**NWNW Board Meeting**

**Wednesday, August 11th, 2021**

**5:30 pm**

*Virtual Meeting via Zoom*

**Draft Minutes**

**In Attendance**

**NWNW Review Board:**

Kristi Wuttig, Arlington Heights

Darlene Urban Garrett, Downtown

Carol Chesarek, Forest Park

Richard Barker, Linnton (President)

Steve Pinger, NWDA (Treasurer)

Melanie Billings-Yun, SWHRL

Judie Dunken, PDNA

Jim Olsson, Hillside

Vadim Mozyrsky, GHFL

**NWNW Staff:**

Mark Sieber, Executive Director

Anastasia Zurcher, Program Manager

Rhys Ornstein-Hawes, Communications Specialist

**Guests:**

Joyce del Rosario, SWHRL alternate

Les Blaize, Forest Park alternate

Allan Classen, NW Examiner

Eric Simon, Goose Hollow

Charles Duffy, NWDA

**5:30 Welcome and Introductions—Barker**

**5:35 Appointment of Executive Committee—Barker *Admin***

Barker brings up the creation for an Executive Committee consisting of the board president and three voting board members to act on behalf of the board in between meetings, including addressing administrative matters. Barker nominates Billings-Yun, Penkin, and Blaize.

**Motion 1: Chesarek moves to approve the suggested committee for the fulfillment of whatever services are needed until the next election of officers; after additional questions are asked, Barker seconds. Urban-Garrett, Olsson, and Pinger, and Wuttig oppose; Dunken, Billings-Yun, and Chesarek are in favor. Wuttig requests to change her vote to be in favor; the board agrees and the motion passes.**

**5:45 Response to NW Examiner—Billings-Yun *Admin***

Billings-Yun reads a letter responding to the NW Examiner article, “Vision Quest Cloaks Personal Attack”, specifically in response to inaccuracies and the specific naming of an employee.

**Motion 2: Chesarek moves to approve Billings-Yun’s letter; Barker seconds. Before a vote takes place, Chesarek amends her motion to establish a small group to collectively edit the letter so that it can be sent before NW Examiner’s next print; group to include Chesarek, Billings-Yun, Olsson, and Barker. Olsson seconds. Pinger abstains; the motion passes.**

**6:15 Approval of Funding for Attorney—Chesarek *Admin***

A formal complaint has been filed by staff against a member of the Board; to ensure that this process is handled appropriately and that the Code of Conduct is evaluated. Cheserak proposes to allow Sieber to hire attorney Melissa Healy to advise us, up to $2500.

**Motion 3: Chesarek moves to approve the proposal; Pinger seconds. The movement passes unanimously.**

6:21 Statement from the Executive Director—Sieber

Sieber address background of the staff complaint. Sieber wrote complaint in January; he was requested to hold the letter so that officers could intervene personally and spoke with the individual several times before submitting the official complaint a few weeks ago. Staff has reported demeaning behavior and intervention with work, causing a hostile work environment and lack of confidence in the board to handle issues. Sieber stresses the urgency of addressing the issue.

6:10 Approval of Minutes of August 11, 2021—Barker ***Admin***

**Motion 4: Barker moves to approve the minutes; the motion passes unanimously.**

6:15 Appointment of Election Committee ***Admin***

Barker asks for volunteers for the Election Committee; current committee includes Barker and Penkin. Sieber clarifies that EC should not include anyone running for officer positions. Urban Garrett and Wuttig volunteers; they will seek a third person and have a slate by October.

**Motion 4: Pinger moves to approve the committee; Barker seconds. The motion passes unanimously.**

6:20 Update on Strategic Planning—Zurcher, Sieber

Zurcher provides an update on the net Strategic Planning meeting on September 28th. The Committee is currently working on the compilations of language and values to create a more cohesive statement of purpose. The agenda will be out a week before the 28th.

Sieber reads a statement on the role of diversity and community groups in neighborhood coalitions. The discussion is important and should occur soon. The goal of strategic planning is to ensure all director’s voices heard and ONI standards are upheld. The consultants will provide suggestions after the process.

6:46 Neighborhood Reports

Urban Garrett encourages the formation of neighborhood houseless teams in other neighborhoods to understand neighborhood-specific issues to help solve the houselessness crisis. She encourages attendance of the upcoming SWHRL meeting on September 22nd. Del Rosario discusses SWHRL letter towards TriMet and PPS about COVID risks in school buses. Dunken brings up success of Art in the Pearl event.

7:08 Public Comment

7:08 Adjourn

Next Meeting: October 13, 2021