

**Creston-Kenilworth Neighborhood Association
General/Board Meeting
January 8, 2006**

Present board members: Eryn Deeming Kehe, Bruce Kehe, Stephanie Reynolds, Kelly Betteridge, Benjamin Hazelton, Sarah Gilbert, Sara Westerfeld.

Absent Board Members: Sola Whitehead, John/Grace Emanuel.

Other association members in attendance: Nellie Korn, Sue Abdulle, James O'Neill, Marmie McPhee, Jack Hodges.

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 8:02pm by CKNA chairperson Benjamin Hazelton. He asked those in attendance if they wanted to add anything to the agenda. Bruce asked to add a SEUL update to the agenda. One question was asked to clarify the agenda.

Benjamin provided a quick update about the Powell Street Committee before starting the regular agenda.

Public Safety

Officers Rob Quick and Todd Teats were in attendance. Stephanie shared that she had noticed more tags in the neighborhood than usual and asked the officers in attendance whether they have noticed this as well. Officer Rob Quick mentioned that he had received an increase in the number of calls about graffiti, but had not noticed an increase in gang activity. Stephanie also asked about the Ace of Hearts Club near Powell on the west side of 39th. They have inquired about a liquor license. Officer Quick said he has not received many calls about activity related to the club. Officer Teats agreed that the police don't get calls about the club. Stephanie suggested that the association take action on the request when it comes in. She suggested pursuing a Good Neighbor Agreement with the club or oppose the application entirely. James O'Neil asked if the police have received sexual assault reports related to the club. Officer Quick said he had not. He remembered only one call related to noise.

A neighbor (Marmie McPhee) asked about discussion on the listserv regarding a past burglary off Holgate near the 50s. Office Teats did not recall the outcome, but did comment that crime has been down this month generally in the neighborhood. She added that she had seen more patrol cars stopping people on the streets recently. The Officers said that there have been more officers assigned to this area recently.

A current complaint about a drug house is being investigated at 4105 54th. Complaints about noise have also been received. The officers are working that case. Benjamin asked if there were any other issues of safety or livability that anyone wanted to address. Sara Gilbert who has been working with neighbors shared information about the new play equipment in the lower area at Kenilworth Park. The Parks Dept has identified funding to replace the equipment. Staff met with interested neighbors to discuss the type of things they wanted. The upper area's equipment is being installed currently. Staff from Parks will bring a few designs back to this group of neighbors and work with them to identify the best one. It could be installed as early as June. A bouldering rock and swings were two specific ideas that neighbors have supported. James O'Neill asked about soft structures that he has seen. Sarah said she has looked into equipment made of softer materials and found that they are very, very expensive. They may also not be weather resistant.

Stephanie shared that a man who calls himself "Spy" (a tagger in the area) has been caught and is awaiting trial. If anyone sees his tag she asked that they report them to the police.

SEUL Update

CKNA has a new neighborhood rep from SEUL. Her name is Afifa. She reported that the Charter Review Commission provided an update to the SEUL Board at the January meeting. The SEUL Board voted to send a letter to Council asking them to send the work of this group to the voters for approval. Aoefte is our contact person if we have questions. She is responsible for 10 neighborhoods, far more than Stever had been assigned to. Gary Berger remains on SEUL staff and is available for land use questions.

Minutes

Copies of the minutes from the November 2006 and December 2006 minutes were provided.

Action: Stephanie moved to approve the minutes, Kelly seconded. Benjamin took the vote: 9 in favor, 0 opposed 2 abstentions. The motion passed.

Stephanie moved to approve the December minutes. A few spelling mistakes were noted, someone was missing Matt Burke. James O'Neill mentioned that four people from the Coalition from a Livable Future were in attendance. We didn't have their names, however. James suggested an amendment to the first paragraph related to an amendment he recommended to the October bylaws. Benjamin suggested that we add a sentence indicating that James expressed concern about evictions.

Action: Sara Westerfeld moved to accept the minutes with amendments, Sara Gilbert seconded. Benjamin took the vote: 10 approved, 1 opposed, 0 abstentions. The motion passed.

Bylaws

Benjamin noted that we do have a quorum of board members at tonight's meeting so that the bylaws can be voted upon.

Two issues were raised last month when the discussions of the bylaws were initially raised in December. 1) the definition of quorum 2) general versus board meetings. ONI recommended language for our bylaws which were incorporated into the updated version. Benjamin did a quick review of all the changes that are recommended last month.

Outstanding Questions:

1) General versus Board Meetings

Recent boards have chosen to hold general and board meetings concurrently. This results in more meetings than the minimum required in the bylaws. The purpose is a desire of the board to assure full participation by all neighbors in concurrent meetings. James shared a concern that a large number of people in the neighborhood may not get notice of meetings. James wants the bylaws to reflect what is occurring. A few attendees shared that minimum standards are important for assuring compliance from future boards. It was suggested by Nellie that a statement be added that "general and board meetings may be held concurrently". (Article 6, Section 1)

Action: Bruce moved to accept the motion and Jack Hodges seconded. Benjamin called the vote: 10 approved 1 opposed, 0 abstentions. The motion passed.

2) Questions about Quorum

Benjamin shared that a quorum for a general meeting was half of the number present in a meeting, but not less than five. A quorum for a board meeting is a majority of the board members (present or not).

Action: Stephanie moved to accept the section on quorum as written, Jack seconded. Benjamin called the vote: 10 approved, 1 opposed, 0 abstentions. The motion passed.

Benjamin asked for a motion, Eryn moved to approve the bylaws as amended and recommended. Stephanie seconded the motion. James O'Neill raised a concern about the grievance language recommended in the bylaws. Stephanie shared that the language used was that recommended by the Office of Neighborhood Involvement.

Action: Stephanie moved to indefinitely table discussion of past "Unity in the Streets" events. Sara G. seconded. Benjamin called the vote: 1 opposed, 2 abstentions and 8 in favor. The motion passed.

Action: Jack called for the question. Eryn seconded. Benjamin called the vote: 10 in favor, 1 opposed. The motion passed.

Action: Benjamin called the vote on the action to approve the bylaws as recommended and amended: 1 opposed, 0 abstentions, 10 in favor. The motion passed.

SEUL- "Neighborhood Community Engagement Initiative"

This is a program to help association collaborate with local organizations. A representative from the Somali Women's Association came to the meeting to talk to us about the project and this group. Lul Abdullah from Somali Woman's Association would like to conduct a door-to-door survey of Somali refugees in our neighborhood to assess the needs of that population. They would then like to share what they learn with us after it is complete. If we are interested in this type of presentation they would invite the school, other local organizations to a meeting to discuss the results. Following that would be an event with Somali families to share an interactive. James asked about funding. \$22,000 to fund this program which is a coordination between SEUL, Southwest Neighborhoods and the Somali Woman's Association. 80% of the population at Kateri Park is of Somali origin. Several around the table expressed a positive response to the project. There were a few questions about the people that the group works with and how they help them acclimate to life here in Portland. The next steps will be the outreach (Phase I through March). There will be opportunities for the association check in with the process during this phase. Then they would like to return to the association in the late spring or early summer. Aoeffe will provide a project schedule which the association will try to attach to these minutes if received in time. There were a few additional questions about the program and the Somali organization.

The Kupie Cone sign

We need to hire an artist. That means offering money for an artist. Sara Gilbert suggested that this be added to a future meeting agenda.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34pm.