

Minutes of April 23, 2018 Board Meeting
Claremont Hotel, Berkeley Room

Present: Edgar Antonio
Carolyn Burgess
Steve Hanson
Chris Johnson
Julie Nachtwey
Sue Piper
Elizabeth Stage

Absent: Dave McGuinness, Excused
Silviu Angelescu
Ken Cohen

Guest: Gordon Piper

Meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm

As there was no quorum at the March 23 meeting no quorum, no approval of minutes required.

1. Annual Meeting Review

What went well:

- Good energy in the room.
- Well organized.
- Power point.
- Not having people sign in.
- Sabrina spoke well.
- Auction was sensational.
- Great work on the part of volunteers / solicitation.
- Great meeting organization.
- Good physical space / table arrangements.
- Good information sharing.

What didn't go well?

- Low attendance compared to prior meetings.

What recommendations for next time?

- Strategize on speaker choice: Barbara Lee to come speak about how what happens in Washington affects Oakland. If not Barbara Lee, consider asking Oakland Mayor (Libby or whomever). Warriors coach.
 - Do a better job advance announcing (e.g., other channels besides email). Leverage the public safety meeting to announce the annual public meeting.
2. Treasurer's Report—No report received; Discussed need for second signatory on the Wells Fargo Account and the practice of distributing a monthly financial report with the agenda prior to each meeting.
3. 2018-19 Officers
- Chair: Steve Hanson
 - Vice Chair: Elizabeth Stage
 - Vice Chair Public Safety: Carolyn Burgess/Elizabeth Stage back up
 - Treasurer: Dave McGuiness/Back Up tbd
 - Secretary: Sue Piper
- Communications Chair: Chris Johnson
Garden Committee Chair: Edgar Antonio

Note: The Bylaws state that no individual shall serve more than 5 years in one position.

4. Communications Committee
- a. Chris will review our current communications and last year's Communications Plan and will present his observations/proposal at the next Board Meeting. His review will include a review of the website. Elizabeth Stage will proceed with ordering NHCA Note Cards for thank you notes.
 - b. Steve Hanson noted that advocacy letters were sent to the City re our support of improvements to Antioch Court in Montclair and concerns about high fuel load in the 24/13 corridor. It was suggested that these letters be posted on the website with appropriate announcement via social media to make the Board's advocacy efforts more transparent.
 - c. Noted that Kay Loughman and Dave McGuiness have the keys to the PO Box, which primarily receives donation envelopes.
 - d. Coordination with other organizations: Sue Piper noted that she is chair of the Oakland Firesafe Council, and that Edgar and Gordon are members of the Oakland Wildland Stewards (OWLS) so that there is representation from these groups with similar concerns. The Board discussed ways for better liaison with the Claremont Canyon Conservancy and other neighborhood groups within NHCA. It was

suggested that their leaders be specifically invited to Board meetings when there is an item on the agenda that would be of interest. Eventually, our hope is to have an actual representative serving on the board.

5. Public Safety Committee

- a. Carolyn Burgess is checking with Patricia Rose in the City to ensure that our banner design meets their specifications, and then will order the banner. The Post Card has been okayed and is ready to print. Both of these items must be approved before the May 15 Grant deadline.
- b. The next Public Safety Committee meeting is May 24 with Fire Inspector Vince Crudele and his two new permanent inspectors on the agenda. Councilmember Rebecca Kaplan has been invited to talk about the city's plans and actions concerning the growing homeless population. Gordon suggested we invite someone to talk about mail/package theft, as it has been a growing issue on Open Forum.
- c. Sue Piper suggested considering a message warning parents about the consequences of their teenagers partying on public property (such as the EBMUD reservoir above the Country Club, which was a problem last year). We could let parents know the dollar amounts of fines should authorities catch trespassers, including loss of provisional drivers' license.

Key Issues:

- a.. Fire Safety:
 - Support OFD Budget Request in upcoming mid-cycle budget hearings. It was moved, seconded and unanimously approved that the NCHA Board advocate to the City in support of the Oakland Fire Department request for an additional \$450,000 from the General Fund for fire safety. Board members and others are encouraged to attend Council meetings in support of this effort:
 - Draft Budget for Council submitted by ay 29
 - 1st Hearing and review likely June 5
 - 2nd and 3rd hearing in open meetings with final vote schedule for most likely June 26th.
- b. Vegetation Management Plan—Sue reported that the Oakland Wildland Stewards (OWLS) are meeting at her house on Wednesday, April 25 to prepare positions in expectation of the upcoming release of the Oakland Vegetation Management Plan. Board members are encouraged to attend as many of the public meetings as possible to advocate for a strong Vegetation Management Plan. Sue will provide content of position based on the meeting(s) with OWLS.

6. Development Committee—on hold until we have something specific.
7. Garden Committee—
 - a. Edgar noted that the committee has 2 options for developing the garden plan—an out of state volunteer and a local designer. He and Gordon will follow up and present recommendation at a future meeting. He noted that he and Gordon submitted expenses for reimbursement but have yet to receive reimbursement.
 - b. Sue Piper noted that the Oakland Firesafe Council has requested \$2,000 from the Claremont Hotel, as previously committed. The funds are earmarked for use in maintaining the Gateway Exhibit Center and Garden.
 - c. Gordon Piper reported several new partners helping in the gardens: Break A Difference – a national nonprofit brought out 35 college students in the spring; volunteers from the Claremont Hotel worked at Gateway on April 20, and 2 Eagle Scouts from the Piedmont Council have committed to working with the committee. We hope to develop a long-term partnership with the Piedmont Council of the Boy Scouts.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm