

**Concordia Neighborhood Association
General Meeting**

November 4, 2020 at 7:00 pm

Via google meets

BOARD MEMBERS	
Chair – Astrid Furstner Vice Chair and SW 1 – Garlynn Woodsong Treasurer and East 1 – Heather Pashley Secretary and East 2 – Steve Elder NW 1 – Ike Harris NW 2 – Amelie Marian SW 2 – Ali Novak At Large 1 – Robert Bowles (absent) At Large 2 – Donn Dennis At Large 3 – John McSherry At Large 5 – Truls Neal (absent) At Large 4 – Sonia Fornoni At Large 6 – Matt Boyd	Gina Levine - CNews Advertising Gordon Riggs - Media Team Lead Nancy Varekemp - CNews editor Jan Keenan Addie Virta Scott Heinichen AJ Boots Annette Pronk Brittany Taylor Paul van der Alm Meg Huntington Dan Werle Elaine Oliver Frankie Williams Tara Williams Joanna Miller John Fitzgerald Max Miller Jooyoung Oh Michelle Fitzgerald Peter Keller Susan Milause Jessica Rojas (NECN)

Recording Secretary: Mary Maeve Barrett

7:12 P.M. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

REVIEW & APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

1. Agenda – November 2020

Jessica Rojas moved to accept agenda

Heather Pashley seconded the motion 2nd

Motion passed: agenda approved

INTRODUCTION OF NECN ELECTIONS CHAIR – JESSICA ROJAS

Rojas began collecting nominations to build the slate for 2021 elections.

Nominations:

East 2: Steve Elder,

Northwest 2: Amelie Marian, John Fitzgerald

Southwest 2: none

At Large 2: Donn Dennis, John Fitzgerald

At Large 4: Sonia Fornoni, Frankie Williams

At Large 6: Matt Boyd, Brittany Taylor

Chair: Peter Keller, Brittany Taylor

Rojas read the position three times to create a slate. After discussion about the most accessible and efficient way to vote online, it was decided to ask members in the order in which they appear on the attendee list on the screen.

Results:

Peter Keller - Chair

Amelie Marian - NW2

John McSherry - At large 2

Sonia Fornoni - At Large 4

Brittany Taylor - At Large 6

ORAL DISCUSSION –THE NAME OF CONCORDIA

Dan Werle presented on the potential name change

He walked the attendees through his objectives and context:

History of the name - The University, first in the 1970s, Concordia Academy opening in 1905 and then grew to a JR College, a college, to a university. It continued to grow and expand through the 2010s. IN 2020 it closed due to decreased funding

1. Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod history (Werle transparently admitted his cherry-picked information). Started in 1847 grew to strict conformity, in 2004 released guidelines for women leadership, in 2014 was identified as one of the 3rd least racially diverse religious groups. In 2019, the church reaffirmed its dedication to leading lives that are chaste and Biblical (as they interpret).
2. Reasons for change: Pivotal time in the world and in PDX, Concordia University's exit, and these values do not represent the community. Potential Impacts: opportunity to honor marginalized groups or people, community engagement, and reflect inclusivity. Possible negative: financial, navigation, work. Werle also identified other businesses with Concordia

in their name (only 2) but also shared other businesses which use names non-reflective of their geography.

3. How to change a name: Werle began a dialogue with Rojas in late July to begin walking through the process including communicating with King NA and speaking with the COmmunity and Neighborhood Involvement Center program Coordinator. He also inquired with the MCL for resources and introduction to Cully NA.

- a. This led to the understanding that this does not need to be approved by the city but instead through the NA and their own By Laws

4. Suggestions for a new name: name of deceased BIPOC, LGBTQIA+ who has lived in the community and made contribution, or who made contribution w/o living here, word meaning open/acceptance, NA groups with ties to our community (all with permission)

5. Assessment: Is there interest? What other information should be gathered? Next steps?

Furstner (Chair) opened the floor for questions.

Ali Novak spoke as a former employee of CU to the bias that existed in the organization as she was denied promotion due to her faith.

Ike Harris spoke to the process of changing the name of Piedmont Post Office to the King Post Office to better reflect the correct community where it resides. He offered support for the name change.

The group offered support for Werle's presentation and the context.

Elder added that, based on his background, the change of the name would be quite easily accomplished.

In the chat, more comments also voiced support and offered assistance.

Furstner suggested creating an Ad-Hoc committee to begin the process to change the CNA name itself.

Furstner suggested Werle's name for heading the committee. He specifically welcomed hearing opposition to help see all sides of the issue.

Varekemp added that more community members should view the presentation to help inform.

Furstner assembled an Ad-Hoc committee: John Mcsherry, Elaine Oliver, Addie Virta, Brittany, Mary Barrett, Ike Harris

Furstner then reminded the committee the purpose is to determine community interest in name change - and then what possible names.

Woodsong made a last call for signatures to be added to the PPB letter

Meeting adjourned at 9:06pm

