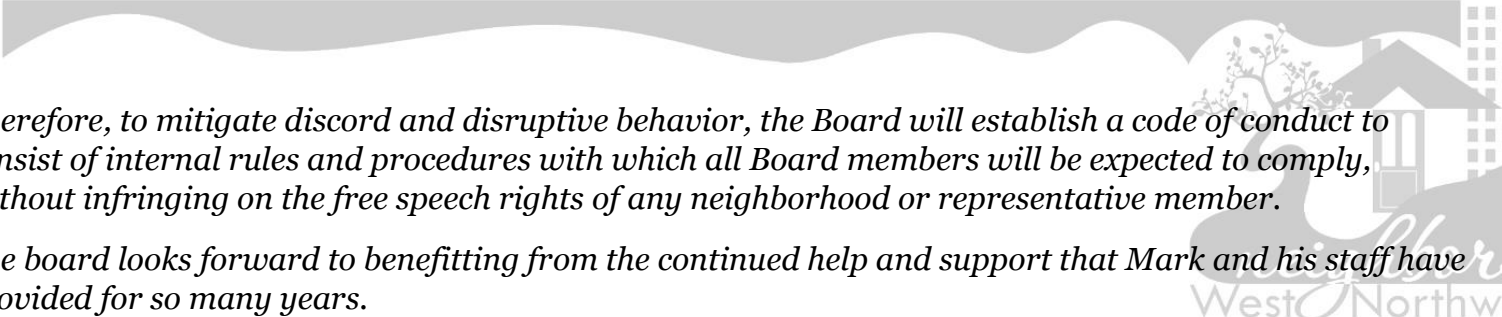
The NWNW Board regrets incidents that have occurred and statements made in recent years that have caused disharmony and have further contributed to Executive Director Mark Sieber and staff's feelings of being in a negative work environment.

The board appreciates and supports the dutiful work provided by Mark for the last 18 years and is committed to maintaining an atmosphere of harmony and civil discourse by all members, regardless of policy, procedure, or other disagreements that may arise during the normal course of business.

Westside neighborhoods working toward a livable and sustainable future

Arlington Heights - Forest Park - Goose Hollow - Hillside - Linnton
Northwest District - Northwest Heights - Northwest Industrial
Old Town-Chinatown - Pearl District - Portland Downtown - Sylvan-Highlands

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Therefore, to mitigate discord and disruptive behavior, the Board will establish a code of conduct to consist of internal rules and procedures with which all Board members will be expected to comply, without infringing on the free speech rights of any neighborhood or representative member.

The board looks forward to benefitting from the continued help and support that Mark and his staff have provided for so many years.

Motion 4: Owendoff moves and it is seconded that the board hire attorney Sarah Berger to assist in creating policies and procedures to prevent creation of a negative work environment for board members and staff at a cost of \$2000 as outlined in her letter. Passes with Simon voting no and Pinger and Kim abstaining.

Communications Funds

Motion 5: Blaize moves and Owendoff seconds to approve additional communications funds for Linnton to result in a total of \$1835. Passes unanimously.

Small Grants Awards

Motion 6: Penkin moves and Pinger seconds to award small grants as recommended by the grant committee. Adopted unanimously.

Discussion of why the Arlington Heights grant was not approved by the committee.

AHNA rep says that the grant proposal maybe wasn't clear enough about the things the money would be spent for.

Discussion of whether to award the leftover money or just let it roll over. Consensus is to let it roll over.

Discussion of what the money would be used for if Goose Hollow got a small grant at some point for their mural project.

Neighborhood goals discussion is postponed for later.

Office of Community and Civic Life Bureau/Budget Advisory Committee Report

Penkin reports that five meetings were held with no discussion of actual budget numbers. Numbers were first submitted on February 4th so Stan has not had time to study them.

Some budget comments relayed by Schrock from Mike Kersting, Civic Life's financial person: Numbers are not exactly "apples to apples" because the "revised budget" for past budgets includes money from the Spring and Fall BMP adjustments (adjustments made twice a year based on actual rather than projected revenue) and that is being compared to the submitted proposed budget for the coming fiscal year. PUAH (Portland United Against Hate) and EPAP (East Portland Action Plan), and Homeless Services are no longer in the CNIC (Community and Neighborhood Involvement Center) budget because they have gone elsewhere or have ended. Adapt to Impact should be listed under the CNIC budget line but is mistakenly listed separately.

Penkin comments that you need to be a forensic accountant to understand this stuff. There are many acronyms that are difficult to understand. Penkin further noted that he is trying to understand exactly what Civic Life is trying to do. A theme is "build civic engagement infrastructure with equitable impacts." Metrics for equitable impacts currently don't exist so it doesn't appear that current decisions can be based on that. It seems like staff has an end game they are aiming at and which they are driving forward. He sees some people on the committee who appear to be glazing over and just going with the flow.



Impact on NWNW Budget

Sieber points out the numbers on the handout showing that the NWNW budget reflects the 1% net cut everyone was asked to take.

Portland Parks & Recreation Budget Update

Chesarek reports that there is no longer a neighborhood rep on the Parks BAC. Past Parks BACs were presented with lists of things to consider but that isn't how it works this year. Parks has an ongoing budget problem that is not sustainable. Raising the minimum wage and converting part-time employees to full time have disproportionately affected the Parks budget. Personnel costs are going up something like 9%. Parks now has a \$7 million hole and even if you cover that this year, you'll continue to have holes in future years. Very likely that Hillside, Woodstock, and Sellwood Community Centers will be proposed as cuts this year. Staff is still putting together cuts and the BAC will have one meeting to absorb the info and make recommendations. The BAC this year is the full Parks Board and a few hand-picked at-large members—the individuals picked are good choices but none are neighborhood system reps. Cutting services to make up for the impact of City decisions seems inappropriate. Big organizational changes have caused things to be further behind. Last year's funding included money for studies on how to put PP&R on a sounder financial footing. Only one small part of that has been completed. The City needs to step back and look at how they are funding Parks. Chesarek will be writing a letter for Forest Park to send to council re: the Parks Budget. Linnton and NW Heights would be interested in sending such a letter. Chesarek will work with them if she's told who to work with. Former years have included much more public involvement. This year includes NO public involvement in the first phase where the public opportunity for impact is greater. Suggests NWNW write a letter to City Council about budget processes and opportunities for public involvement.

Motion 7: *Blaize moves and Pinger seconds to authorize Sieber to work with the other coalitions and Shorey to submit a letter to city council including the major points included in Chesarek's 2/13 letter to the board about city budget public involvement processes.*
Passes with Simon abstaining.

Eric Simon wants to put a discussion of the Downtown Neighborhood Association as it relates to NWNW on the April NWNW Board meeting agenda.

Civic Life Survey

Chesarek has some helpful suggestions for anyone filling out the Civic Life Survey.

Kal Toth would like a minute at the next meeting to say something.

Maxwell wants people to know that Zenith Energy wants to bring in tar sands oil to be processed in Linnton.

Meeting is adjourned at 7:18.