

SEPTEMBER 7, 2021 SEN BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Present: Dennis Hebert, Christina Hansberry, Lynne Macdonald, David Monk, Elzbieta Kubok, Devon Mann, Jessica Roshak Tuerk, Rob Fisette

Absent: Emily Fox

Guests: Matt Keating, Laoni Davis, Ellen Rifkin, Linda Duggan, John Q. Murray

Public Comment:

Laoni Davis and Ellen Rifkin representing SURJ (Showing Up for Racial Justice) asked the Board to support and sign on to a letter they are presenting to City Council and the Eugene Police Department. They propose that part of the Eugene Police budget be diverted to CAHOOTs. CAHOOTs does not currently have the funding to be able to respond to all of the situations where de-escalation should be tried first.

Rob said he would take the letter to the next HRC meeting to see if there is support to sign on. If they deem it a good idea, they will present it to the SEN Board at our next meeting.

Linda Duggan reported that the Quick Fix Coffee kiosk on Willamette is putting jackets with wildfire info on their cups. She has contacted Capella Market and Market of Choice about printing wildfire information on shopping bags. She wonders if SEN would put some money toward signs for shop windows.

MATT KEATING - City Councilor for Ward 2

Matt reported that the city will hold an Unhoused Response Workshop on September 8.

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR - Dennis

Dennis spoke the crime report and southeast area calls to the police.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES June & July 2021 - Lynne

David moved and Jess seconded approval of the August minutes. Vote: unanimous

TREASURER'S REPORT - Christina

US Bank: \$800.00

Balance in City of Eugene Acct: \$4600.00

COMMITTEE REPORTS

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE - David, John Q

The 9/12 Disaster Preparedness event has been postponed until sometime in the spring.

Site visits to neighbors who registered with the Wildfire Preparedness Coalition's program and can take on doing the work make their homes less fire prone have begun. There are 220 Southeast residents registered with the WPC program, thirty three of them have requested a site visit, twenty five are completed. The Great Oregon Shake Out will be on October 23. Block Captains will canvas their neighborhoods to see who is prepared and who still need help.

See Report Page 3

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE - Jess

Reported no new news from LTD.

They are focusing on sidewalk safety, providing children and wheelchairs safe access. Jess noted that it is the homeowners' responsibility to repair and maintain the walkways in front of their houses. The Committees' goal is to clear plants that block sidewalks, and identify areas that need repairs. They will discuss ways to assist homeowners who cannot fix problems themselves.
See Report Page 3

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE - Jess, John Q. Christina

The web site now has links for contacting each committee chair person. Each committee was asked to check their posting to be sure it is worded the way they want. They are still working on the Handbook.

LAND USE COMMITTEE - Dennis, David

See HB-2001 discussion under "Old Business"
See Report Page 4

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE - Rob

Rob will speak with the committee about supporting the SURG request.
See Report Page 5

TUGMAN PARK VOLUNTEERS - Dennis

Dennis reported that they will begin removing non-native plants from the park.
See Report Page 5

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE - Devon

The committee is working on the Tree Ordinance. Devon has talked with a woman (Anita) who speaks to groups about preserving the tree canopy in Eugene. Anita is attempting to distill the ordinance so she can share this information with the citizens.
See Report Page 5

OLD BUSINESS:

EWEB Water Storage Update

Devon reported that EWEB is interested in preserving the old oaks at the water storage site. It was discovered after they were cut that many of the other trees were diseased.

SEN Newsletter - HB-2001 info

It was recommended that contact information for the mayor and city counselors be added to the end of the document. David moved to accept the document with recommended changes. Jess seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. The document will be put into a two page newsletter for the SEN neighbors.
See Newsletter on the web site

NEW BUSINESS:

There will be a General Meeting on November 2. We will send a postcard to the printer by October 11.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:50 pm

Disaster Preparedness Committee Report

Many thanks to Southeast Neighbors David Hazen and David Monk, who served in the role of facilitators as we conducted the first two Nearby Neighbor Wildfire Evacuation Tabletop Exercises. The material is available for others to use and adapt [here](#). So far we have created scenarios for Southeast Eugene (SEN and SHiNA) and Northwest Eugene (Santa Clara/River Road). One neighborhood leader wrote this in response:

This comprehensive, experiential video and exercise are answers to my prayers and beseeching since last September's fires! I cannot thank you enough for creating this learning tool. My initial visceral reaction is a big sigh of relief and then tears (sobs, frankly) for all of the stress and worry that has been weighing on me for the last year. It is a tremendous relief to hear from neighbors who "get it" and are stepping-up. (I am a survivor of the 2018 Camp Fire in Paradise and involved in emergency preparedness in the River Road neighborhood.)

Trying to get a whole neighborhood prepared is overwhelming and challenging and yet it is essential since emergency services might not reach us for days or longer. We are sitting ducks in a disaster if, collectively, we don't help one another get prepared. **For those who watch this video/exercise and take action – lives will be saved!** Beyond wildfire, it is invaluable information *for any type of disaster* where preparation, communication and evacuation are needed. It is a great template to adapt to other neighborhoods and emergency scenarios.

I am particularly grateful and moved that this work is created and presented by **neighbors** who are asking the right questions, who are responding responsibly, and who are providing excellent advice...plainly and honestly. I want all Eugene residents to see this and put these actions into practice...asap.

This needs to be promoted by every neighborhood association and by every county and city entity that has *any* role to play in providing emergency services in Lane County and Eugene.

There is a lot of work to do at the neighborhood level to get prepared and organized, but this video and exercise should both: 1) help us get the message out in a relatable, coherent and effective way; and 2) encourage neighbors to step-up and get involved.

Thank you to everyone who played a role in creating this!

We also completed the "ICS for Hippies" course, [here](#). This shows how informal groups of nearby neighbors can work effectively with professional responders, without having to know everything about the ICS system themselves. The images from a Paradise documentary shown during the ENPN meeting demonstrate the critical need for this approach.

Transportation Committee Report

The Transportation Committee held 3 cabinet meetings in September. Attending members included Jess, John, Lucy, Linda, Lois, and Rachel.

LTD news to be aware of:

- All students must get a student pass by October 30th or they will not benefit from the state funds providing them with free rides. Our committee is tracking/following up with 4J to

ensure this message is appropriately communicated, but so far many families are unaware, as LTD is relying on individual schools to get the message out.

- Two new board members will be named by Kate Brown in November - one of whom will represent the northwestern part of SEN.
- A new general manager search is beginning.
- In our hood, Route 73 remains on hold, while route 28 picked up 2 new rush hour routes. This was in response to current demand.
- LTD looking at picking back up with Moving Ahead project work, which has sought to decide if and where to implement the Bus Rapid Transit, like Emx
- We encourage everyone in our neighborhood to get back on the bus when it's possible to do so. SEN board members are encouraged to ride when possible and pass along feedback and ideas to the transportation committee on your experiences.

NLC Transportation Group

John scheduled September meeting, other neighborhoods were no shows. Has set up a google group for discussion and info sharing.

Sidewalks:

- October 23rd at 10:00 we will convene volunteers to trim vegetation off sidewalks. Positive response so far to the program, but only 3 or 4 residences on the work list to date. ****Do we want to coordinate with Tugman park volunteers to fold it into a park/neighborhood volunteer day? ****
- Sidewalks around the Edgewood/Spencer Butte schools have been surveyed and an area of concern has been communicated to district
- Future talks with Friendly Neighborhood, who has a sidewalk fund and has had efforts in the past with the city to tackle the issue.

Other business

- Communication with our neighborhood's representative from LCOG's transportation committee representative, Gwen Burdock, has been attempted and not replied to in kind.
- We are following up with the city transportation planners regarding a camera setup they mentioned to collect info on the safety of the Amazon/Fox Hollow turnouts where walkers/bikers/drivers navigate a large intersection, as well as speeding controls for Fox Hollow.

Communications Committee Report - none

Land Use Committee Report

These past few weeks have been busy with working on the flyer on HB 2001. Emily has spent a lot of energy on this document along with David helping edit. I just put my 2 cents in where needed. You should be receiving it before our Tuesday meeting. Hope that all of you can find time to review it because we will be voting on publishing it in the newsletter asap.

Everyone has had a chance to weigh in on it. We took some pointers and others we did not feel contributed significantly to the information to be put out.

No further edits. What it is, is what we will be voting on. Although, we will have a short discussion on it.

Human Rights Committee Report

No updates this month on actions of the Human Rights Committee, however:

A member of the local chapter of the group Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ) and of the HRC reached out to me about the possibility of SEN or HRC signing on to a letter they are preparing to deliver to City Council in support of the recommendations of the recently concluded Ad Hoc Committee on Policing Policy. I encouraged the group to send a few members to the public comment at Tuesday's meeting to present on the issue and make their request, and I anticipate adding sign-on as an item for discussion for "New Business."

I am attaching their draft letter, a 5-page summary that SURJ put together of the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee, and the full 240-page report of the Ad Hoc Committee. For those of you unfamiliar with the work of the committee, I have reviewed both the full report and the short summary, and think the summary gives a pretty thorough impression.

Tugman Park Volunteers Report

The Tuggers and others have been very busy at Tugman Park. Help from the Sheriff's work crew have been removing blackberry vines and other invasives along with wacking down the grass in the natural areas to prevent grass fires. It is looking as groomed as it ever was.

Tuggers have been keeping the grass and weeds at bay around the planted trees and placing fresh mulch around them. We have also been removing some invasive trees. The new planting bed by the basketball court has been being watered regularly and weeded every work session. The North end is also cleaned up now and around the large tree on the corner at Hilyard.

There will be some light equipment being brought in by the city to help clear some of the channel and possibly make it more streamlike.

I invite all of you to take a walk (when the smoke is gone) around Tugman and notice how good it is looking these days.

Environmental Stewardship Committee Report

At our last meeting, the ESC was joined by Anita Van Asperdt, owner/operator of Land Current Landscape Architects in Eugene. Anita is a passionate and informed advocate for construction policies that combat climate change, including but not limited to city canopy preservation. During our meeting, Anita summarized, reviewed, and answered questions about her proposed changes to the City of Eugene's current antiquated tree removal ordinance. Her proposed ordinance is comprehensive and based on existing ordinances of Ashland and Portland and includes detailed replacement procedures and requirements as well as a removal fee pool specifically designated for tree planting/replacement on city properties. Moving forward, the ESC is strategizing about how to best present changes to the existing tree removal ordinance.

If you would like to read the proposed ordinance, please let me know and I will send you the pdf.

Our next meeting is Tuesday, October 12; we will discuss sections of the Planning Commissions Amendments to HB 2001 as related to green space, canopy, and buried utility lines. Also, Laura Farthing may join (or potentially the following meeting) to discuss reduced carbon footprint options for the 40th & Donald water tank project.