

RNA November 9, 2020 Minutes

Minutes by Allen Field

Meeting via Zoom was called to order at 6:34 pm by Chair Debby Hochhalter.

Board Members Present: Debby Hochhalter, Brian Hochhalter, Allen Field, Kamal Belkhat, Peter Forrest, Claire Cofsky, Denise Hare, Simon Kipersztok, Albert Kaufman, Heather Flint Chatto, JoAnne Knowles, Madeleine Anderson-Clark, Leslie Poston

Board Members Absent: all present

Others Present: Doug Klotz, Salma Huque, Rob Nosse, Mark Huson, M. Hanchrow, Viviane Libson, Greg Petras, Gordon Hillesland, Roger Jones, Maria Schnell, Peter Robinson

Ground rules and Land Acknowledgement read

October Meeting Minutes: Allen moved, Denise 2nd, passes with everyone voting Yes except Peter and Heather abstaining

Announcements:

- Heather states that deadline to comment on Historic Resources Code proposed changes extended to Nov 10th noon

Crime & Safety: No officer present even though Allen reached out to 3 officers

AGENDA ITEMS

(Debbie adds Executive Session item and sets over Communications Budget to next meeting)

1. Rob Nosse, House Dist 42 Rep. Presentation:

Rob discussed what to watch out for in Oregon on the political scene in the next few months. House Democrats still have a super majority but not a quorum proof super majority to prevent future walkouts by Republicans. Rumor has it that Brown might accept position in Biden administration if offered, so Secretary of State Fagan would fill governor seat. He discussed the ballot measures that passed, and changes to current programs.

Q&A followed:

- Allen asked question re high number catalytic converter theft; he is working with Richmond resident on possible ideas.
- Heather asked about changes in goal 5 on land-use resources
- Kamal asked if not having a quorum proof super majority will prevent reaching climate goals

- Brian asked how the decriminalization of small amounts of drugs will work with federal law that still criminalizes these drugs
- Simon asked if there's any infrastructure re dispensing and use of Psilocybin
- Albert brought up gas leaf blower issue

2. Airborne Diesel Particulates: Greg Bourget was a no-show

3. Donation Request re plaza at Hawthorne and 37th: Roger Jones (HBBA) explained that HBBA looking to 37th and (south side) Hawthorne to develop plaza to create a more viable sense of place. 37th & south side of Hawthorne was blocked off to traffic for 3 months and now reopened. Will close street for weekends in November and December. Venture Portland awarded grant for project and urged HBBA to get matching funds from community. Heather showed drawing of 37th and Hawthorne in blocked off form that was submitted to city. Heather suggested \$500 donation, \$250 - \$500.

Comments followed: Madeleine voiced complaints about Bagdad noise and not being respectful of neighbors, doesn't want it centered on Bagdad. Kamal worried about safety issue of people congregating, even if outside, Albert voiced his support for an outdoor plaza, as did Leslie, Allen stated confusion as to what the money would be for and what the project is. Peter expressed concerns about impact to neighbors. Heather said she could present next month breakdown of what money would be used for

Motion by Albert to donate \$1000, second by Leslie. Discussion: Denise worried that not enough outreach to neighbors has occurred and about impacts on neighbors, asked Board to take a pause on this. Albert stated his support of helping with this project. Allen restated that he was unsure what the money was for, what exactly the design and project is, and if it's a temporary or permanent change to that spot.

Vote: motion failed

- Yes: Albert, Leslie
- No: Denise, Madeleine, Kamal, Claire, Peter, JoAnne
- Abstain: Allen, Heather, Brian, Debby, Simon

Motion by Albert to donate \$500, second by Leslie

Vote: motion passes

- Yes: Claire, Albert, Leslie, Heather, Brian, Simon
- No: Madeline, Kamal, Denise, Peter
- Abstain: Allen, Joanne, Debby

4. PDX Mainstreet Guidelines adoption: topic set over to next month

5. **Executive Session**: Public asked to leave the meeting and sign back in in 15 minutes if they want to do here any vote on the issue.

Board discuss matter in executive session. Board came out of executive session to vote on motion by Albert second by Brian to deny claim and request hearing and pay \$102 fee.

Committee Reports

- **Treasurer** (Simon): total balance over \$19,000
- **Annual Tree Planting** (Allen): reported that Friends of Trees is do a Dec. 5 planting with two sessions, 25 people maximum
- **Richmond Cleanup**: No report.
- **Richmond Ready**: No report, no coordinator
- **Sustainability Committee** (Kamal): Will submit short piece for newsletter
- **Land Use/Planning/Transportation & Land Use** (Heather): Reported on land-use meeting which was sparsely attended but they finalized and voted on a Historic Resources letter. Mount Tabor adopted Main Street guidelines for Division and Hawthorne, HAND adopted them for all their main streets and adopt a special buildings list. Reminded people that Nov 10 is last day to give testimony on Historic Resources Code.
- **PDX Main Street Design Initiative representative** (Heather): Solar company she is working with won 2nd round of grant competition and will move onto next round of grant process.
- **Hawthorne Blvd Bus. Association Representative**: (Heather)
- **Division/Clinton Business Association Representative** (Leslie): Leslie had to leave, no report.
- **Hawthorne Blvd Bus. Association Representative** (Heather): Looking to do Harvest event Nov 21 & 22, Echo Theater working on mural, and a Christmas-related event Dec 19 & 20.
- **SE Examiner Neighborhood Notes Writer** - Minutes-taker (Allen) will write it.
- **Richmond Newsletter Editor** –Simon mentioned Albert’s request to put an article about leaf blowers, he suggested a compromise that Albert contribute a 2 to 3 paragraph article and Simon will edit. Heather will help Simon with layout.
- **SEUL Rep.** (Allen) The Bylaws Amendment Committee was start in the new year. In the Announcements, Denise had mentioned that the tenant at Vibe had left the property owned by SEUL on Division. New part-time person hired
- **Sewallcrest Park/Community Spaces** (Allen): No report.
- **Liquor Licenses/GNAs** (Allen): Nothing to report. But, with earlier reference to GNA idea on Hawthorne and 37th, it’s too early to be discussing GNA before the plan in known for this “plaza.”

Meeting adjourned 8:40, next RNA Meeting November 9, 2020

