

**July 22, 2015**  
**SNG Board Meeting**  
**Matthews Center**

**6:35 PM Introductions**

Angie calls meeting to order.

**In Attendance:** Ben Walen, Bob Friddle, Ashley Frietag, Bruce Johansen, Angie Haeg, Tariku Belay, Diann Anders, Peter Fleck, Hannah Epstein

**Absent:** Ashley Fairbanks

**Excused:** Peter Truax, Marne Zafar, Tami Trager

**Guests:** Dick Westby

**Staff:** Kate Sheldon, Doug Wise

**6:36 55 Year SNG Anniversary**

Dick Westby. King's Fair: Remembering the 60s. 55th Anniversary of Seward Neighborhood Group. Dick would like volunteers to help celebrate, come up with ideas for activities for the King's Fair in celebrating the 60s and honoring SNG leadership. Ashley suggests a costume contest and canvassing the community through door knocking. Diann suggests getting information out by National Night Out for Board members to distribute when they visit the neighborhood and bringing this idea to the King's Fair committee.

**6:45 Consent Agenda**

Minutes from June Board Meeting

**Staff Motion: That the board of SNG support a two year grant request for \$60,000 in operating funds from the Mcknight Foundation.**

**All in favor. Motion passed.**

**6:45 Public Discussion Issues and Guests**

**Diann moves that SNG write Gali a thank you letter for her service and acknowledge that we have 3 open seats on the Board. Bob seconds. All in favor. Motion passed.**

**6:48 Executive Report and Discussion issues**

Pass 990

**Ben moves that we pass the 990. Tariku seconds. All in favor. Motion passed.**

**Ben moves to support signature on the charitable report form. Diann seconds. All in favor. Motion passed.**

**6:50 PM Staff reports**

**SNG Community Coordinator**

o Open Streets—Sign up on Volunteer sheet for Open Streets.

- o Towers sign up
- o NNO sign up

Ashley has made name tags for everyone to visit neighbors on NNO to make the Board and staff look official. She has also compiled information and resources to use while speaking with neighbors--surveys, email list sign-up, and talking points.

## **Housing**

(see below)

### **7:30 – 7:45 Committee and Projects Announcements**

#### **1. Community Building-Diann Anders**

National Night Out on Tuesday August 4. Purpose: to introduce selves, SNG, remind people of King's Fair, Annual Meeting, Open Streets.

#### **2. CDC**

Reviewed our debt with NRP. The city is asking for a proposal for what will we do with money. We will pay for Doug, CEE, and use money for housing loans.

#### **Motion 1.**

Motion: The SNG Community Development Committee recommends approval of the following changes to the properties located at 2500-2508 37<sup>th</sup> Avenue South:

- sale of a small parcel of property from 2500 to 2504 37<sup>th</sup> Ave. S.
- obtain an "official" driveway for 2508 37<sup>th</sup> Ave. S.
- relocate the existing easement across 2500 37<sup>th</sup> Ave. S. to enter from 36<sup>th</sup> Ave. S.
- relocate the current garage structure at 2500 37<sup>th</sup> Ave. S. and expand it

Bob Hain moved and Sheldon Mains seconded. Motion passed. Robin Garwood abstained.

**All in favor. Motion passed.**

#### **Motion 2.**

Motion: The SNG Community Development Committee recommends approval of the extended hours for Solcana Crossfit. Sheldon Mains moved and Katie Nissly seconded. Motion passed. Robin Garwood and Brian Miller abstained.

**All in favor. Motion passed.**

#### **Motion 3.**

Motion: The SNG Community Development Committee recommends that NRP program income received to date be allocated as follows:

- Housing Coordinator Position                      \$20,000
- Interest Reduction Program                      \$15,000
- Revolving Loan Fund                      Remaining Funds (approx. \$50,000)

Brian Miller moved and Sheldon Mains seconded. Motion passed. Robin Garwood abstained.

**All in favor. Motion passed.**

#### **Motion 4.**

Motion: The SNG Community Development Committee recommends SNG continue its contract with the Center for Energy and Environment (CEE) for one more year for the following reasons:

- SNG staff has been satisfied with CEE performance in administering SNG's loans
- The volume of loans should be enough to justify the \$5,000 annual fee
- Canceling our contract with CEE and executing a new contract will result in additional downtime for the programs
- Getting the word out to residents and getting the new organization up to speed will take time and may cause glitches in the programs.

Sheldon Mains moved and Ken Webb seconded. Motion passed. Robin Garwood abstained.

**All in favor. Motion passed.**

#### **Motion 5.**

Motion: The SNG Community Development Committee would like to thank Council Member Warsame's office and Marcela Sotela for their work on the Franklin/Cedar/Minnehaha Avenue project. Sheldon Mains moved and Ken Webb seconded. Motion passed. Robin Garwood abstained.

**All in favor. Motion passed.**

#### **Motion 6.**

Motion: The SNG Community Development Committee requests the City and County set up a meeting for all stakeholders (businesses and residents) about the proposed changes to the Franklin/Cedar/Minnehaha intersection and the use of 22<sup>nd</sup> Street for truck traffic prior to the development of final plans. Brian Miller moved and Peter Truax seconded. Motion passed. Robin Garwood abstained.

**All in favor. Motion passed.**

#### **7:06 New Business**

##### **Agenda**

Diann proposes we set up some guidelines about how you get on the agenda. We ask that agenda items come in at least a week before the meeting.

Bob says perhaps we don't need a formal rule, but let the staff know they don't have to bend over backwards to add people to the agenda. Ask if people are going to take 5-10 minutes to determine how they should be placed in the agenda. People can come to the meeting and discuss their issues during "New Business".

##### **Towers Update**

Now an 86 million dollar project! Additional money from the MN Housing Finance Committee. Hearing next Tuesday. Projects out for bids. Bob asks about recycling bins and garbage areas at the Towers. The Environment Committee may have an opportunity to work with management at the Towers to work on recycling efforts. Brian Miller of Redesign is interested in working with residents at the Towers to work towards home ownership.

## **Finance**

We're working with Lottsa Accounting. They've got us caught up, and we've put a couple new systems into place. Our last debts to the city are taken care of--the last of the debacle. We've also received bill for insurance.

## **Restorative Justice**

15 conferences, 6 of which were Somali kids. Continued work with Abdi.

**7:15**

## **GOAL A: Inclusiveness**

### **Updates:**

1. Ashley has found translation resources for Welcome Packets. The translation is in process.
2. Community Building Committee has been meeting. Ashley has coordinated translation. We have discussed the NNO outreach by Board members. Business outreach is on hold until after King's Fair. Volunteer opportunities at Open Streets, King's Fair, NNO and other events. Community Conversations ran up against not enough volunteers, additionally it was Ramadan. Bob would like to re-engage and get going in the next few months. Nasra has had two Seward Child Care Co-op events at the Towers. Ashley and Nasra are tracking down and working with the Cedar Cultural center to find East African artists and musicians for King's Fair and Open Streets.

Ashley plans to partner with more artists through the Cedar Cultural Center to increase the diversity in performers and work directly in the neighborhood in about a years time. It could work very well for the Frolic! We could talk to the Playwright's Center.

Monday night is a movie at Matthews park with an ice cream social and discussion beforehand.

**Monday August 31, Community Building Committee 6:30 @SNG**

### **Next Steps:**

1. Record data/better track who is participating. Determine ways to get different communities involved. Officially form the Nominations committee next month. Maybe do a survey at King's Fair.
2. We could partner with SCCA to engage immigrant-own businesses. Tom had written a letter. What about a Welcome New Businesses folder?

**Bob moves to adjourn. Peter F. seconds. All i favor. Meeting adjourned.**

**7:49 Adjourn**