

Minutes of June 18, 2018 Board Meeting
Claremont Hotel, Berkeley Room

Present: Carolyn Burgess
Steve Hanson
Chris Johnson
Dave McGuinness
Julie Nachtwey
Sue Piper
Elizabeth Stage

Absent: Edgar Antonio, excused
Silviu Angelescu, excused
Ken Cohen, excused

Meeting was called to order at 7:103 pm

1. Minutes of May 21 Board meeting approved as mailed.
2. Treasurer's Report—Treasurer Dave McGuinness reported that he made a \$150 donation to Montclair Presbyterian Church in recognition of their donating the use of their meeting room for our Public Safety Committee meetings, and that we received a \$25 donation. Our account currently has \$14, 246. It was noted that our credit card had expired and that our insurance coverage had lapsed, along with payment of the monthly fee to our web host. Dave will renew the insurance and upload the new credit card number to our account with the webhost. Next month he will provide a written report in time to go out with the agenda.
3. Public Safety Committee
 - a. May 24th meeting was a success with Council Member Rebecca Kaplan and new Area Captain Christ Bolton, along with a presentation by Supervising Fire Inspector Vince Crudele on upcoming inspections.
 - b. Next Public Safety Committee meeting is in August. Carolyn has invited PG&E to attend to talk about their plans for increased fire safety. A concern was raised about what PG&E is doing with its gas lines in case of an earthquake, as gas fires are a leading cause of fatalities and injuries following an earthquake.
 - c. Vegetation Management Plan

- i. NHCA's letter was sent to the Vegetation Management Consultants with copies to the City Council Members, the Mayor and the City Administrator.
 - ii. To keep pressure on the City to expand the Draft Plan so that includes more specificity, Steve Hanson, Carolyn Burgess, Sue Piper and Jon Kaufman from the Claremont Canyon Conservancy met with Council Member Dan Kalb (D1) who promised to ask the Rules Committee to schedule a report to the Public Safety Committee at its July 10 meeting. Sue and Carolyn then met with Council Member Noel Gallo, who sits on Public Safety, who said he would follow up with Dan Kalb.
 - iii. Wildfire Prevention Advocates are asked to attend the July 10 Public Safety Committee meeting show support for additional specificity in the Draft Vegetation Management Plan.
 - iv. The Board approved signing a "My Word" column that will be submitted to the East Bay Times and signed by the Claremont Canyon Conservancy, Friends of Beaconsfield Canyon, Friends of Sausal Creek, Piedmont Pines Neighborhood Association, the Oakland Firesafe Council and the Oakland Landscape Committee. It will be sent to the newspaper later this week.
 - v. The "team" of advocates are waiting to schedule meetings with Mayor Schaaf, Councilmember Rebecca Kaplan and Council Member Abel Guillen.
4. Communications Committee
- a. The Committee deferred action until the June 23 Retreat which will help guide messaging on our various methods of outreach.
 - b. They agreed that a redo of the NHCA website would be a significant undertaking and that they association should probably hire someone to manage that work. Designs for signage and stationery should be standardized and reflect how NHCA wants to present itself, based on our discussions at the retreat.
 - c. Moderating Open Forum—the rules are at the bottom of each posting, Chris will send out the guidelines to the Board for future discussion
 - d. Carolyn distributed post cards that each Board member was asked to distribute to their neighbors, to increase NHCA's visibility.
5. Retreat
- a. Confirmed for Saturday, June 24 at the Claremont Hotel (Berkeley Room). Set for 10-2 pm (pending confirmation with the facilitator, Nina Senn).
 - b. Chris and Steve will meet with Nina prior to the retreat to work out the agenda. Both Steve and Chris said that their vision for the outcome of

the retreat was to reconfirm our objects to make sure that the association is going in the right direction—in particular in terms of board participation, community involvement and clear communication on our message. Chris added that outreach and communication are critical.

6. Garden Committee—
 - a. Sue Piper reported that with the help of several Woofers in the past few weeks, much progress has been made on weeding in the Firestorm Memorial Garden. Gordon worked with three high school students in the Firestorm Memorial Garden today and will work tomorrow with two of them.
 - b. Volunteers from the Skyline Community Church are scheduled to work in Gateway on Saturday, July 7. We are expecting about 30 volunteers.
 - c. The Oakland Firesafe Council received \$2,000 from the Claremont Hotel, as previously committed. The funds are earmarked for use in maintaining the Gateway Exhibit Center and Garden.
 - d. Gordon Piper has signed up for Chevron's Week of Caring in September. They typically send teams of volunteers for 3 to 5 days to work in both the Firestorm Memorial and Gateway Gardens.

7. The meeting was adjourned at 8:19 pm.