SE Uplift NEIGHBORHOOD COALITION

Collaborating with the District 3 community to build informed, inclusive, and participatory neighborhoods that support our social and ecological well-being.

May 2026 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

Monday, May 4, 2026 | 7 – 9pm

In-person: 3534 SE Main Street

Via Zoom: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/92334943945 | Meeting ID: 923 3494 3945

This meeting is for the Board of Directors to conduct organizational business. As such, only board members actively participate in discussions unless otherwise noted in the agenda or at the discretion of the President. Guests are welcome to observe.

ATTENDANCE

Board Members present:

- Brentwood-Darlington NA – Kimberly DiLeo
- Buckman - Daniel Te
- Foster-Powell NA – Ryan Sooley
- Hosford-Abernathy Neighborhood District (HAND) – Peggy McDaniel
- Kerns NA – Elizabeth Armstrong
- Laurelhurst - Steven Fisher
- Montavilla – Adam Fiss
- Mt. Scott-Arleta NA – Daniel Portis-Cathers
- North Tabor NA - Austin Davis
- Roseway NA - Ash Hester (President)
- Sunnyside NA – Chris Waldmann
- 82nd Ave BA – Nancy Chapin
- HBBA: Dresden de Vera
- At Large – Sharon Wynde
- At Large - Chris Hansen
- At Large: Rachel Davies
- At Large: Matt Lembo

Board Members absent:

- Brooklyn Action Committee - Debbie Dicks
- Black + Beyond the Binary Collective – Mireaya Medina

Board Members sending regrets:

- Creston-Kenilworth NA - Amit Zinman
- Madison South - Travis Saner-Hathaway
- Rose City Park NA – Don Levine

Staff present:

- Nanci Champlin (Executive Director)
- Sarah Bunger, Grantmaking Manager and Operations Manager

Guests:

- Allen Field (Richmond NA)

BOARD DISCUSSION MEETING

7:02 Call Meeting to Order - *Ash Hester, President*

7:04 Executive Director Update - *Nanci Champlin, Executive Director*

- The Mayor's budget did not include any cuts to the Neighborhood Association system
- Budget Town Hall event occurred on April 26th and was well attended- about 125 people. Over 20 people testified. The City Councillors reported that it was very helpful to hear directly from constituents. Another similar event is happening tomorrow, 5/5, at 6 pm via Zoom.
- The Grantee Mixer is planned for Thursday, 6/4, at 6 PM at the SE Uplift Outdoor Plaza to celebrate the projects that were awarded a Community Small Grant. Board members are encouraged to attend.
- Internship update: Joseph Emerson, a PSU grad student with Neighborhood Association Board member experience, will begin this week to create a program evaluation framework to help SE Uplift measure the impact of the organization's work in the community. Joseph will be interviewing Board members at the May 18th Executive Committee meeting and will present his evaluation framework during the June Board meeting.

<u>7:18</u> **Committee Reports** – Committee Chairs or as noted below

- Land Use + Transportation Committee - *Matchu Williams*
  Activities in April:
  - Strengthening NA understanding
    - Hosted training for NA groups on how to understand the Land Use notices from the city. Training focused on helping Neighborhood Association groups to read and evaluate the most critical aspects of the most common land use notifications sent by the City of Portland, how to find notifications, and how to respond.
  - Educating District 3 about the Inner East Side Zoning Project and how to participate in the community engagement opportunities

- Finance Committee - *Steven Fisher, Treasurer*
  - Q3 Financial Report (Q3 Income + Expenses w/Year-to-Date Budget to Actuals)
    - Steven reviewed the Quarter 3 Financial report and answered questions about line item details
      - An unexpected error by the payroll contractor resulted in 2 months of complimentary services plus a 25% discount for a year.
    - Steven reviewed the March Balance sheet and a new glossary for the organization acronyms contained in the Balance Sheet
    - Organizational highlight: Royal Rose Foundation supports harm reduction activities for District 3 residents (and beyond) in need.

- Community Care and Safety Taskforce – *Amit Zinman, Chair*
  - New toolkit on How to Start a Rapid Response Network with Your Neighbors)
    - Nanci presented the toolkit information in a meeting that was well attended. Feedback on the presentation was positive.
    - La Migra watch helps neighbors understand how to watch for and respond to ICE activity in their community
    - Mutual Aid Fair in July - all are welcome! More details to come.

- Executive Committee - *Ash Hester, Board President*
  - The ED Review will be discussed in executive session later in the meeting

7:53 Board Discussion: ONI Standards and Update

- Nanci met with other District Coalition Executive Directors to align on strategy and approach
- Nanci reviewed an overview of program changes to the city code that defines the Neighborhood Association Code 3.96.
  - In 2024, the city code 3.96 was changed in an omnibus ordinance that lacked notification to the NAs or District Coalitions. This has some important implications:
    - The code change redefined the Office of Neighborhood Involvement (ONI) Standards as "administrative rules" (rather than "regulations" approved by City Council). This removed City

Council as the final adopter of any changes to the ONI Standards, making it easier for a City Administrator to change the Standards without robust community input.

- Removed Civic Life from the definition of the Standards (aka ONI Standards- the rules that govern the Neighborhood Program) which suggests they are not bound to abide by the Standards. We are seeking clarification about this.
- Appears to change Civic Life from being a program partner to just a program administrator
- Civic Life proposes to accept input on changes to the ONI Standards over the summer months, with intent to have the new rules take effect in December 2026 so Civic Life can launch a Request for proposals for the District Coalition contracts in January 2027. Those would be awarded before June 30 (effective date 7/1/2027). Nonprofits would have to compete for District Coalition contracts for greater transparency and accountability.
- Requests for the stakeholder review committee as already outlined in the Standards have been repeatedly denied by the Chief Engagement Officer, Amanda Garcia Snell.

Discussion topics included

- Need for advocating for the value of Neighborhood Associations, including the actual demographics and age ranges of active NA groups
- SE Uplift's main goal is to focus on revising the current ONI Standards to have good processes for Neighborhood Coalition contracts and stakeholder involvement for future changes
- SE Uplift's goals are to win the review Committee outlined in the Standards and press Civic Life for this in the spirit of collaboration, rather than taking an adversarial or defensive approach to the proposed changes.
- It may be a faster approach to speak with the City Administrator and seek a City Council vote on the matter. However, this may not be the best way to build a positive working relationship with Amanda Garcia-Snell.
- Board members expressed verbal agreement with the approach of using diplomacy to engage in a collaborative effort to provide input on the changes to code 3.96.

- A joint letter from all 4 District Coalitions is being drafted requesting a pause from the City Administrator to slow things down. Nanci will share the letter with the board once it is fully drafted.

8:23 Executive Session

- Annual ED Goals, Accomplishments + Evaluation
- <u>Fiscal Management</u>:
  - Accomplishments: increased revenue; successful advocacy with Civic Life; partnership with Urban Forestry
  - Goals: recruiting finance committee member; achieving 100% tenant occupancy; develop investment policy; draft strategy for use of funds earned from Tabor Commons property sale; collaborate with board on routine review of financial policies; foster ways to engage board members in understanding financial reports
- <u>Board Relations</u>:
  - Accomplishments: filled treasurer role and clarified process for renewing board members
  - Goals: reduce board administrator load; establish board skills and interest assessment; support smooth board officer elections; fill neighborhood association board vacancies; recruit at least one new board member from a community-based organization; increase board involvement in SE Uplift events, committees, and advocacy efforts.
- <u>Planning:</u>
  - Accomplishments: Internship with PSU
  - Goals: implement evaluation framework for Program evaluation; develop a 3-year strategic plan
- <u>Administration:</u>
  - Accomplishments: achieved 100% tenant occupancy (though not maintained), navigated personnel transitions without compromising work
  - Goals: process efficiencies for staff operations' staff retreat for work plan alignment

- PR/Communications:
  - Accomplishments: Strengthened D3 City Council relationships, piloted promotional partners strategy for district events
  - Goals: complete a mission-driven sale of Tabor Commons; Website streamlining; strengthening Neighborhood Program to elevate SE Uplift's reputation, build allies among city leadership, advocate for abandonment of RFP process, and participate in Standards update process ● Evaluation Survey Results Summary:
  - Nanci scored highly on financial management, board relations, public relations, communications, external partners, and planning. The vast majority of feedback areas was positive, and overall perception is that Nanci is an effective and respected Executive Director.
  - Opportunities for growth include administration of day-to-day operations, staff management, and program planning and management.
- The Board discussed suggestions for identifying professional development opportunities for Nanci in internal operations and staff management. There was an additional comment that an important area for growth for Nanci is in how she supports Neighborhood Association Boards struggling with conflict.
- In addition to professional development, an additional paid personal day was discussed as an award for Nanci.

9:08 The board discussion meeting adjourned.

BOARD BUSINESS MEETING

9:09 The board business meeting was called to order. – *Ash Hester, President*

Vote to Adopt the April Board Meeting Minutes

Motion *(Ash)*
Amended *( )*
Seconded *(Sharon Wynde)*
In favor 11
Opposed 0
Abstentions 4
Result: The motion passed.

9:10 Vote to Accept the March Balance Sheet as Presented

Motion *(Ash)*
Amended *( )*
Seconded *(Chris Hansen)*
In favor 15
Opposed 0
Abstentions 0
Result: The motion passed.

9:11 Vote to Accept the Q3 Financial Report as Presented Motion *(Ash)* To approve the April board meeting minutes. **Amended** *( )*
Seconded *(Chris Hansen)*
In favor 15
Opposed 0
Abstentions 0
Result: The motion passed.

9:13 Closing Comments - Ash Hester

9:13 The meeting adjourned. – Ash Hester, President

Next Board Meeting Monday, June 1st 7-9pm.

Minutes Approved (Date) ____________________________

Secretary Signature ____________________________