



## **Southern Crossing Neighborhood Association**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**April 18, 2024**

#### **Opening**

Robbie Silverman called to order the regular meeting of the Southern Crossing Neighborhood Association's Board at 5:02 pm over Zoom on April 18, 2024. A quorum was established.

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

Robbie Silverman - Acting Chair/Land Use

Lowell Von Ruden - Treasurer/IT Communication

Monty McIntosh - Transportation/Recruiting

Melissa Stamm - Minutes

#### **Additional Guests:**

Melissa Steele - Bend Fire & Rescue

Susan Richman - SCNA Events Committee

Bill Hess - SCNA Events Committee

Judy Hess - SCNA Events Committee

#### **Additions/Changes To the Agenda:**

There were no additions or changes to the agenda.

#### **Welcome:**

Robbie welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced herself to the guests. Lowell and Monty also introduced themselves and their roles.

#### **Firewise presentation and Q&A:**

Melissa Steele is a fire inspector in Bend and she has been involved with fire prevention for 2 years, and was previously a firefighter. She joined the meeting today to discuss fire prevention

and safety. She stated that each community has their own fire hazards that can easily be identified. She provides free assessments and this can be arranged for those who are interested.

- Melissa started by sharing local fire context and gave a brief history of fires in the region.
- She then touched on Wildland Urban Interface (WUI). Embers can be carried into town (up to miles and miles away) and can land on vegetation that is next to a residential house. Bend is this type of environment.
- Home hardening was also discussed in regards to construction materials, condition, and maintenance. It was noted that there are classes on home hardening
- Debris like pine needles can settle on the roof, and can fill gutters. The embers will follow the same wind patterns.
- 1/8 inch screening over house vents are advised.
- Other items of concern are siding, windows, placement of shrubs near windows, bark mulch, decks and fences within 5 feet of the house, branches that touch the house, and flammable plants (such as junipers).
- Melissa will share a PDF with SCNA after the meeting showing the Home Hardening Priorities and the Relative Cost.

Melissa stressed that working on the first 5 feet from the home is the best place to start to remove anything combustible. Make a defensible space.

- Zone 1 is 0-5 feet
- Zone 2 is 5-30 feet (this is space shared by neighbors)
- Zone 3 is 30-100 feet

Melissa also shared that there is a reflective address program that costs \$25 per house.

Melissa touched on how wildfires can have an impact on the neighborhoods. It was noted that there are 6 fire trucks for the city of Bend, therefore everyone should be prepared for an evacuation, just in case.

Melissa asked that everyone get registered on Deschute Alerts so they receive contacts about any notices. She suggests having a "Go Bag" (Disaster Supplies Kit) which should include the 6 P's (People, Pets, Papers, Photos, Plastic/Cash, Pills).

Melissa will share a copy of her presentation as well as list of preferred vendors/contractors (for fire wise renovations) as well as any other links she discussed. She will also send the link for the Neighborhood Coalition.

Communication will be shared with the members to ask if they want to be part of the FireWise Program.

Bill added that he feels this is a good topic to push out to the community.

## Approval of the Minutes:

Robbie made a motion to approve the March minutes. Lowell seconded. All in favor. Motion passed.

## Events

- **First Tuesdays Meet-Ups** - The first meet up will be on Tuesday, May 7, 2024 from 5:00-7:00 pm at Crux Fermentation Project. The Committee will greet the guests and there will be snacks provided.
- **SCNA Block Party (July 27)** - Monty signed up for the trailer and feels it would be nice to set it up on the flat land by the look-out. He will coordinate with Makayla on the site plan. A notice will need to be sent to the neighbors. A food truck and sponsor needs to be discussed. Robbie suggested another committee meeting to discuss a budget and ideas for activities and porta-potties. They will also divide responsibilities. A permit for a mobile beer truck will also need to be acquired. They will advertise with postcards using the remainder of this year's money. Lowell will check with BMS about the postage and the mailings.
- **General Meeting** - Dates and venues should be discussed for the General Meeting in October. Last year's meeting was at Deschutes Brewery which has A/V and didn't charge for use of the space. Another option would be to do the Chili Cook-off as part of the General Meeting. It is open for discussion at the next Committee Meeting. Other community resources may want to get involved. They will advertise with postcards using the money from the next fiscal year.

## Board Updates

- **Acting Chair/Land Use/NART - Robbie** - There is an approved engineering permit to put in a road which took us off guard. It is a Land Use issue where the city does not need to notify neighbors or receive input.
- **Budget/IT - Lowell** - Lowell has reviewed the budget and there is money to cover the appetizers at the First Tuesday meet-ups in April, May & June. They will need to go over the budget for the next fiscal year with the expenses of the Block Party and General Meeting. They will look for sponsors for the Block Party to aid in covering costs. Lowell noted that there is \$600 left over in the current budget that needs to be spent by the end of June. Robbie would like to get new signage made.
- **Transportation/Recruiting - Monty** - Monty had nothing additional to add. Robbie asked Monty to stop by the main leasing office for "The Current" (which will open in June) to recruit members. Robbie will connect with Renee, a realtor, about people who are moving into Bend so they can connect about recruitment.

## Other Items/Questions

- Robbie suggested coming up with a trendy nickname for SCNA, like "SoCro". She would like the Board to think about it. It would not be an official change, but rather something fun and catchy.

## Action Item Recap

- Melissa will share her presentation and the applicable links, which will then be shared on the website.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:49 pm.