

**Concordia Neighborhood Association**  
**Board Meeting**  
September 6, 2017  
Kennedy School Community Room, 5:30 to 7pm  
**MINUTES**

**Board Member Attendance**

Chair – Chris Lopez PRESENT	SW 1 – Garlynn Woodsong PRESENT
Vice Chair/SW 2 – Daniel Greenstadt PRESENT	At Large 1– Robert Bowles PRESENT
Treasurer/At Large 6 – Heather Pashley ABSENT	At Large 2 – Donn Dennis PRESENT
Secretary/East 2 – Steve Elder PRESENT	At Large 3 – Jody Pollak PRESENT
East 1 – Tyler Bullen PRESENT	At Large 4 – Ali Novak PRESENT
NW 1 – Isham “Ike” Harris PRESENT	At Large 5 – Truls Neal ABSENT
NW 2 –Amelie Marian ABSENT	

**Also in attendance:** Susan Millhauser, Contract Recording Secretary; Nancy Varekamp and Gordon Riggs, Media Team/CNews; Ben Earle, LUTC Secretary; Matt Boyd; Kris Balliet; James Mayer; Deah Partak, Maryena Bentley.

**Welcome, Introductions and Announcements**

Chair Chris Lopez called the meeting to order at 5:30pm. A quorum was established.

**Public Comment (items not on the agenda) – None**

**Review and Approve Agenda and Prior Meeting Minutes**

Chris reviewed the agenda. Ben requested the addition of a brief discussion of CNA and Concordia University relations, which Chris suggested could be done under the Safety and Livability Team agenda item.

Draft August Board meeting minutes were distributed prior to the meeting. It was noted the date of the next meeting was listed incorrectly on page 3; it should read September 6 not September 2.

*MOTION (Robert/Daniel) – To approve the August 2, 2017 Board meeting minutes as amended and accept the meeting agenda as amended. 9 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstain. MOTION PASSES.*

**Unfinished Business**

1. 23<sup>rd</sup> Ave. Community Garden

Ike gave an update on this project. Four neighbors got together and built a raised bed garden box in the parking strip in front of an ailing neighbor’s house. The goal was to help clean up the broken down garden boxes in their strip and to build community on the block. CNA subsequently approved a request to help pay for two more boxes, which were completed and now growing a lot of vegetables, some of which Ike harvested that day. The materials cost \$221/planter box. Ike added that any neighbors are welcome to pick the produce, though many haven’t yet.

Chris recalled the Board had talked about exploring the possibility of expanding funding for this type of project to other blocks in the CNA. He suggested perhaps a sub-committee led by Ike could explore it over the winter and be ready in the spring. Board discussion followed:

- Jody suggested targeting neighborhood eyesores.

- Ali observed there are lots of blocks in the neighborhood. Maybe Ike can share the plans and support projects but CNA can't pay for them all.
- Tyler suggested having a budget line item and then once the funds are gone for the year they're gone.
- Chris clarified that planter boxes would be in the parking strip, which is public property, not in people's yards.
- Ike suggested he could walk through the neighborhood and do some promotion.
- Daniel wondered what the objective is? To get people excited about growing their own veggies? To beautify the planting strip? Perhaps if it is the former CNA could fund a few mobile demonstration gardens to inspire folks.
- Chris responded the goal is to build community and get people out in their front yards.
- Jody suggested this could be an additional way to get funds back out into the community and could include several elements:
  - Budget and grant cap
  - Have interested people visit the boxes on Ike's block
  - Define grant parameters
  - Provide design and materials shopping list
- Chris reminded that participants would need to provide receipts and then would be reimbursed.
- Jody opined that this would be a nice small project until the Board has its retreat and can figure out bigger policy goals and an overall CNA annual budget. An annual budget needs to be developed and brought to the Board for approval and adoption, and would include a baseline reserve.
- Garlynn suggested establishing a neighborhood beautification grant with a basket of project types, including planter boxes, intersection mural paintings, and alley clean ups.

*MOTION (Ali/Robert) – To form a Safety and Livability Committee (SLC) sub-committee to come up with a budget for neighborhood community-oriented beautification grants. 9 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstain. MOTION PASSES.*

2. CNews One-year Review – Chris suggested tabling the update, as the CNews financials were not available yet.

*MOTION (Daniel/Ike) – To table the CNews review agenda item until next month's Board meeting. 10 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstain. MOTION PASSES.*

### **New Actionable Items**

1. Finance Committee Request from Chair

Jody, the Finance Committee Chair, requested Board approval for authority to view CNA bank accounts online. She would like to do a deep dive into the finances for the building blocks to develop a budget. To access the accounts she needs access to the online password. She would not be granted account signatory authority. (Heather/Treasurer, Chris/Board Chair, and the CNA bookkeeper, Janine, are the only people with signing authority.) Jody noted that Heather had suggested Jody be granted online account access so she can view the accounts, plus the bank could be advised that there should not be any online withdrawals.

*MOTION (Garlynn/Steve) – The Board approves the request for the Finance Committee Chair to be provided online access to the CNA bank account. 10 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstain. MOTION PASSES.*

Gordon wondered if it would make sense for Jody to have access to the PayPal account, too. Jody responded she would not need that as she could ask Heather for monthly PayPal reports.

Jody then mentioned that the Finance Committee meetings have been sparsely attended. She wondered if changing the meeting date might help to encourage more attendance. She really would like another Board member to join the committee. Chris noted that the Community Room is also available on the second Tuesday and the last Wednesday evening of the month.

## 2. Form a Sub-committee Focused on Parking Issues?

Chris wondered if a sub-committee might be helpful. Garlynn responded at this point the Land Use and Transportation Committee (LUTC) would rather keep it within the LUTC. He added if a lot of folks get interested in the topic one could form later.

## 3. Accept Safety and Livability Committee (SLC) Charter

Don, Truls, Ike, and Jody are on the SLC. Chris, in Truls' absence, asked if there were any questions about the draft charter that Truls had sent out by email. Ben had some questions regarding the official committee representative of the committee being the Chair, with the Chair being able to appoint members, and wondered about accountability. Also, he requested clarification of how safety and livability are defined, as there is a lot of overlay between the SLC and the LUTC. He added his questions did not need to be resolved that evening. Chris suggested that the committee chairs and the Board could discuss the overlap when or if issues arose. Donn suggested there was no consequence if the charter wasn't approved that night.

*MOTION (Daniel/Ike) – To adopt the Safety and Livability Committee (SLC) charter as written, with the opportunity for amendments as needed at a later date. 7 in favor, 0 opposed, 3 abstain. MOTION PASSES.*

## 4. Form Nominations Committee

Chris reported that Steve is willing to lead the Board nomination committee again. One more Board member is needed. Ali volunteered to work with Steve.

*MOTION (Garlynn/Robert) – To approve Steve and Ali serving as this year's CNA nomination committee. 9 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstain. MOTION PASSES.*

## 5. CNA/ East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District (EMSWCD) Pollinator Workshop

Chris shared a request from the Social Committee for volunteers to help with the Pollinator Workshop, presented by EMSWCD on October 11, from 6-8:30pm in the Community Room. This is a free event. Katie will follow up regarding volunteers. A request was also made for funds (\$50) to purchase snacks for attendees.

*MOTION (Daniel/Donn) – To approve \$50 to purchase food for the EMSWCD Pollinator Workshop on October 11 hosted by CNA. 9 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstain. MOTION PASSES.*

## **CNA Committee Reports**

### 1. Land Use and Transportation

Garlynn reported on the topic of NE 33<sup>rd</sup> Ave. speeding and safety. Concerned neighbors brought their concerns to the LUTC and had attended the past two meetings, including eight neighbors at the first one. The LUTC approved a recommendation that the CNA support a letter to the City from the neighbors. He introduced Kris, James, and Deah who live on NE 33<sup>rd</sup> across from the Food Villa. Deah passed out a copy of the draft letter, which the neighbors and LUTC helped to come up with. She summarized the neighbors'

main concerns, including speeding, safety (parked cars and garbage cans on the curb are often hit and some neighbors fear getting into their cars or taking out the trash at certain times of the day), and crashes. Crossing NE 33<sup>rd</sup> is very hard and the neighbors are worried about Faubion students that have to cross as well as other pedestrians. Even the improved crossings at Holman and Rosa Parks can feel unsafe. She added that cycling on NE 33<sup>rd</sup> to and from Marine Drive can be very dangerous with speeders, plus it is also an emergency services vehicle route and a freight route. The letter included concerns as well as potential solutions. Garlynn added they have a recipients list, including PBOT and City Council. Jody suggested copying the Faubion Principal as well as the PPS Superintendent.

*MOTION (Garlynn/Daniel) – For the Board to accept the letter from the NE 33<sup>rd</sup> Ave. neighbors regarding speeding and to put it into CNA voice and on CNA letterhead for distribution to the City Bureau of Transportation et al. 10 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstain. MOTION PASSES.*

Garlynn then briefly shared information about an upcoming meeting regarding Broadmoor Golf Course. The developer Homer Williams is hosting a meeting with Cully neighbors to discuss a proposal to develop part of the golf course with an industrial use. The CNA Board and LUTC have been invited to attend the meeting, and he referred to the email invitation that had been shared prior to the meeting.

## 2. Finance

Jody asked for more Board members to join the Finance Committee and come to meetings! There are four members, quorum is three, so if there were five people it would be easier to meet quorum on a regular basis.

## 3. Media – None.

## 4. Policy and Procedure – None.

## 5. Safety and Livability

The next meeting will be on 9/28 at Truls' house. Details are in the current CNews.

Regarding relations between CNA and Concordia University (CU), Ben suggested now was the time to pursue better relations. The last he had heard CU administration had requested to wait to resume conversations until after Faubion had reopened, which it just had. He noted there had been some good work on a Good Neighbor Agreement by Ali and Daniel. Ben added he could help and wondered if this is something the Board wanted the SLC to take on. Chris responded that it made sense for the SLC to work on GNA's. Chris suggested that Ali, Ben, and Daniel attend the next SLC meeting on 9/28. In response to a question from Ike what the concerns were, Ben noted there are still some ongoing issues related to land use and parking. Ali added there is a sense of urgency as the Board and LUTC have been discussing for a long time and now is the time for the CNA to push the conversation forward.

Related to safety and livability, a neighbor noted he recently moved back into his house across from New Seasons and has requested a stop sign at the intersection of NE 34<sup>th</sup> Ave. and Emerson St. as the intersection has become increasingly congested and unsafe, especially as trucks come through that way to deliver to the store.

## 6. Social – See above.

**Meeting Adjourned** – The Chair adjourned the meeting at 6:55pm. The next Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 4, 2017 at 7pm.