



*We collaborate with the SE Portland community to build informed, inclusive, and participatory neighborhoods that support our social and ecological well-being.*

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, November 6, 2023 | 7:00 - 9:00 pm | Via Zoom

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/92334943945> | Meeting ID: 923 3494 3945

### ATTENDANCE

#### Board Members present:

- Brentwood-Darlington NA – Kimberly DiLeo
- Brooklyn NA (BAC) – LC Hansen
- Buckman Community Association – Scotty Robinson
- Creston-Kenilworth NA – Rachel Davies
- Eastmoreland NA – Steve Kilduff
- Foster-Powell NA – Lauren Ciorca
- Hosford-Abernathy Neighborhood District (HAND) – Bruce Bikle
- Kerns NA – Dave Weaver (President)
- Montavilla NA – Sarah Hartzel
- Reed NA – Sabrina Perry
- 82nd Ave of Roses BA – Nancy Chapin
- Inner SE Action – Kat West (Vice President)
- Portland Through a Latin Lens – Miguel Rodriguez
- At Large – Amy Bader
- At Large - Kimberléa Ruffu
- At Large – Doug Waugh (Treasurer)
- At Large – Sharon Wynde

**Board Members absent:** none

#### Board Members sending regrets:

- Woodstock NA – Anna Weichsel
- Mt. Scott-Arleta NA – Daniel Portis-Cathers
- Laurelhurst NA – David Tunley
- North Tabor NA – Kimberly Bandy (Secretary)
- Sunnyside NA – Matt Lembo
- Black + Beyond the Binary Collective – Mireaya Medina

#### Staff present:

- Nanci Champlin (Executive Director)
- Lindsay Johnson (Fiscal Sponsorship and Communications Manager) – joined late

**Guests:** Lisa Sloan (Board Administrator), Allen Field (Richmond NA), Mourad Ratbi, OCCL, Kimberely Dixon, OCCL Linda Nettekoven

## **BOARD DISCUSSION MEETING**

### **7:00 The board discussion meeting was called to order.**

#### **Call Meeting to Order - Dave Weaver, President**

- SE Uplift's mission statement and community agreements were shared.
- Announcements/activities were posted by board members in the chat.
- Recording policy was announced.
- The agenda was reviewed, noting that a vote to authorize main level heat pumps was removed.

### **7:10 Updates from Featured Board Organizations**

- Nancy Chapin, 82<sup>nd</sup> Avenue Business District Association
  - Started in 1978 to address sex workers on 82nd; Clackamas County line to the airport
  - Big old trees between Powell and Division – selected before there was an understanding that their roots would grow out; businesses are being told to pay to fix the sidewalks; asking if there is a way to remove the trees instead
  - 2004 applied for a grant for staffing, but declined; instead planted rose gardens, created sticker for business windows about reporting crime and do an annual 82<sup>nd</sup> Avenue of Roses Parade (which was held most years)
  - Created Around the World in 82 dishes
- Bruce Bikle, Hosford-Abernethy Neighborhood District (HAND)
  - Tamarack and Division camp – will apply to SEUL for funds for a garden there
  - New city structure is a major topic of discussion and how that will impact NAs
  - Concerns about the development standards, affordable housing and traffic
  - Been building water catchments in Ladd's Addition and many are just filling up, area not well lit

### **7:25 City Transition Updates and Q & A with the Director of the City of Portland Office of Community and Civic Life (OCCL) - Mourad Ratbi, OCCL**

- Working to be as visible and available as possible to answer questions and provide clarity
- Implemented voter approved changes in new government structure last week
- Michael Jordan and transition leaders led efforts to develop the specifics of the new structure/organizational chart which will take effect on July 1, 2024
- Conducted surveys and gathered community input
- SEUL's letter had an impact on the public comment period being extended
- New City Administrator may or may not be hired before 2025
- Current City Council members will continue to do their work until the new structure takes effect
- Still a lot to do at City and Bureau levels by technical implementation team around finances, HR, etc.
- Focus is on centralization of resources and functions
- New budget (FY24-25) will need to consider new government structure
- City will be publishing all of the new information as it becomes available
- City will transition from 7 district coalition offices (DCOs) to 4 that align with the city council districts. The 4 DCOs will be led by nonprofits. RFP process is still TBD.

- Civic Life has been elevated under the new city organizational chart, landing under the City Administrator along with the Equity Officer. This will enable the bureau to be an effective agent between the city and the neighborhoods through a demographic lens.
- The mission of the Office of Community and Civic Life (Civic Life) is to promote a culture of civic engagement by connecting and supporting all Portlanders and working with government to build inclusive, safe, and livable neighborhoods and communities.
- Civic Life staffing was already reduced as the transition started; some was churn and some was realignment of services to other bureaus – no significant cuts predicted; neighborhoods are their core business; they will work with the nonprofits when the transition to that model occurs
- Portland Engagement Project was a big Civic Life expenditure and effort – Listening, Design and Implementation phases were planned but a decision was made to stop at the listening stage – limited budget and no longer needed because a real transition is now taking place.
- Other programs at Civic Life, such as Diversity and Civic Leadership, appear to remain intact within it

### **8:00 Board + Staff Retreat Report – Nanci Champlin, Executive Director**

Nanci shared key takeaways from the retreat, including:

- Themes for a District candidate forum – climate justice/environment, land use and transportation, houselessness/mental health/recovery, civic engagement (arts and culture, economic development and City functions)
- Community engagement with new Counselors – the public wants face time and a co-created community engagement plan with clear expectations around roles and decision-making
- Space activation for the SEUL Headquarters – themes included workshops on community care and safety, fun/games/social events, training and skill building, arts and cultural activities, economic development. The board also identified potential new audiences, partners and civic uses
- Committee updates were provided and discussed potential new committees

### **8:15 New Committee Opportunities – Kat West, Vice President**

Shared link to express interest in a committee, new or existing: <https://forms.gle/UGGqhYVT7eGvmCru5>

- Community Cares (Name TBD): To partner with other organizations and volunteers on activities like trash pick-up, graffiti abatement, neighborhood walks, etc.
- Space Activation: Strategizing and planning ways to best use our building and grounds
- Building Task Force: planning for the long-term care of the building
- Development/Fundraising: ways to diversify our funding streams, secure new sponsors

### **8:20 Committee Reports – Committee Chairs**

Finance – Doug Waugh, Treasurer

- Switching to Advantis for daily banking (location more accessible); will keep old and new accounts open through the transition
- Committee is discussing plans for an external financial review.
- Only get paid out from the City 4 times per year (quarterly)
- Shared Balance Sheet through 9/30/23: SEUL is in great shape; strong assets, including the building; many of the liabilities are monies SEUL is holding for its fiscally sponsored organizations. We maintain \$100,000 in the Building Reserve Fund for an emergency or capital improvements, a 6-month operating reserve, and some unrestricted reserves

IDEA – Daniel Portis Cathers, Mt. Scott-Arleta NA

- Looking at developing a land acknowledgement
- Planning for more antiracism trainings

Climate Justice – Nanci Champin, Executive Director, on behalf of Anna Weichsel, Woodstock NA

- Piloted with Street Trust to show people how to put their bike on the bus. TriMet wants to give SEUL the apparatus so we can dispatch it to events with have volunteers to lead trainings.
- Shade equity efforts will focus on increasing tree canopy in underserved areas of the district
- *Once a Braided River* film – planning a showing and public discussion.

Civic Engagement – Nanci Champin, Executive Director, on behalf of Matt Lembo, Sunnyside NA

- Looking at hosting state electeds for the short legislative session debrief, holding a forum for city council candidates, educating public about city transition, and planning trainings around civic engagement in conjunction with staff

Houselessness Action – Nanci Champlin, Executive Director

- Will develop a survey throughout about what people want to know to inform communication efforts that can help to build empathy around the high risk for many families to become houseless

Executive – Dave Weaver, Kerns NA/Board President

- Board received minutes from October 5 and October 17 as well as grievance materials.
- New fiscal sponsorships were approved.

#### **8:40 Executive Director Report – Nanci Champlin, Executive Director**

Noted the board received SEUL’s findings and recommendations from Allen Field’s 8/8/23 grievances.

#### **Building updates**

- John Adams, houseless man who has been living on and around SEUL headquarters for 7 years has moved to a farm where he and his belongings will finally be safe and secure.
- New tenant: Asian Community Farmers will share office with Farmland Produce Distribution Project
- Lower Level renovations: minor finishing touches remain; it looks great! Hope to do an Open House.
- Thursday – City doing a walk-through of building to consider SEUL for District 3 City Council offices. Any lease would likely start in October of 2024.
- Portland Clean Energy Fund (PCEF) grant cycle is expected to open in mid-November. Looking to apply for heat pumps, solar and replace windows.

#### **Community Small Grants Program**

- Grant review committee had orientation last night
- Received 58 applications totaling \$190,000 in requests; \$76,394 available
- Scoring night is November 16. Board to vote on their recommendations at our Dec. 4 meeting
- Applicants will be notified in mid-December and receive funds in January.

#### **Neighborhood Liaison + Fiscal Sponsorship Programs**

- Machu led a NA board officer training that attracted NA participants from around the city.
- Neighborhood Association (noncompetitive) communication grant applications are due 12/31/23. There is \$750 available for each NA that is up to date on their required annual state filings and has submitted all YTD minutes. NAs: See details in the *Hey Neighbor!* Flyer
- The Fiscal Sponsorship program now supports 34 organizations and SEUL participates in the National Network of Fiscal Sponsors whose annual conference is in December.

Kimberlea Ruffu expressed interest in connecting with anyone who wants to pressure the City issue a formal response to Israel/Hamas conflict.

**8:50** The board discussion meeting adjourned.

**BOARD BUSINESS MEETING**

**8:50** The board business meeting was called to order. – Dave Weaver, President

**8:51** Vote to approve the October board meeting minutes.

**Motion ( Dave )** To approve the October board meeting minutes.

**Amended ( )**

**Seconded**

*(Sharon)*

**In favor** 12

**Opposed** 0

**Abstentions** 2

**Result:** The motion passed.

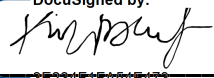
**8:50** The meeting adjourned. – Dave Weaver, President

**Next Board Meeting: Monday, December 4, 7 – 9 PM via Zoom**

Board will vote on the Grant Review Committee’s 2024 Community Small Grants Program funding recommendations!

**Minutes Approved (Date)** 12/04/2023

**Secretary Signature**

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