



## **Southern Crossing Neighborhood Association**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**March 17, 2022**

#### **Opening**

Karen Bergsvik called to order the regular meeting of the Southern Crossing Neighborhood Association's Board at 4:01 pm over Zoom on March 17, 2022. A quorum was established.

#### **Board Members Present:**

Karen Bergsvik - Chair

Deby DeWeese - Vice-Chair/Land Use Chair

Lowell Von Ruden -Treasurer/IT Communication

Robbie Silverman - Land Use Team

Paul Dieffenthaller - Land Use Team

#### **Others Present:**

Melissa Stamm - Minutes

#### **Introductions:**

No introductions were required at this meeting.

#### **Additions To the Agenda:**

There are 3 additions to the agenda:

1 - Do we want to contribute to NART holding public meetings about the shelter code amendments?

2 - Paul's report on websites.

3 - Written reports - Who does them and are they a part of the meeting record or not?

**Motion:** The Board will wait until March 25, 2022 to approve the February 17, 2022 minutes as Karen was away and has not had a chance to review them as of yet. Karen approved the February

minutes on March 29, 2022. All other members of the Board had previously approved the minutes.

### **Actions Taken/Agreed to Be Taken**

#### **Do we want to contribute to NART and their proposal about the shelter code amendments?**

A round table discussion took place where everyone shared their thoughts about making a monetary contribution to these community meetings. (The suggested contribution is \$600 per NA.) The group discussion went as follows:

Lowell - feels the meetings are worthwhile, but doesn't think there needs to be 3 meetings. As Treasurer, he feels the contribution amount shouldn't be fixed and should be based on the size of the NA. With the Board's current and projected expenses, this contribution would take away funds for future mailings. Overall he feels it is a decent concept. Karen shared that the contribution amount could be variable.

Deby - had the same thoughts as Lowell and feels they shouldn't go too deep into their budget if it would prevent a mailing. Deby asked why the NA's are being asked to fund this and not the city? She is happy with the in-person format, but feels the city "bamboozled" the public at prior meetings and hopes that doesn't happen again.

Paul - thinks the 3 meeting format is good as it will allow more people to participate due to flexibility in dates and times, but he wants to ask the city to reimburse the NA's.

Robbie - pointed out that \$600 from 13 NA's is a total of \$7800 for 3 meetings. What is the budget and what are the costs associated with these meetings?

Karen - wants to know what is NART's ultimate outcome for this? She feels this is a city council responsibility and not one of the NA. At the NLA, the code amendments have been discussed and neighborhoods have reservations about part of the amendments. Some of it is fear driven around homelessness. People are fearful of drugs, garbage and human waste. At the NLA level, they encouraged the city to do more outreach and that discussion is being continued.

Deby added - who is facilitating the meetings, and how will they keep the city from taking over? How effective will they be in recruiting people to participate?

Overall, the group feels this is a good idea but there are a lot of questions and they need more information before they commit money and effort to it. **Karen** will get a hold of Lisa to get some of these questions answered. **Karen** will also talk to Barb and get an update from Makayla and will share all the information with the group. A decision will be made at that point.

### **Retreat Follow up Items**

**Surveys in the Newsletters** - the Board wants to get feedback from the neighborhood using surveys in the newsletters. They plan to do one survey question in April (age demographic, homeowner vs. tenant, etc) and see what the response is like, and then do a longer survey in the future where they can offer gift cards as an incentive. The results of each survey question can be posted in the following newsletter along with the next survey question. In the meantime, **Paul** will do research on the other NA websites to see what other NA's ask and how they do their

surveys. **Paul** will also come up with a survey question for the April newsletter. **Deby** will work on getting some gift cards for longer surveys in the future.

**Short Term Rentals QR code in Newsletters-** Deby and Paul have been trying to get a running list of all short term rentals in the NA so they can be linked in the email, however the city has hid this information. **Deby** will meet the City's GIS team and will ask if there is a way to get that information for the April newsletter so it can be presented as an educational tool. **Karen** can bring it up at NLA if Deby hits a roadblock.

### **Events occurring in Southern Crossing**

#### **What would be of interest and of benefit to the neighborhood? Is it duplicative? Is it marketing? What type of events should be included or not be included?**

The group discussed taking on the task of sharing information about events (such as the marathon, or events at Old Mill), with the neighborhood so the public knows where intersections and traffic may be affected by these events, and if events are looking for volunteers, etc.

The group agreed that the NA shouldn't have the role of taking this on and doesn't want to worry about being inclusive and not alienating anyone. At this time the group will not move forward with this..

#### **Written report - who does them and are they a part of the meeting record or not?**

The Board has previously discussed putting their reports in writing ahead of time so the group could read them in advance and come prepared with any questions in an effort to help with the timing of the recorded meeting . The report is in lieu of giving a verbal report. Do we want Melissa to add the reports to the minutes as an addendum?

Karen would like the reports to be posted, and the others don't feel it's beneficial. Reports are between the group and internal, and not public reports.

The group decided they will keep the reports as an internal communication tool.

### **Neighborhood Association Assessment**

The group discussed last month's meeting with Makayla and the white board tool that she used to sort their ideas and thoughts:

Lowell - found it useful and would do this activity once a year.

Deby - found it more useful than she thought she would and felt it was handled well, but is confused about the purpose of it. After the meeting, Deby found it worthwhile to go take a look and see what other NA's had to say. Makayla captured SCNA well.

Robbie - is curious as to why there is so much time and energy being put into NA's when there are other issues in town.

Paul - also feels it's not clear on what problem they are trying to solve.

Karen - thinks the point they are trying to solve is that a lot of boards are not diverse and inclusive and they are looking at ways to increase that - but there is the need for broader participation. Karen did comment that she read the other neighborhoods' responses and the concerns are all similar.

**The Board** will continue trying to reach new members to join their NA.

### **Paul's report on websites**

Paul looked at 6 different criteria and compared the SCNA website to the websites of the 12 other NA's. He narrowed down the things he thought would be important for the purpose of the SCNA website - with the main point being to draw people in and get them engaged with the NA.

Large developments, traffic issues, COID land development, other land use near you, and short term rentals are the main topics. Paul suggested he could clean up what's on the website and make social media links easier to find (put them at the top of the main page).

The group discussed what the overall look of the website should be and where to make changes and what to remove. **Paul** will work with Lowell on the website to make these changes.

### **Reports**

**A. Chair:** - Reports submitted before the meeting:

-Karen has a meeting on Monday with the Tax Exemption Committee and she will know more after that.

-There were discussions with the mayor about NLA appointments and there was concern around that and what it meant. There wasn't a resolution on it, other than when there is a vacancy for any NLA rep, the city will advertise for the position.

**B. Vice-Chair/Land Use** - Report submitted before the meeting:

Deby has been trying to contact numerous people in Bend Parks and Rec about fixing the trail sign. It's been over a year since she has asked for the sign to be changed. It's a single arrow and it needs to be a double arrow. Deby asked **Karen** to bring this up to Barb when they speak next.

**C. Treasurer-** Report submitted before the meeting:

-Lowell has paid the domain registration and Google Workspace.

-We may or may not be doing a postcard which will affect the budget, so we should decide if we want to do one before June.

-On the IT side with email interactions, the February and into March clicks were down. Water smart classes, marathon links and shelter codes had the most clicks.

-Paul asked about the General Meeting and if we would need money for that. Deby said that will fall into the next fiscal year as the budget goes to the end of June and the next General Meeting is in October or November.

#### **D. Robbie - Land Use Chair Networking Group -**

-Big decision about Thornburgh Resort Project, which is not in the city of Bend. As a NA we are not submitting a public comment, but others might.

-There are 2 new land use chairs and they are both real estate agents.

- Rule making for the Clean Cities and Equitable Communities. The governor will be at the NART meeting on March 29th.

-They also talked about short-term rentals, and there will be a joint letter with questions and that is to be continued. Some people reported about developments in their communities and they are unhappy. The city has also updated its website so it's easier to see developments in progress and their different stages - we may be able to extract info from there, but there may not be info about short-term rentals.

- Save Bend Greenspaces - there was a compelling presentation for preserving the land as a natural area of the park due to environmental benefits. There is a request to give a presentation to Bend Park and Rec and there will be a request for a meeting with COID. There is a survey about the land, initiated by 3 NA's, however it is on hold.

- Robbie has not reached out to the Mount Bachelor Village Condos attorney yet due to a revenue stream. They are going to pursue getting 501C3 status so they can fundraise and gain credibility.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:04 pm.