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.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

Monday, August 3, 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: OBJ

- Brooklyn Action Committee - Dandylion
- Buckman - Rabecca Rose
- Creston-Kenilworth - Joel Spector
- Foster-Powell NA – Lori Day-Reynolds
- Hosford-Abernathy Neighborhood District (HAND) – Peggy McDaniel
- Kerns NA – Daniel DeMelo
- Laurelhurst - Steven Fisher
- Montavilla – Adam Fiss
- Mt. Tabor - Drew Hogan
- Roseway NA - Ash Hester (President)
- Sunnyside NA – Chris Waldmann
- 82nd Ave BA – Nancy Chapin
- HBBA: Desden De Vera
- SOCCI - Roxanne Capparelli
- At Large: Sharon Wynde
- At Large: Rachel Davies
- At Large: Matt Lembo

Board Members absent:

- Madison South - Travis Saner-Hathaway
- Black + Beyond the Binary Collective – Mireaya Medina

Board Members sending regrets:

- Brentwood-Darlington NA – Kimberly DiLeo
- Mt. Scott-Arleta NA – Daniel Portis-Cathers
- North Tabor NA - Ross Hiner – not yet seated
- Rose City Park NA – Don Levine
- Chris Hansen - At Large

Staff present:

- Sarah Bunger (Grantmaking Manager)
- Diane Odeh (Fiscal Sponsorships Manager)

Guests:

- Allen Field (Richmond NA)
- Nancy Sewell (Rose City Park) to disseminate info to RCPNA when Don Levine is unable to attend.

BOARD DISCUSSION MEETING

7:03 **Call Meeting to Order -** *Ash Hester, President*

- Community Agreements were reviewed
- Recognition of Sharon Wynde for her years of service as she attends her final board meeting.
- Nancy Sewell Introduction (RCPNA rep when Don Levine is out of town. She does not have voting authority in his absence)
- Roxanne Capparelli introduction (new fiscal sponsorship organization and selected as board member). The Executive Committee recommended that she be seated in one of the open community organization seats
- Introduction and seating of new NA Reps:
    - Brooklyn: Dandylion
    - Buckman: Rabecca Rose
    - CKNA: Joel Spector
    - Kerns: Daniel DeMelo
    - Mt. Tabor: Drew Hogan

Vote to seat new board members: Motion to seat all new board members as a slate

Motion *(Ash)*	
Amended *(n/a)*	
Seconded *(Adam Fiss)*	
In favor	11
Opposed	0
Abstentions	0
Result:	**The motion passed unanimously.**

7:23 **Committee Updates**

Land Use + Transportation Committee – *Matchu Williams, Chair*

- **Executive Committee** – *Ash Hester, Chair*

- **Tabor Commons Task Force** – *Sharon Wynde*
    - Sharon reviewed the history of the decision to sell the Tabor Commons property
    - A private equity firm submitted a letter of intent to make an offer on the property in which SE uplift would retain a minority share of ownership. The buyer would borrow against the equity of the property and develop it, but no information is given or guaranteed about the type of development that would be put on the property. The Executive Committee does not support moving forward with the offer due to the potential financial risk (related to borrowing against the property's equity) for SE Uplift and the gap in mission alignment.
    - Daniel Portis-Cathers will take the leadership position of the committee after Sharon steps down.
    - Drew Hogan expressed interest in participating in the committee

- ***Climate Justice Committee*** – *Sarah Bunger*
    - SE Uplift is a promotional partner again for the tree giveaway from Urban Forestry
    - The project has a goal to distribute 1,000-2,000 trees in priority areas
    - Urban Forestry will make recommendations about the best tree for each person requesting a tree

- **Land Use + Transportation Committee** – *Matchu Williams, Chair*
    - The Portland City Government is updating its Tree Code this year.

        - Goals are to:
            - align with the government transition
            - reflect community priorities
            - work toward urban canopy targets
            - ensure equity among neighborhoods
            - clarify roles and responsibilities
        - Feedback solicited: portland.gov/trees/title-11/2026treecodeupdate
        - Project contact: treepolicycomments@portlandoregon.gov
    - Matchu reviewed the scope and activities of the Land Use and Transportation Committee as an introduction for new members.
    - In the upcoming meeting, the committee will be discussing the closure of I-5 for construction, the inner east-side zoning project, the outreach plan for the upcoming year, and the Board's recommended clarifying revisions to the committee charter defining quorum
    - The Board discussed participation by political advocacy organizations on the Land Use and Transportation Committee. Staff clarified that, because the committee serves only in an advisory capacity and does not make decisions on behalf of SE Uplift, participation by such organizations does not conflict with SE Uplift's nonprofit status. Matt Lembo also noted the importance of including a diversity of perspectives on the committee.

- **Community Care + Safety Taskforce** – *Travis Hathaway-Saner*
    - No representatives present - no update provided

- **Finance Committee** – *Steven Fisher, Treasurer*
    - Steven reviewed the role and activities of the finance committee as an introduction to new board members.
    - The FY 2025-2026 balance sheet was reviewed.
    - The Office of Civic Life gave SE Uplift $10,000 more at the end of the FY than anticipated. The budget report was updated and an approval vote was requested for the revision.
    - Also of note, SE Uplift earned more than anticipated in fiscal sponsorship fees, interest, and meeting room rent; tenant rent earned less than anticipated; utility expenses increased.
    - As a result of a positive budget year, SE Uplift's financial reserves were not used in FY 25-26
    - Due to budget shortfalls in the city and state governments, SE Uplift expects that budgets will get smaller in the upcoming years, and financial diversification will be needed to maintain a healthy financial state.

8:12 **Community Small Grants Program: Scoring Rubric –** *Sarah Bunger, Grantmaking Manager*

- SE Uplift receives $45,000 from the Office of Civic Life to disburse through a competitive small grants program with the goal of increasing the number and diversity of people participating in community activities.
    - Grant applications are evaluated in 4 categories: fit, impact, engagement, and project feasibility.
    - SE Uplift works to reduce barriers to application, including hosting workshops and info sessions leading up to the application deadline, access to 1-on-1 appointments with Sarah Bunger to get feedback and advice on applications.
- Board members can support spreading the word to their neighborhood and community organizations
- The grant review committee reviews applications, scores them on the 4 categories, asks applicants clarifying questions as needed, and makes a recommendation to the board. Board members can be on the grant review committee so long as their organization is not an applicant.

8:29 **Final Report: Program Evaluation Framework Internship** – *Diane Odeh, Staff*

- Joseph Emerson, MPP student, was hired on a short-term basis to create a framework for evaluating the impact of SE Uplift programs

    - SE Uplift plans to use the evaluation to demonstrate our impact to key collaborators and funders, identify gaps and room for improvement, make programmatic decisions, and support strategic planning
    - SE Uplift strengths:
        - Culture of evaluation, scope of work contains many metrics, multiple data collection tools within the program
    - Opportunities for improvement:
        - Measure impact instead of outputs (currently, reporting # of workshops, rather than learning outcomes and impact of workshops)
        - Consistent data collection across programs areas
    - Short term goals:
        - Revise current tools with goal of tracking specific impact
        - Standardize data collection practices in programmatic areas (e.g. trainings)
        - Better define program-specific impact
    - Long term goals:
        - Develop key performance indicators (KPIs)
        - Consider new data collection tools
        - Standardize data collection and analysis systems/dashboards
- The full report will be included in the board artifacts

8:42 Board Leadership Updates

- Leadership of the 4 district coalitions met with Adam Lyons to oversee the neighborhood program reset. He is advocating for longer term contracts for the neighborhood coalitions (potentially every 3-5 years), and to discontinue the RFP process in favor of a scope-of-work process that was detailed in the original ONI standards. He is an advocate for emphasizing community engagement in the process.
- Tuesday, 8/25, 5:45 - 7 pm: New Board Member Orientation. Dinner provided, RSVP to Sarah. Immediately followed by the ice cream social from 7 - 8 PM. Location - SE Uplift office
- Saturday, 9/26, 1 - 4 pm: D3 City Council Candidate Mixer and ice cream social. Come meet and mingle with the candidates. Family friendly, ice cream, photo booth, rank-choice voting information. Location - SE Uplift office. *All board members expected to participate.*

Motion to postpone the conversation to update the Land Use and Transportation Committee Charter.

Motion *(Daniel DeMelo)*
Amended *(n/a)*
Seconded *(Matt Lembo)*

In favor	9
Opposed	1
Abstentions	7
Result:	**The motion passed.**

8:50 Adjourn to Business Meeting

BOARD BUSINESS MEETING

8:54 The board business meeting was called to order. – *Ash Hester, President*

Vote to accept June Meeting Minutes

Motion *(Ash)*
Amended *(n/a)*
Seconded *(Lori Day-Reynolds)*

In favor	9
Opposed	0
Abstentions	8
Result:	**The motion passed.**

POSTPONED - Vote to approve updates to the Land Use and Transportation Committee Charter

Vote to accept the May and June balance sheets

Motion *(Ash)*
Amended *(n/a)*
Seconded *(Steven Fisher)*

In favor	17
Opposed	0
Abstentions	0
Result:	**The motion passed.**

Vote to accept the FY 25-26 year-end budget to actuals as presented

Motion *(Ash)*
Amended *(n/a)*
Seconded *(Dresden DeVera)*

In favor	17
Opposed	0
Abstentions	0
Result:	**The motion passed.**

9:01 **The meeting adjourned** – Ash Hester, President

Next Board Meeting TUESDAY, September 8, 7-9pm.

Minutes Approved (Date) _____

Secretary Signature _____