

## **January 4, 2021 SEN Board Meeting Minutes**

**Call to order:** 7:00 pm via Zoom

**Attendance:** Dennis, Devon, Emily, Rob, Jess, David, Ela, Lynne

**Absent:** Christina

**Guests:** Will O’Hearn (Eugene Public Library), John Q, Matt Keating

**Public comment:** None

### **Eugene Public Library Services Director:**

Will O’Hearn has been at the library since 2019. He reported that the library’s virtual doors have been open during the entire pandemic and public access since August 2021. Will said they have eliminated late fees on all kid’s books and may soon be getting rid of fines altogether.

During the pandemic they partnered with the Employment Office to help deal with the large amount of unemployment claims. They also partnered with a large number of other community organizations.

Will said that two thirds of all eligible community members have a library card and that there were 1.6 million check outs last year (compared to 2.7 in 2019). There are 250 Hot Spots that can be checked out, and he ran through a long list of things other than books that can be borrowed. He spoke about the Imagination Library which mails free books each month to kids from 0-5 years old.

### **MUPTE overview—Ela Kubok**

Ela explained the Multi-Unit Property Tax Exemption program which is a ten year tax exemption to help create more dense housing in the downtown core.

### **EWEB H2O blasting—JohnQ**

John and Dennis attended a blasting demonstration at the EWEB site at the end of December. John showed a video of the blast and will post it on the web site. He reported that they are now finished blasting and are in the process of hauling out debris.

### **Matt Keating, City Councilor Ward 2**

Matt invited all of us to attend the State of the City on January 5. He suggested a “Did You Know” article for the web site so pertinent information could be shared with SE Neighbors, such as:

Parking RVs and boats on the street for extended periods of time is not permitted.

The nuisance feeding of wildlife (turkeys, deer, etc) attracts rats which are out of control in some areas.

He will put together an article for the web site and possibly our next newsletter.

#### **Report from the Chair**

Dennis let us know that a report of hours for each board member is due in July this year instead of January. He will be sending a form to report hours on.

#### **Approve December Meeting Minutes - Lynne**

Dennis moved to accept the minutes, Emily seconded. Approved unanimously.

#### **Treasurer's report - Christina**

City of Eugene \$4496.89

US Bank \$800.00

#### **Committee Reports**

##### **Disaster Preparedness/Recovery - David, John Q**

John is working on the Table Top evacuation plans. The second Sunday radio check-ins are ongoing.

It was noted that embers from the Holiday Farm fire started several grass fires in Eugene and burned down a house in the Cal Young area.

##### **Transportation Committee - Jess, John Q**

Reported that there is a City of Eugene Bicycle Disaster Corps being organized.

##### **Communications Committee/Website/FB—Jess, Christina, JohnQ**

Requested that committees submit updated information about their work for posting.

##### **Land Use Committee—Emily, David, Dennis**

Waiting for an update from the City about an HB-2001 Public Meeting.

##### **Human Rights Committee—Rob**

Preparing to send out a Mail Chimp report on the shelters in our neighborhood.

*See Report Page 4*

##### **Tugman Park Volunteers—John Ostrom, Dennis**

Reported that there is money for future improvements to the park. They are seeking public outreach for ideas to continue improving Tugman.

##### **Environmental Stewardship Committee--Devon, Christina**

The committee will be meeting at the end of January.

#### **Old business:**

##### **Co-Chairs for SEN**

Many other Neighborhood Associations use this model. We will take steps to change our by-laws and move to a co-chair board position, eliminating the vice chair position.

**March General Meeting and Newsletter**

Dennis asked each committee chair to compose a short article for the newsletter.

We will invite Laurie Treiger, Lane Co. Commissioner to be a speaker at our March General Meeting.

Ashley Cissna will speak about EWEBs' "Pledge to Prepare-Two Weeks Ready" program.

Also Will O'Hearn of the Eugene Public Library.

There could also be Committee Break-out Rooms

Total time will be one and one half hours.

**New Business** None

**Adjourn** 9:12 pm

## HRC Report

- Shelters document: decided to leave Tamarack in the document but identify it as not currently active. Ela created a final copy which has now been published on the SEN facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=303225938500926&set=a.223313186492202>. Attaching the final version here in pdf and png.
- 4J goings-on. Discussed the current conflict at the 4J school board, shared resources to learn more and potentially take action for those interested. Backstory and relevant links included below, still copy the text of the letter I sent to 4J at the end of this message.
  - Complaint by Mary Walston against Laural O'Rourke and Maya Rabasa: <https://www.registerguard.com/story/news/2022/01/12/eugene-school-board-member-files-complaint-against-two-other-members/9084125002/>
  - "Conditional" withdrawing of the complaint: <https://www.registerguard.com/story/news/2022/01/12/eugene-school-board-member-withdraws-complaint-against-other-members/9196582002/>
  - Bias training derailed, article by JohnQ: <https://newswire.kepw.org/2022/01/20/4j-school-board-work-session-breaks-down-after-vitriol-remark/>
  - Initial call to action by the Education Justice Action Team at the Community Alliance for Lane County: <https://www.facebook.com/EducationJusticeEugene/posts/276445821245369> (NOTE: I think the email address in the follow-up is a better one to use)
  - Follow-up call to action at EJAT: <https://www.facebook.com/EducationJusticeEugene/posts/280517667504851>
- Potential topics for newsletter pieces from HRC: Summary of recent discussions as a call for new members; Egan trainings schedule; follow-up on items from HRNI newsletter; FFLC info; summary of news items within the neighborhood and city.
- Potential name change: Probably unnecessary for now. Key work is engaging more people.

Submitted by Rob