

SGNA Board Meeting - 2026-07-20

Date and Time: July 20, 2026, 7-8:30pm

Physical meeting location: Steeplejack Broadway

Attendance

Board of Directors

Facilitator: Matt Zajack

Notetaker: Sue Bickerstaff

Name, Duty	Present	Absent	Excused	Conflict of Interest
Babs Vanelli, Neighborhood Coalition Rep	☒	☐	☐	☒ No
Keith Adamson, Vice Chair	☒	☐	☐	☒ No
Keith Iding	☒	☐	☐	☒ No
Matt Zajack, Chair	☒	☐	☐	☒ No
Peter Sheehey, Treasurer	☒	☐	☐	☒ No
Susan Bickerstaff, Secretary	☒	☐	☐	☒ No
Ted Schenck	☒	☐	☐	☒ No

Neighbors present: DJ Heffernan, Leighann

Quorum Verification: Yes

Conflict of Interest (COI) Disclosure: *"To protect the integrity of the Association's decision-making processes, directors shall disclose to the Board any interest they have in a transaction or decision of the Board that may result in a financial benefit or gain to them and/or their business or organization, family members and/or significant other, employer, and/or close associates, and other organizations with which they are affiliated. The disclosure shall be recorded in the meeting minutes."*

Agenda and Notes

Have a question, suggestion, or idea? Email us at hello@sullivansgulch.org

Welcome and Opening Procedures

1. Meeting called to order
2. Welcome and Introductions

Reports & Communications

1. Secretary's Report & Approval of Recent Minutes
 1. [May 2026](#) (submitted by Keith)
 1. List any corrections:
 2. Matt Z **motions** to approve these minutes (Keith A seconds).
 3. Result: Motion passes, Approved
 2. [June 2026](#)
 1. List any corrections:
 1. Chair's note on procedural error in the vote Lloyd Center Master Plan appeal. This doesn't change the outcome of the vote.
 2. Matt Z **motions** to approve these minutes (Pete seconds).
 1. Result: Motion passes, Approved
2. Calendar of events review
 1. Gulch-o-Rama planning sessions (on-going).
 1. Location confirmed: NE Clackamas btwn 24th and 26th. Currently working with PBOT to get PlayStreets involved.
 2. Working on securing sponsorships
 3. Expenditures to approve
 1. Matt Z **motions** to Approve up to \$150 (likely \$136) for noise variance permit for Adam C. (Sue seconds).
 - a. Result: Motion passes, approved
 4. Connect with Natasha about potential bands
 5. When and where is the next meeting?
 1. Sunday Evening, 7pm, July 26th in Sue's yard

3. Public Comments

1. SGNA 2026 Yard Sale was a success!

1. Successful Holladay Park Yard Sale, concurrent with neighborhood Yard Sale. Proceeds go to residents' assistance trust fund.
 2. Had 36 sign-ups for the Yard Sale Map and many people emailing (5-7) after the yard signs went up
 3. Matt counted over 1200 pedestrians (usually 300-400 daily) walking by NE 26th
 4. Pete to check with NECN on donations via PayPal during Yard Sale sign-ups
 5. HPP Wize Buys sale was a success; proceeds go to fund for residents
- #### 2. Power went out a few weeks ago for about 6 hours. Vehicle on Weidler and 24th hit a power line poll and damaged the boulders. Matt put a note out to the PBOT who led the redesign.
- #### 3. A question from the hello inbox: Neighbor had a question about Crosswalk / Traffic Calming on NE 21st. Speed bumps will be added. Could we also add marked crosswalks between 16th and 21st. Matt will respond.
- #### 4. Matt is keeping a log of street racing incidents on Multnomah near Lloyd Center (at 13th and 7th). If you hear or see anything, let Matt know. He's been in contact with PBOT advocating for traffic calming measures.
1. Ted suggests that we could write a letter to the city. We could partner with Lloyd Center community groups. Matt has been meeting with Lloyd Community Association, Human Access Partners, Urban Renaissance Group, Lloyd Center security. Mike Serratelli at PBOT is engaging with it, but no immediate action planned.
 1. Ted will draft a letter from the SGNA
 2. Ted reminds that if you hear fireworks or gunshots, you should call 911. If not, you'll need to call 311.

4. Officer Updates:

1. Treasurer

1. After the last board meeting, we sent \$204 to Zoho for productivity platform fees
2. Ted **motions** to authorize \$204 payment for Zoho fees (Keith A. seconds)
 1. Result: Motion passes, approved

3. \$2941.93 in the account as of today
2. NECN/D2NC Rep
 1. Babs has been involved in a strategic planning committee. NECN needed major restructuring, including policies and procedures. Hopefully the restructuring will result in more engagement from neighborhoods.
 2. No regular NECN meeting in August.
 3. Babs to invite NECN staff to Gulch-o-Rama

Committee Updates

1. Executive (Matt)
 - a. Updated meeting template and layout to adhere more closely with Robert's Rules of Order and our Bylaws (order of items, motions, debate)
2. Communications (Sue)
 - a. E-newsletter goes out the second week of the month; if you want something included in the newsletter, send it by the first week of the month
3. Land Use and Transportation (Keith)
 - a. Lloyd Center Master Plan update - Tentative vote July 8; council voted 10-0 to deny appeals; final vote July 28-29
4. Safety and Livability
 - a. **Tree team** - Mary's Report, submitted via email (see below)
 - i. Keith A **motions** to approve up to \$400 (see below) in purchases by the Tree Team (Matt seconds)
 1. Result: Motion passes, approved
 - July 12th 1-2:30pm Drew Ratana, a neighbor and arborist, led a very fun and informative tree walk with the theme "The Benefits of Trees." Indeed there are many! Thirteen neighbors along with five members of the Tree Team (decked out in our Tree Team safety vests!) participated. We all hugged one of the two Heritage Tulip trees (!) and took measurements of the heat index in a parking lot vs under the tree canopy, a difference of 11 degrees! Renny R. from the Tree Team added her considerable knowledge about all things urban forestry and our urban tree canopy.
 - 62 Gulch property owners will be notified in August about opting in or out of the Free Street Tree program. An article about the benefits of opting in

was included in the June SGNA newsletter with another to come in the August issue. In Sept. white paint strips will be placed on curbs outside the properties where trees will be planted.

- Gulch-o-Rama plans so far: Tree Team and Urban Forestry tables with information about the needs of our neighborhood tree canopy, the emerald ash borer (we have 22), the Tree Team and more. The neighborhood tree walk is still being planned but **will not take place** in the late afternoon as part of festivities. Renny R. representing the Tree Team on the event planning team.
- Two Tree Team members met with the head of another Tree Team (also an arborist) about protocols for neighborhood pruning assistance to keep sidewalks safe. The best time for offering pruning assistance is next Feb. or March.
- A neighborhood tree walk is planned for Oct. 11th on “The Bounty of Trees.”
- PCEF (Portland Clean Energy Fund) watch—At our Tree Team meeting I shared information about future use of these funds (possible Portland ballot measure to approve using 25% of PCEF funds for safety/police staffing and City Council considering allocating city funds from PCEF for Moda renovation.
- **Additional Use of EMSWCD grant funds needing SGNA approval for Mary Kinnick’s reimbursement**

--six more safety vests for use by Tree Team and Volunteer Corps \$66.79
--Kestrel 3000 (measures temp., heat index and more) \$179
--Stipend to arborist who will lead the Oct. 11th Tree Walk \$150

b. Volunteer corp: Block Captain program update

- i. We received a grant, following Irvington's playbook for their block captain program. This will help people be prepared for events where emergency services will be overtaxed/unresponsive. We'll be purchasing mesh radios and 'stop the bleed' kits.
- ii. Calendar of events: August 12th, Disaster Preparedness Sing-a-long at Holladay Park, that will be the kick-off to the Block Captain program
- iii. Call for Bloc Captains: currently looking for volunteers.
- iv. We will hand out up to 100 water jugs to help neighbors prepare for

major emergency event.

- c. **Diesel letters** have been signed and are in the hands of the companies we were contacting; requesting use of renewable fuels and reduction in particulates
 - i. We are 1 of 40 neighborhood associations who have signed on to support; Keith and Ted from Boise are heading this; along with Patsy
- d. **Street Painting** initiative
 - i. DJ is looking for designs for the street paintings.
 - ii. The design/crosswalk at 21st and Clackamas showed that it's not easy to maintain. Seeking designs that will be easier to maintain.
 - iii. DJ distributes design ideas that draw from our history in Sullivan's Gulch: Sullivan's crest theme, Irish flag theme, Mondrian theme
 - iv. We would need to submit a design to the city with an application to place these at specific locations. Two designs: one for the end of the cul-de-sac; another is for wrapping around the curve. They authorize the street paint. \$35/gallon. Likely would cost \$200-300, would come out of our general fund.
 - v. Sue and Keith A suggestion:
 - 1. Use Gulch-o-Rama to vote for designs and recruit for painters
 - 2. Solicit donations for this, explicitly (adopt a corner, for example)
 - vi. Painting in September should be fine (weather permitting); prep is power washing, drying, paint goes on
 - vii. Previously had a team of 8, but a team as small as 4 could be enough to do one of these
 - viii. DJ will be gone from July-Sep, but he could put a permit into it.
 - ix. Board could decide on the location - where is the intersection and cul-de-sac to do it?

Closing Procedures

- 1. Announce next meeting date: Monday, August 17, 2026
- 2. Any other business (AOB)
 - a. Babs - Your 2 Cents PDX has enough signatures to be on the ballot

3. Meeting adjourned

- a. Matt **motions** to adjourn, seconded by Keith A. Motion passes.