

May 2018 - SE Uplift Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting Attendance:

Board Members:

- Soren Impey
- Catherine Davila
- Terrence Dublinski-Milton
- Susan Gershwin
- Paul Willey
- Mark Romanagii
- Courtney Graham
- Kerry Rowand
- Jessica Engelman
- Carol Hanna
- Olivia Alsept-Ellis
- Matchu Williams
- Sam Noble
- Emma Stocker
- Nadyne Rosin
- Brian Hochhalter
- Gail Hoffnagle
- Tina Kimmey
- Reuben Deumling
- Christopher Bacher

Guests:

- Scott Vala
- Marty Stockton

Introductions and Announcements:

Woodstock:

Of the 4 community centers on the block we are one of the two that is not going to get cut. Sadly there are two still on the block.

May 12th Plant Sale. Please come out and help the community center

Foster-Powell:

Tonight is my last meeting as the Fo-Po rep. Sad-Panda

Brentwood-Darlington:

Successful cleanup

South Tabor:

Litter clean up on the 19th

PTU:

Ballot party on the 10th at Oneal's pub (60th and Glisan)

Buckman:

Last meeting.... Sad Panda

SE Uplift:

Portland committee on community engaged policing is doing a live outreach for applications to serve on a committee. Let me know if you want a digital copy. Police policies and training in the area of people who have or are perceived to have mental illnesses. Informational meetings if your interested.

Mount Tabor:

Clean up was a massive success

Board election next week

Brooklyn:

Yearly clean-up is on Saturday (16th and center) from 9:00 - 2:00

Richmond:

Clean-Up is on the 19th from 9:00 - 1:00 PM

SMILE:

Thank everyone for helping us take Sellwood Community Center off the blocks. Now to look to the future.

Mt. Scott Arletta:

Hello New Rep

Susan Gershwin:

Thank you to the Buckman NA for running the candidate forum.

Terry Dublinski-Milton:

26th bike-lanes there is some tension of the project. Debate will resurface when they grade the road.

Pedalpalooza: today is the last day to post rides in time to make it in the Mercury print calendar

We need a booth at Sunday Parkways

Mission Statement Final Review:

Ample opportunity for feedback on this has been provided. At this point we are interested in hearing any questions or to determine if something about the mission statement is in need of being addressed.

Question:

Accountability verbiage. SE Uplift is accountable to elected officials as one of the eight things that we do. Where are the remaining 7 things we do?

Answer:

There was not really a way to pack all of them into the statement. Many of the things we do are not in the mission statement. Having a clear mission statement as the focus of planning is critical. Once a statement is in place which is (hopefully) better than our current one we can work towards developing our values and our priorities as an organization. This statement is the beginning not the end.

The Staff was also involved in the creation of this statement as much as the board was.

Question:

Why the usage of the word Neighborhoods?

Answer:

It's obscure enough to include more than just the neighborhood associations because we do represent other groups.

Question:

Is it a concern that we are removing Neighborhood Associations from the Mission Statement? The city seems to be disassociating from the NA model. That's a concern. It could lead to a fracturing of our mission to NA's.

Answer:

Our mission statement is an effort to attempt to be more inclusive in our language. I don't feel that the board has the type of fracturing that would cause that type of deviation from our core values and work.

Motion

Motion to approve the mission statement by Terry Dublinski-Milton

Motion 2nd by Jessica Engelman

1 abstention

0 opposed

Motion Pass (YEA!!!!)

Marty Stockton is our Coalition Liaison from BPS

Hello I am Marty. I wanted to take this opportunity to meet with all of you. Usually I meet with the SE Uplift Land Use & Transportation Committee.

The district Liaison program is a program that is about 20 years old. I joined the team about four years ago. Before the comprehensive plan took over we were a team of project planners. Our efforts would go to where the greatest need was at. This was based on communication with the community and the city then bringing information back.

The Plan has changed this somewhat as additional analysis and communication has been the new goal. This goes into effect on May 24th. This means that the strategic plan is now the guiding light.

[LINK TO DA PLAN](#)

There are eight key initiatives

- INCREASE HOUSING OPTIONS
- CREATE AN EFFICIENT, LOW-CARBON BUILT ENVIRONMENT
- GROW VIBRANT, SUCCESSFUL CENTERS
- BUILD A 21ST CENTURY CENTRAL CITY
- PURSUE SMART CITIES INITIATIVES
- INCREASE REUSE, RECYCLING AND COMPOSTING
- ADVANCE INCLUSIVE PROSPERITY
- IMPROVE WATERSHED HEALTH AND RESILIENCY

Questions:

What are other ways that you're attempting to reach out:

Answer:

Our interest is working with any organization and / or people. Specifically affordable housing providers, social service agencies, people and organizations of color and other faith based groups.

Question:

Why don't we hear as much about sustainability as a part of your bureau? Specifically about trash trucks. What does your bureau think about the intersection of waste and livability?

Answer:

Usually when I hear that type of question I often direct those types of questions to the correct agency. That being said Zoning is a common rubbing point between industrial haulers and residential areas. I don't know how those groups would react to sustainability as a city goal.

Financial Report and ONI Update:

Review of the Mayor's budget and funding for ONI.

ONI submitted its budget and there was a request for the East Portland Coalition as it's under-funded. This was not received favorably and the recommendation is that all coalitions re-adjust the funding between them. Additional budget was allocated to East Portland Neighborhood Coalition but that will not completely address the shortage. Reallocation scenarios have been reviewed.

Given that the budget is coming the budget cut may not be as bad as possible, but it's also not final.

ONI wants to get our grant-renewals out. The way that this is writing is that funding will be 'Up-To' a specific amount.

Possible Budget Cuts:

The budget cuts are something that we could work with and all correlations are something we can work with.

New Contract with ONI; what's in it:

The Goals of our contract have been stricken and the ONI goals have replaced our goals. These are:

Community Involvement

Increase the number and diversity of people who are involved and volunteer in their communities and neighborhoods.

Capacity Building

Strengthen neighborhood and community capacity to build identity, skills, relationships and partnerships.

Public Impact

Increase community and neighborhood impact on public decisions.

Livability and Safety

Provide tools and resources to improve neighborhood and community livability and safety.

Services

Provide accurate information and responsive and effective services to community members and organizations.

Budget Process for 2018 - 2019 cycle:

Full budget proposal in June

Break

Advocacy Request: Holgate Manor

Welcome PTU. They are working with the residence of Holgate Manor to form a tenants union. They have written a letter and request for advocacy.

Holgate Manor is an 81 unit apartment complex on 36th and Holgate. This complex has for decades has been owned by a single family who intended that the complex was affordable and accessible to immigrants. They were very welcoming to elderly and immigrant tenants as well as working class tenants with kids and college students. This is a very tight-knit community.

At the end of last year the family sold the building and purchased by a wealthy investor in California who owns other similar buildings in the city. There is a precedent to renovate the building and raise rents. Some of the tenants reached out to the PTU and are now working to organize the building.

All the tenants received a letter written in English only that laid out that a series of renovations would be done to some units and that there could be no-cause evictions or rent increases.

There is an entire series of issues with the services and terms; promises were not what they appeared to be.

Huge concerns about the effects that these changes will have on the residence of this complex. The good news is that a strong tenant union is forming and momentum is building. 81 units, and over 61 units have petitioned to have a set of demands met:

- Everyone stays in their homes
- No rent increases without negotiating with tenant union
- Offer the owner to sell the building to the Portland Housing Bureau to permanently convert this building to affordable housing.

There are several ways to add pressure in the form of a public petition, letter writing campaign. Getting support from community organizations is now the goal. SE Uplift should join this effort.

Questions:

Why did the Portland Housing Bureau miss this sale? Why are they not more proactive in this area?

Answer:

There is not a requirement that when a building is being sold that the tenants or the housing bureau be notified.

Question:

Is there a reason that the sellers didn't pursue a buyer who had the same views of landlording?

Answer:

There were complicated circumstances that requires them to sell. Had they known more about the options things may have been different.

Comment / Question:

The mayor has been slow to buy buildings under the bond....

Motion to sign onto a letter made by Terry Dublinski-Milton and assist the PTU as possible

Motion 2nd by Olivia Alspet-Ellis

6 abstention

0 opposed

Motion Passes

Criteria for Posting Board Opinions Pieces on SEUplift.org

1. Email committee a topic and provide an opinion by (date) ?
2. Committee would determine if this is a civic issue and if it conflicts with our mission / values
3. Committee would e-mail board the topic and ask if anyone would like to write a counter-piece by (date)
4. Article would be submitted by the staff by a (date)?

Action would be (

Do we want this?

Create a committee

Question:

Why

Answer:

Currently there is not a means by which SE Uplift is directly commenting on civic issues. By encouraging board members to have civic opinions we can create this channel of communication.

Question:

Is this representing SE Uplift?

Answer:

No the articles would be the opinions of the SE Uplift Board Member who penned the article

Question:

We have an advocacy request process. How do we separate opinion pieces from advocacy requests?

Answer:

This is a venue where our org can discuss social or other issues independent of board meetings.

Question:

Whenever our NA has put something online and invites comment, we've learned there needs to be capacity to monitor reactions.

Answer:

That's why board-members are the currently limitations for comments or reply

Question:

Given what's said, I feel like there are ample other forums for this. Also if this is not open to the community that is a disservice. Also how would we advertise this as a service?

Answer:

Terry wanted to write a piece and did, then was told they will not post it. Hence the op-ed proposal.

Question:

Do any of the other Coalitions post opinion pieces.

Answer:

Yes there is a precedent for this. Don't know where

Question:

Online conversations get sticky because of legality. Having conversation between board-members is common. Why not our google group?

Answer:

Having public pressure for good articles and reading content

We're going to come back for this in a month.

Officer Elections Date Bylaws Changes from July - November

Proposal to change the Bylaws by changing the officer election dates.

Most new board members come in for the July meeting; by moving the elections to November it will provide board members the opportunity to have some context for an informed vote.

Motion made to approve these bylaws changes by Terry Dublinski-Milton to move elections as recommended

Motion 2nd by Jessica Engelman

0 abstention

0 opposed

Motion Pass

Officer Elections Date Bylaws Changes to extend terms of Officers terms July - November

Motion made to approve these bylaws changes by Christopher Bacher to extend terms of officers as recommended

Motion 2nd by Gail Hoffnagle

0 abstention

0 opposed

Motion Pass

Approve April Meeting Minutes

HAND updates to the minutes

Motion made to approve these bylaws changes by Sam Noble to approve the minutes as suggested

Motion 2nd by Christopher Bacher

4 abstention

0 opposed

Motion Pass

GO HOME!