

# Meeting Summary for SCNA November Board Meeting

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## Quick recap

The team discussed the general meeting, focusing on areas for improvement such as time management and handling audience questions. They also planned for future neighborhood events, including a potential block party and the resumption of their meetup program. Lastly, they reviewed the budget for the current fiscal year, discussed potential changes in their classification with the IRS, and made plans for future meetings and events.

## Next steps

- Robbie and Todd to develop a concept for roving neighborhood meetups in 2025.
- Robbie to check with Parks and Rec about venue options and costs for the 2025 block party.
  - Robbie to explore the possibility of using Blakely Park or Wood River Park for the 2025 block party.
- Lowell to send an email to Todd and Susan about accessing the budget spreadsheet.
- Lowell to follow up with the IRS if no response is received by the end of December regarding the EIN change.
- Board to consider implementing yard signs for better promotion of future events.
- Board to schedule future meetings for 1.5 hours, starting at 5 PM, except during busy periods.

## Summary

### General Meeting Recap and Improvement

Robbie initiated a discussion about the general meeting, seeking feedback on what went well and areas for improvement. Lowell noted that the speakers were good but the presentations were longer than anticipated, causing a rush. Robbie agreed, mentioning that they had more food than needed. They also discussed the need for better time management and the handling of questions from the audience. Todd joined the meeting late, and Robbie introduced him to the agenda. Deborah, a guest, also joined the meeting.

## **Improving Neighborhood Association Meetings**

The board members discuss the recent neighborhood association general meeting. Deborah, a guest, shares her disappointment that not all audience questions were answered due to time constraints. She also expresses frustration about speeding issues on Brookwood Road. The board acknowledges the time management challenges and plans to stress time limits for speakers at future meetings. They published remaining audience questions and answers in the November newsletter. The board also reflects on logistical aspects like food quantity, display setup, and holding elections upfront. Overall, they identified areas for improvement, particularly around speaker time management.

## **Community Grant Program and Spending**

Board discussed the community grant program and its application process. Lowell shared that they had applied for a city sponsorship, requesting \$4,500 for a block party next year, and were surprised to receive the full amount. The funds are expected to arrive soon, allowing for early planning. Robbie questioned the spending deadline, to which Lowell clarified that the \$3,700 from the original budget needs to be spent by the end of June, while the sponsorship money is separate. Todd suggested using leftover general budget money for the block party to simplify bookkeeping. The team agreed to consider this for future planning.

## **Neighborhood Block Party Event Planning**

The group discussed plans for the next neighborhood block party event. Robbie suggested holding it in June at Blakely Park, a neighborhood park, instead of the location used this year. While Blakely Park has limited parking, it is more accessible for residents to walk to. Susan prefers a walkable location like the previous event. Todd likes the idea of using yard signs around the neighborhood to advertise the event in addition to mailed postcards. The group considers Woodriver Park as another potential location but notes parking limitations there as well. The team tentatively set the date for June 28th. The team also discussed the possibility of having the event catered again due to the success of last year's taco bar. They also talked about the need for a decision on the venue by January to avoid any last-minute issues.

## **Neighborhood Meetups**

The team also discussed the idea of resuming their meetup program, with the first event to resume in May. The team agreed to continue discussing these plans in their next meeting. Robbie proposed continuing the neighborhood meetups at Crux. Todd suggested rotating the meetups by neighborhood to encourage more participation and bonding. Robbie agreed to discuss this idea further at the next board meeting, considering the new apartment building as a potential focus for a meetup. Lowell supported the idea of rotating meetups and suggested reopening the survey for more responses. Todd also suggested that the meetups could be used to gather feedback on neighborhood issues, such as trash.

## **Upcoming Meetings and Development Projects**

The board discusses several topics related to upcoming meetings and development projects. They decide not to hold a December meeting and to discuss the block party at the January meeting. The minutes from the previous meeting are approved. Robbie reports on a development project near the amphitheater that has changed from senior housing to high-end townhouses, with ample parking planned. She also mentioned a city council public hearing on code amendments, including a new affordable housing program that has raised community concerns.

## **Affordable Housing in Public Facilities**

Robbie discussed the recent amendment to the public facility zoning code in Bend, which now allows for affordable housing to be built on properties zoned as public facilities without a zone change. She clarified that this does not mean parks or other public facilities will be converted into residential areas, as the decision to sell land for such purposes would be made by the respective boards, and it would not align with their goals. Robbie also mentioned that the code changes are a positive step towards stimulating more affordable housing, a concern raised by the neighborhood association. Lowell agreed, noting that the independent board overseeing parks and recreation would not likely support such a change.

## **Budget and IRS Classification Discussion**

In the meeting, Lowell presented the budget for the current fiscal year, which was reduced to \$3,700 from last year's \$4,800. He also mentioned that they had spent a little over \$2,000 and anticipated spending another \$600. Lowell noted that they had about \$1,100 uncommitted, which could be used for meetups or other activities. Robbie suggested that they might use some of this money for the block party. Lowell also discussed an issue with the IRS regarding the classification of Southern Crossing as a corporation or nonprofit. He mentioned that he had contacted the IRS and was awaiting a response to change their classification.

## **Roving Meetups and Meeting Schedule**

Robbie, Lowell, Todd, Susan, and Deborah discussed their meeting's outcomes and future plans. Robbie and Todd agreed to work on a concept for roving meetups in 2025, possibly every other month, and to adjust the meeting schedule to an hour and a half starting from the next year. They also decided to maintain the 5 PM start time. Deborah expressed interest in participating more and possibly joining the events committee. The team also discussed the potential for hosting events at Blakely Park, with Deborah offering her house for storage if needed. The next meeting was scheduled for January.

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