



MEETING MINUTES

November 30, 2021, 7:00 PM (Via Zoom) (37 participants)

Welcome – President Amy Allgeyer

Roll Call – Julie Varin, Secretary. Present: President Amy Allgeyer, Vice President Drew Alexander, Secretary Julie Varin, Treasurer Nola Walker, Director Autumn Street, Director Julie Madsen, Director Sitka Koloski, Director Carlos Coto, Director Sarah Foregger. Absent: Director Daniel Foregger.

Secretary's Report: Secretary/Director Julie Varin summarized several recent board actions as set forth in [Board Actions Without a Meeting](#).

Seat New Board Member – President Amy Allgeyer announced that the Board had unanimously voted to elect Dallas Gudgell to fill the remaining vacancy.

MOTION TO SEAT DALLAS GUDGELL. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report - Treasurer Nola Walker presented the Treasurer's Report outlining the expenditures, as well as the amounts remaining in the NENA accounts.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Candle Lantern Parade – Treasurer/Director Nola Walker reported on the upcoming Candle Lantern Parade. This year NENA created candle lantern kits to create a magical candle lantern. These kits were dropped off at Goody's. The event will include a special visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus, caroling, and a fire truck. The community officer will be there to interact with neighbors.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Streets Committee – Cynthia Gibson reported on a number of safe street projects and priorities. Some issue include:

- A reminder that 13th Street will be under construction for 2022 to install traffic calming measures.

- The ACHD will be presenting its Integrated Five-Year Work Plan. The public comment period was in November; ACHD received about 150 comments; Thank you to everyone who submitted comments
- The Streets Committee has lost its 8th Street representative. Cynthia made a call to anyone who lives on 8th Street who would like to join the Streets Committee.
- The NENA Board approved two grants to further safe streets in the form of two types of yard signs:
 - One of the signs notes the speed limit is 20 mph and is yellow and red. Laura Bainbridge will handle these
 - The 8th and 9th speed limit is 25 mph. These signs ask people to slow down. These signs should be ready next week, and those interested in putting a sign in their yards should let Cynthia know.
- ACHD is looking at doing a bike infrastructure project on 8th street near the Boise Coop. They have not revealed what this will look like.
- Best way to contact Cynthia is to email her. Director Autumn Street will post her email on the NENA website.
- Director Dallas Gudgell said he will find a neighbor to be the 8th street representative or will serve as the representative if no else volunteers.

P&Z Committee Update – Erik Hagen (erik@erikhagen.com).

- **Alturas Heights** passed through P&Z with no discussion, The decision has been appealed by one of the neighbors and is going to City Council, and neighbors will have another opportunity to comment.
- **Other Projects of Note**
 - **Residential Tower on 16th and State** – variance to reduce the parking.
 - **TRICA** – Erik met with the director of TRICA and went over the requirements of a CUP event. One requirement of the CUP is that TRICA post a calendar of events, but no public events have yet occurred. They had a trial wedding reception and are going to work out the kinks.
 - **Booth Block** – Erik met with Ben Semple (the developer) and went over the status (changed hands over the years). They are making some changes to the approved projects that Erik thought may be concerning.
- **Misc. Issues**
 - Fielding a lot of questions on lot coverage;
 - Talking about micro cellular regulations (5G) right now mobile companies can just put a micro cell tower on any poles;
 - Requirements re short term rentals and ADUs; if have multiple uses, it must be owner-occupied even though multiple units being rented out;
 - Pathways approved to provide bike pathways.
- **Questions/Discussion**
 - **TRICA**

- The calendar requirement is just for public events and not private events? Response: TRICA is allowed to have one event a month and others can rent for events up to 350 people. For these larger events, TRICA has to arrange for parking. TRICA is required to include on the calendar any of these larger-group events.
- **Short-Term Rentals**
 - What is occurring with short-term rentals? Response: Currently, STRs are not regulated, and the plan is to pass some regulations.
 - P&Z only discussed whether regulations are needed; they agreed they were needed and this issue will be moved up the calendar.
 - As there currently are no regulations governing STRs, neighbors may only complain about noise or nuisances - if already restricted. This has been difficult to enforce.
 - Suggested that we should be collecting data from neighbors. How could this be captured so we can go in speaking with some facts? Response: Erik has his email chain on this issue, and he has received two emails. Erik plans to address data collection with the City
 - Is there a better mechanism than just contacting Erik? Response: Erik does not mind because then it's in the record at least; he is copied on comments to the city.
 - Member inquired what are the consequences if not owner-occupied? Response: If it is only a house, there is no owner-occupied requirement. If there is an ADU, the owner must live on-site. If the owner does not live on-site as required, you may file a complaint with code enforcement.
 - Is there a penalty? Response: There used to be a \$1500 fine, but not sure if this is still true.
 - Director Carlos Coto suggested that we do a survey regarding STRs now. President Amy Allgeyer agreed this was a good idea, and Director Autumn Street offered to create a survey/questionnaire to be shared with neighbors.
- **Booth Project**
 - Treasurer/Director Nola Walker inquired whether they have applied for a variance regarding the demolition of historic buildings. Response: Two buildings to be maintained as historic. The Chapel building was deemed not historically significant, and now they are going to demolish it because there are structural issues. This decision has been made.
- **State and 16th Project**
 - Director Drew Alexander asked whether the project has already been approved. Response: the project has been approved, and now they seek a revision to the parking requirements. This request is

subject to administrative review approval, which is usually addressed in a day, but already a week has passed.

Historic Preservation Committee – Co-Chair Kate Henwood provided an update on several priority issues:

- Co-Chair Suzanne Yehle has been very diligent about attending neighborhood meetings and connecting with as many as applicants as possible with the intent of minimizing surprises and helping applicants.
- Both Historic Commission meetings were cancelled – special make-up meeting scheduled on December 16, 2021; otherwise it is December 27, 2021.
- Ted Vanegas departed, as well as Cody Riddle – we wish them well, but this means there are some vacancies.
- Mark Baltus will be attending a listening session re ADUs and small houses. In addition, Mark and Kate will be attending a Parks and Rec meeting re Lowell Pool on December 9th.
- **Trees**
 - Co- Chair Suzanne reiterated that the committee is paying attention to trees; neighbors saw a tree going down with a permit and sprung into action. The Committee shared information with homeowner and proper process will be followed for second tree
 - Another application – Suzanne and Kate found out a way to save the tree by contacting forestry and this was a huge win.
 - Discussion regarding the State Christmas Tree. The State needed a Christmas Tree for the Capitol steps and contacted a North End homeowner who had a tree that was too close to the home. The State did not procure a Certificate of Appropriateness before cutting down the tree, but NENA has contacted the homeowner to ensure the proper process is followed for next year when the State cuts down another tree for the next year's Christmas Tree. This was not the homeowner's fault in this instance, as the homeowner understandably assumed the State had followed the proper process.
 - Director Autumn Street has been communications with the homeowner and she will pass along the process for next year; and tree education is ongoing process; and it's been in newsletter and previous iteration of the website
 - Suzanne has reached out to arborist by the City and sent letters; code compliance can fine the owner but not the arborists; if arborists were getting fined, problem would go away.
 - Dan Everhard from Historic Preservation will be doing a presentation to the Historic Preservation Commission because commissioners are not very experienced and give them a primer on the importance of preserving trees.

MISC. ISSUES

Update HPSF Transition – Carlos Coto presented an update regarding transitioning the HPSF into its own entity.

- Carlos contacted Boise Parks and inquired about whether they objected to HPSF transitioning to its own entity, and they are receptive to the idea. Carlos confirmed that NENA needs a written agreement confirming its grandfathered status for events at Camel's Back Park. The City has said as long as NENA does not change the date of the fair, we should not encounter any problems with the grandfathered status.
- President Amy Allgeyer asked whether the agreement was in writing and whether the City planned to provide an agreement? Amy said she would follow up with the City on this issue.
- Questionnaire has been sent to sponsors to ascertain their views on the idea.
- Discussion
 - Suggested that we obtain accounting and legal advice before proceeding. It was agreed this was a good idea, and that many questions remain.

Database Presentation – Sheri Edmond presented on a Salesforce database that NENA could use to organize and retain its corporate records.

- Sheri was able to obtain a free license upon showing proof of NENA's nonprofit status. The Salesforce database is commonly used by businesses.
- Sheri has uploaded all member information and can use this information to produce a membership list on request. Included thus far are the individuals who have showed up to vote – approximately 400 email addresses and cell phone numbers. NENA could use this contact information to communicate directly with members on key issues.
- The database could also be used to store member comments on important issues and also to store NENA-related emails that may otherwise be lost in individual directors personal accounts. May also use the database to track volunteers and to store corporate documents and files in a central repository.
- **Discussion**
 - Director Sarah Foregger asked Sheri whether she was a trained Salesforce representative. Response: Yes, and Sheri volunteered to administer the database at no charge to NENA.
 - Sarah provided a list of pros and cons concerning the database based on her experience.
 - Cons included that the database was akin to nailing a nail with a sledgehammer, and Sarah commented that it can be difficult to pull information from the database and to create reports. Sheri responded this had not been her experience, and she is happy to provide a training session.

- Pros included that the database is impenetrable, and therefore information would be protected.

NEW BUSINESS

D&O Insurance –

- Vice President Drew Alexander reported that NENA would likely not be renewing its D&O Insurance because the cost for the insurance has risen from \$800 a year with no deductible, to \$20,000 a year with a \$35,000 deductible. Therefore, NENA would have to pay \$55,000 before seeing any benefit from the insurance. Drew noted that NENA did not have D&O insurance until 2017, and none of the other NAs carry D&O insurance – even those currently facing controversial issues.
- Drew outlined some of the other options including contacting the City to see if they would be receptive to paying for NAs D&O insurance. This is done in other cities.
- Idaho law provides protections for volunteers of nonprofits, including immunity from personal liability and potential indemnification of directors and other volunteers.
- Legal counsel can also assist NENA in implementing indemnification provisions and other protections in NENA's bylaws.
- **Discussion**
 - Considerable discussion was allowed with multiple neighbors expressing comments and concerns.
 - Noted that the Board resolution providing for indemnification of directors applies to past, current, and future directors.
 - Additional discussion regarding past expenditures on legal fees.
 - Suggested that we need a conversation about how we move forward from the recent past events.
 - A committee comprising Erik Hagen, Drew Alexander, Dallas Gudgell, and Amy Allgeyer was informally convened to investigate the recent events affecting NENA.
 - It was agreed that the Board would do a deep dive into the NENA financials for the past few years. Director Carlos Coto noted that audits are very expensive.

Candle Lantern Parade

- Treasurer Nola Walker inquired if anyone wanted to be Mrs. Claus for the event. Director Sarah Foregger clarified for any children listening that Nola was looking for someone to contact Mrs. Claus.

Motion to Adjourn, by Secretary Julie Varin, and seconded by President Amy Allgeyer.
Motion carried.

Adjourned at 9:50 p.m.