



Sullivan's Gulch Neighborhood Association, c/o Holladay Park Plaza, 1300 NE 16th Ave., Portland, Oregon 97232
<http://www.sgnablog.blogspot.com>

Regular Monthly Board Meeting Minutes

Publication Date: March 03, 2014, Approved by Board of Directors, March 10, 2015

Meeting Day, Date & Time: Tuesday, January 13, 2015, 7:00PM-8:30 PM

1. Welcome, identification of SGNA Board of Directors and introductions of neighbors and visitors.
Present: B. Brewer, M. Cannon, A. Capage, C. Gossett, A. Capage, Sa. Chase, St. Chase, D. Lerch-Walters, J. Frewing, M. Mutschler, C. Nyschens
Excused: A. Alvis, K. LaForge, B. Lopez
2. Pursuant to our By-Laws, Article IV -- Board of Directors, Sections 2 & 3 - Election of Board Officers and Directors-at-Large. Board Officer positions filled. Of the remaining nine (9) member of the Board of Directors, eight (8) were elected 'Directors-At-Large'. Refer to Attachment No. 1 for ballot results.
3. Control of the meeting is transferred to the newly elected Board Officers. The Chair requested that the Vice Chair serve as chair of the meeting.
4. Featured Speaker - Mr. Jon Makler of the Oregon Department of Transportation will give us a progress report on the process and the planning for changes to the intersection of NE Broadway and I-5, first studied as part of the N/NE Quadrant portion of the Comprehensive Plan.
A. ODOT Website - contains content of presentation -
- <http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/REGION1/Pages/I-5-Southbound-Off-Ramp-at-North-Broadway-Project.aspx>
B. Questions & Discussion - 1. J. Frewing - Is the project on Metro's list? - yes. 2. D. Lerch-Walters - As a citizen, why should we fund this project before we fund the Sullivan's Gulch Trail? - This form of this question is "above the presenter's pay grade". Project is defined and directed to address safety concerns and priority for funding assigned accordingly. 3. C. Gossett - Project as described on N/NE Quadrant had "Lids" adding taxable real estate to City. Federal dollars will not pay for such. Where do they stand now? - Statements are correct. Solution is "soft" on that matter for now. Lids not currently part of project from ODOT perspective. Lids are a matter for the City. Definition must follow federal guidelines to avoid expense as 'tunnels'. 4. A. Capage - I-5, a major corridor is reduced to 2-lanes here, does project address capacity? - Project focused on safety not capacity. Capacity and issues addressing other concerns beyond safety require City and/or political pressure to assert influence to address funding and other issues.
5. NECN Announcements/Notices - A report from the current Interim Executive Director, Mark Fulop. NECN Grants notice has been received. See NECN website for details. Both of our delegate seats at NECN are open. The Board Chair spoke of our need to preserve at least one seat to maintain communication and a contributing connection. In the absence of volunteers for the delegates set the Chair volunteers to stand for one of the delegate positions. Board Chair duties may limit ability to contribute, but Chair will work to keep communications open and contribute as circumstances allow. **Motion No. 1** - M. Mutschler, 2nd, J. Frewing - The Board appoints Britt Brewer, Board Chair, as a delegate to the NECN Board. Motion passed. See Ballot Counts Summary on Attachment No. 2 of these minutes. Appointment letter to NECN attached to these minutes.



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6. Approval of the meeting's minutes from October and the Fall General Meeting. There will be no minutes posted for the November Meeting as it was cancelled due to bad weather. Approval of Minutes postponed to the February Regular Meeting.
7. Finance Committee Report - Income and Expenses report - Account balance as of 12/31/14 - \$6,670.48. The new Treasurer will work to prepare proposals for monthly and annual financial reports to be reviewed and discussed - the basis, the report for the 2014 Fall General Meeting. With the election of new Board Officers, the outgoing Treasurer, Adam Capage will coordinate with the Incoming Treasurer, Stephen Chase, to have those approved to have access and be signers to the SGNA Bank account be recorded with the Bank. To continue our practice, the three signers to the account will now be - Treasurer, Stephen Chase; Secretary, Melissa Cannon; and Vice Chair, Craig Nyschens.
8. Land Use Transportation Committee (LUTC) - As part of the LUTC's ongoing activities speakers are invited to present on current planning issues. This months two speakers for the Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability (BPS) Nan Stark, our BPS liaison speaking on the Comprehensive Plan and Barry Manning speaking on the Mixed-Use Zoning Advisory Committee. The Comprehensive Plan draft, and the Map App are now open for public comment and can be found at the following URL's:
<https://www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/article/468116>
<http://www.portlandoregon.gov/bps/57352>
<http://www.portlandmaps.com/bps/cpmapp2/>
Neighbors are encouraged to comment.
9. Events Committee - A presentation of the major event's calendar for 2015 was made. The Calendar for the Year is attached to these minutes. **Motion No. 2** - St. Chase, 2nd, C. Gossett - The Board accepts and approves the calendar dates. Motion passed. **Motion No. 3** - St. Chase, 2nd, M. Mutschler - The Board accepts and approves Board Member Samuel Chase as Vice-Chair of the Events Committee. Motion passed. See Ballot Counts Summary on Attachment No. 2 of these minutes.
10. Tree Committee - **Motion No. 4** - J. Frewing, 2nd D. Lerch-Walters - The SGNA appreciates efforts by residents and Urban Forestry (Portland Parks and Recreation) to conduct and report on a neighborhood street tree inventory. To continue this effort, the SGNA Board approves creation of a special Committee called the "Gulch Tree Team" with the purpose of promoting a rich, sustainable and diverse urban forest in our neighborhood. Anticipated actions include contacting neighbors regarding voluntary "street" tree locations (\$25/tree this year, between sidewalk and curb), conducting educational activities, and developing a long term block stewardship program. John Frewing to Chair the Committee. Motion passed. See Ballot Counts Summary on Attachment No. 2 of these minutes.
11. Safety & Livability Committee - The Chair repeated our call for (a) neighbors(s) to take on organization and chairing of a Committee. Including, if necessary, organizing a neighborhood watch. Dan Lerch-Walters noted the importance of the Safety and Livability Committee and volunteered to Chair the Committee **Motion No. 5** - D. Lerch-Walters, 2nd Craig Nyschens - The Board appoints Dan Lerch-Walters to Chair the Safety and Livability Committee. Motion passed. See Ballot Counts Summary on Attachment No. 2 of these minutes.



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12. Communications Committee - The Board Chair calls for a volunteer to take over as Chair of the Communications Committee. Pending a volunteer stepping forward, the Chair will serve as interim Committee Chair and work with the web site manager to maintain the flow of information. Communications issues should be directed to the Board Chair.
13. 2015 Board of Directors Strategic Retreat - a discussion on re-scheduling - date, location, agenda items. The Chair will search for weekend dates acceptable to a Majority of the Board and report at the next Regular Monthly Meeting or before, if possible.
14. Committee Complaint - The Land Use Committee requested an update at our Regular Monthly October Meeting in 2014 on a complaint made by the Committee on March 31, 2014. The report at that meeting was that there were conversations that had yet to take place and that the expectation and goal was to have the issue settled by November. This has not happened. The Board Chair, B. Brewer offered to take this discussion to Executive Session to respect the Privacy of the individual named in the complaint. D. Lerch-Walters claimed that action to be in violation of the ONI Standards. B. Brewer, disagreed, and expressed the opinion that taking the issue to Executive Session is in keeping with ONI Standards, citing Section VIII, Item D., 2., b., & f. However, the Board Chair proposed the Board vote on the Matter. **Motion No. 6** - B. Brewer, 2nd, C. Nyschens - The Board will discuss the complaint made by the Land Use Committee as part of the public meeting and chooses not to go into Executive Session on the matter. Motion passed unanimously. See Ballot Counts Summary on Attachment No. 2 of these minutes. The Board Chair read the complaint made by the Committee against Board Member Dan Lerch-Walters. The complaint is attached as part of these minutes. B. Brewer stated the opinion that the complaint names actions by D. Lerch-Walters that constitute an attempt to interfere with the business of the Board, and that the Board stands to lose the valuable services of volunteers on the Land Use Committee and the good work of the Committee if ill-behavior such as that described in the complaint continues. B. Brewer offered the example of a report from a former Board Member who chose not to continue due to the behavior of D. Lerch-Walters. This Board Member was contributing valuable volunteer skills and efforts to the Communications Committee as Chair of that Committee, leadership, skills and efforts now lost to the neighborhood. Mr. Lerch Walters denied the claims of the complaint. Also made a part of these minutes is the letter sent to D. Lerch-Walters regarding attempts by B. Brewer and S. Chase to resolve the complaint. B. Brewer stated that D. Lerch-Walters has declined to attend mediation. After discussion of the merits of mediation with the Board and neighbors present, Mr. Lerch-Walters agreed to attend mediation with Resolutions NW. Mr. Lerch-Walters wife, Debbie Lerch-Walters will attend with Mr. Lerch-Walters. B. Brewer will arrange a mediation session with Resolutions NW. S. Chase will attend.
15. Concluding Remarks



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January 13, 2015 Regular Monthly Board of Directors Meeting, Attachment No. 1
Ballot Counts Summary for Board Elections
 Ballots will be kept on File for Six Months

| | Position | Chair | Vice Chair | Treasurer | Secretary | Director-at Large |
|--|-----------------------------|--------|------------|-----------|-----------|-------------------|
| | Board Member | | | | | |
| | 1 Andrew Alvis | | | | | 8 of 9 |
| | 2 Britt Brewer | 8 of 9 | | | | |
| | 3 Adam Capage | | | | | 7 of 9 |
| | 4 Melissa Cannon | | | | 9 of 9 | |
| | 5 Samuel Chase | | | | | 8 of 9 |
| | 6 Stephen Chase | | | 9 of 9 | | |
| | 7 John Frewing | | | | | 8 of 9 |
| | 8 Carol Gossett | | | | | 7 of 9 |
| | 9 Kari LaForge | | | | | 8 of 9 |
| | 10 Dan Lerch-Walters | | | | | 4 of 9 |
| | 11 Brad Lopez | | | | | 8 of 9 |
| | 12 Mike Mutschler | | | | | 8 of 9 |
| | 13 Craig Nyschens | | 9 of 9 | | | |



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January 13, 2015 Regular Monthly Board of Directors Meeting, Attachment No. 2

Ballot Counts Summary for Board Motions

Ballots will be kept on File for Six Months.

Refer to the Minutes for text of motion.

| Motion | Motion No. 1 | Motion No. 2 | Motion No. 3 | Motion No. 4 | Motion No. 5 |
|----------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Board Member | | | | | |
| 1 Andrew Alvis | | | | | |
| 2 Britt Brewer | For | For | For | For | For |
| 3 Adam Capage | For | For | For | For | For |
| 4 Melissa Cannon | | | | | |
| 5 Samuel Chase | For | For | For | For | For |
| 6 Stephen Chase | For | For | For | For | For |
| 7 John Frewing | For | For | For | For | For |
| 8 Carol Gossett | For | For | For | For | Against |
| 9 Kari LaForge | | | | | |
| 10 Dan Lerch-Walters | Abstain | For | For | For | For |
| 11 Brad Lopez | | | | | |
| 12 Mike Mutschler | For | For | For | For | For |
| 13 Craig Nyschens | For | For | For | For | For |
| Tally | 8 of 9 | 9 of 9 | 9 of 9 | 9 of 9 | 8 of 9 |

Motion 6. Came late in the meeting and is not included in the table above. The members of the Board of directors present voted unanimously in favor of Motion No. 6.



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January 13, 2015 Regular Monthly Board of Directors Meeting, Attachment No. 3

Schedule of Events for 2015

April 25th - Land Use Committee Charrette - Fourth Saturday in April

May 9th - Spring Cleanup - Second Saturday in May

July 18th - Gulch Garage Sale - Third Sunday in July

August 4th - National Night Out - First Tuesday in August

September 12th - Gulch-O-Rama - First Sunday after Labor Day



Sullivan's Gulch Neighborhood Association, c/o Holladay Park Plaza, 1300 NE 16th Ave., Portland, Oregon 97232
www.sullivansgulch.net

March 03, 2014

Northeast Coalition of Neighborhoods
Mr. Mark Fulop, Interim Executive Director & the Board of Directors
4815 NE 7th Avenue
Portland, Oregon, 97211
Re: Sullivan's Gulch Neighborhood Association Representative to NECN Board

Mr. Fulop, Members of the Board:

At our Regular Monthly Board Meeting on January 13 2015, pursuant to the Principles and Procedures established by a unanimous vote of the Sullivan's Gulch Neighborhood Association (SGNA) Board, an SGNA Board member has been elected to represent our neighborhood for a term of one year commencing with acceptance of this appointment by the Board of NECN. The representative is an SGNA Board Member in good standing. The representative has provided their current contact information below and warrant that this information is correct and valid at signing of this letter

L. Brittain A. Brewer
2533 NE Wasco Street
Portland, OR 97232
T (503) 309-1675
E bbrewer@me.com

L. Brittain A. Brewer

Signed and Dated: March, 3 2015

With this appointment it is our understanding that we have one remaining seat open on the NECN Board. We will continue our efforts to recruit another neighbor to serve. Should the NECN Board at any time decide to fill the seat, we would appreciate written notice with the opportunity to respond with first right of refusal.

Sincerely,
Sullivan's Gulch Neighborhood Association
Chair of the Board of Directors

L. Brittain A. Brewer

encl. cc: file



Sullivan's Gulch Neighborhood Association
c/o Holladay Park Plaza
1300 NE 16th Ave.
Portland, Oregon 97232
www.sullivansgulch.org

November 26, 2014

Mr. Dan Lerch-Walters
2174 NE Multnomah
Portland, Oregon 97232

Re: A complaint against your behavior by the Land Use and Transportation Committee
A complaint against an untruthful accusation to deny access to a public meeting by the Board Chair

Mr. Lerch-Walters:

This letter is written directly in response to your email to Andrew Alvis of October 31. A copy of that email is attached to this letter.

This letter is also written to move towards a resolution of the complaint made against you by the Chairperson and Members of the Sullivan's Gulch Neighborhood Association (SGNA) Land Use and Transportation Committee. A copy of that complaint is attached to this letter.

This letter is written and signed jointly, by Brittain Brewer, current Chair Person of the SGNA Board of Directors and Stephen Chase, current member of the SGNA Board of Directors.

This letter is being sent via certified registered mail, return receipt requested to verify that you receive it. The letter is being copied to each member of the Board of Directors. This letter is also being copied to Renee Bove at Resolutions NW.

Complaint against your behavior by the SGNA LUTC, March 31, 2014.

The following, is a general accounting of the course of events over the last six-seven months.

1. The committee has complained of a pattern of disruptive and disrespectful behavior in the LUTC meetings towards Committee Members and the Chair Person and of improperly contacting parties and partners doing business with the Committee and claiming representation not authorized or agreed to by the Committee.
2. The complaint notes the creation of a hostile environment in Committee Meetings and that interferes with Board business in contacting outside groups and organizations improperly.
3. We discussed the issue with the LUTC Chair. The Committee Chair conceded to the approach. We hoped to resolve the issue without confrontation and embarrassment. We take the LUTC Committee's word on the description of your behavior which we find embarrassing for you personally and as a member of the Board of Directors. Such behavior is not in keeping with our agreed upon Practices, Principles and Procedures. It is shameful and will not be tolerated.
4. Rather than bring up the issue with the Board as a whole, and have the complaint made public, thus embarrassing both you and the Board of Directors as a whole, we, chose to speak with you with the goal of reaching an agreement to resolve the complaint quietly.

5. The agreement was as follows - The LUTC has made a complaint. We asked that, in lieu of bringing the complaint before the Board as a whole, that you acknowledge the complaint. Arrange to discuss it with the Chair and/or the Committee, apologize, agree to correct your behavior, and once you have made amends, perhaps the Committee would feel comfortable having you attend the meetings. We asked if you could do this before the General Meeting in November. We asked you if you would agree to forgo attendance at the meetings until you had made amends with the Committee, understanding that we made specific note to you that we cannot deny you access to a public meeting. In asking if you would choose to forgo the meetings temporarily to avoid conflict, we offered you an alternate means to conduct any business and send and receive information to and from the Committee. This alternate means of working with the Committee is the equivalent to the way Board Members, and the Chair Person routinely and generally interact with the Committee via the written agendas, the minutes of the meetings, the newsletters and the reports to the Board at Regular Meetings.
6. At our first meeting, on May 12th, on your front porch, you agreed to all of the above. We shook hands on the agreement. We provided you with a printed copy of the complaint.
7. Shortly thereafter, in late May or early June, you proclaimed, to Steve, that you had not made such an agreement.
8. We met with you again, at Costello's on June 3rd. This time with your wife Debbie in attendance. We again offered you the choice to take the issue before the Board, or to deal with it privately within the time frame we suggested. You again agreed to forgo the meetings and to attempt to make amends. We again shook hands.
9. In late July or early August, Stephen reported that you claimed to have made numerous attempts to call and email the Chair of the LUTC to arrange to meet. On checking with the Committee Chair, I found that she had received no emails or telephone calls or messages from you. We could find no electronic record of your attempts. Before we could meet with you, on August 26th, you emailed the Committee Chair to request a meeting. You did not mention the complaint. In a series of emails over the next three days, you, still did not mention the complaint, but pressed for a meeting. The Committee Chair copied me on the emails and asked for my help. In discussing the issue with the Chair and Committee members I found none were certain what your contact involved, and expressed no desire to speak unless the reason for meeting was clear. The majority expressed no desire to talk without acknowledgment of the complaint, and stating that they know of no land use issues at question. There was only a question of your behavior as per the complaint. We have copies of those emails as part of our records.
10. In late September, the LUTC requested that the agenda for the October Regular Meeting address the status of the complaint. Craig Nyschens, Britt Brewer, and Andy Alvis met with you on October 13th. You stated at that meeting that you had lost the copy of the complaint we had given you and were unsure of the nature of the complaint. At that meeting the Board Chair assured you that you would be given until the Fall General Meeting to resolve the complaint according to your original agreement with Britt and Stephen.
11. At the October Regular Board Meeting the Chair Person reported to the Board that a complaint was filed by the LUTC on March 31, 2014, attempts are being made to address the complaint and with a few pending conversations the hope is to resolve the complaint privately and avoid bringing it before the Board. Resolution may be met by or shortly after the Fall General Meeting. Your name was not mentioned nor was the substance of the complaint.
12. With your email of October 31, we understand that you choose to unilaterally dissolve our handshake agreement. You choose to misrepresent the substance and nature of the agreement, inaccurately and dishonestly accusing the Board Chair of improper behavior - namely - denying you access to a public meeting (this is not true based on the nature of your agreement to forgo the meetings). You, finally acknowledge receipt of the complaint, however, in the email you show disregard for and a dismissive attitude towards the complaint in not taking the care to not lose your copy of the complaint and you show no desire to understand or recall the substance of the complaint by formally asking for a replacement copy. You showed willful disregard of your handshake agreement with us.

Therefore we move this issue to the notice of the Board and we turn to Resolutions NW to seek mediation to resolve, what are now multiple complaints against your behavior, and untrustworthiness.

A Summation of Complaints against your behavior and Requested Remedies.

With this letter we make the following complaints to the Board of Directors and motion that they join with us. And with this letter, we file a formal complaint with Resolutions NW and request that you join us there to mediate a remedy to the LUTC's complaints.

1. Your behavior is unacceptable. It is not in keeping with the Principles, Practices and Procedures of the SGNA Board of Directors we and you have agreed to in our conduct as Board Members.

2. We insist that you to stop your rude, disruptive behavior.
3. We insist on a written apology, acknowledging the complaints and giving some promise that this behavior will end and you will agree to work with us rather than against us.
4. We insist that you agree to correct your behavior and conduct yourself with good manners and respect for others.
5. We insist that you retract the statements made in your email of October 31, 2013 and that you state, in writing, that they are untrue. We ask that you personally apologize to the Chair of the Board of Directors for the accusations made, state that you had forgone attendance at the meetings of your own volition according to the agreement you made with us.
6. We ask that you forgo attendance to the LUTC meetings, and that, you agree to an alternate means (as for any Board member not on that Committee) to send and receive Land Use information and reports, until such time that the Committee is willing to accept your attendance on their own terms. We insist that you acknowledge in writing that this method does not, and has not denied you your rights to attend a public meeting, but that rather you have been denied participation through your own rude and disrespectful behavior.
7. We ask for all these remedies to start immediately.

We join with you on the seventh line of your email of October 31 in our desire and willingness to work towards reconciliation, cooperation and inclusion.

You are man of intelligence and passion. We ask that you join with us. We believe you can.

Sincerely,

| | |
|--|--|
| Sullivan's Gulch Neighborhood Assoc. Chair Person, Board of Directors | Sullivan's Gulch Neighborhood Assoc. Member, Board of Directors |
|--|--|

Brittain Brewer

Stephen Chase

cc: file, Members of the Board of Directors; Ms. Renee Bove, Resolutions NW

From: Andrew Alvis dralvisdc@gmail.com
Subject: Re: Progress on Meeting with LUTC
Date: October 31, 2014 at 4:29 PM
To: dlwx3@comcast.net
Cc: Brittain Brewer bbrewer@me.com

Hi Dan,

Sorry but I am unavailable at this time. I have forwarded this on to Britt for assistance. Thank you!

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 30, 2014, at 1:20 PM, dlwx3@comcast.net wrote:

Dr. Alvis,

I would like to join the SGNA LUTC meeting next month to share information I received at the NECN LUTC meeting.

I have not heard from Carol or anyone else in regard to her complaint against me.

I still would like to meet with you and Carol with Debbie. We can't move forward without sitting down and working things out.

From my perspective, Carol sent a complaint to Britt, Britt brought it to me, I responded to Britt, and Britt responded to Carol.

So, the question on the agenda last month about the status of her complaint is confusing. I no longer have a copy of the complaint Carol sent to Britt, but from what I remember it did not address me directly. How can I respond?

What is your take on the information I shared about ONI Standards of Open Meetings and Public Records as they apply to our financial records? Also, Britt has asked that I not attend SGNA LUTC meetings in violation of the Open Meetings rule. This does not work for me, and I will no longer abide his request.

My goal continues to be reconciliation and cooperation, not exclusion.

My requests to be a member of SGNA LUTC (and the 20's bike sub-committee, now a moot point), began over one year ago. I am still very frustrated by this committee and this board.

Any help you can give me is greatly appreciated.

How are you doing with your new role as dad? I hope all is well with your family.

Dan Lerch-Walters

From: "Alvis, Andrew" <dralvisdc@gmail.com>
To: dlwx3@comcast.net
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2014 10:26:52 AM

Subject: Re: Meeting request before Tue. SGNA Board meeting

I was hoping Britt and Craig could join. Let's meet at Freddie's food court by Peets.

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 12, 2014, at 10:48 PM, dlwx3@comcast.net wrote:

Thanks, 6:15 is fine.

Where would you like to meet. We can meet here, or at Iconic (new place on Broadway). Or any place you suggest.

Dan

From: "Alvis, Andrew" <dralvisdc@gmail.com>

To: dlwx3@comcast.net

Sent: Sunday, October 12, 2014 1:39:51 PM

Subject: Re: Meeting request before Tue. SGNA Board meeting

I could meet at 6:15 tomorrow night.

Sent from my iPhone

From: Carol Gossett gossett.carol@gmail.com
Subject: SGNA-LUTC
Date: March 31, 2014 at 1:02 PM
To: L Brittain A Brewer bbrewer@me.com
Cc: Andrew Alvis dralvisdc@gmail.com, Lauren Golden Jones lgoldenjones@gmail.com, Melissa Cannon mcan@pdx.edu, John Frewing gkjfrewing@gmail.com, Martin Rowe mrowe@retirement.org, Kenneth Peterson kenne26735@aol.com, Stephen Chase furiousbears@yahoo.com

Britt, I am saddened by the news that Dan Lurch-Walters may be pursuing a complaint against SGNA. Not knowing the nature or precise issue, I will say members of the LUTC have expressed their concerns to me over Dan's behavior in our meetings and finding a resolution is important to fulfilling the work of this committee.

As you know the LUTC is a working committee involved in many land use issues at this time which require our research, documentation, and open discussion before presenting our findings to the SGNA Board for any board action that may be required. And, although the LUTC meetings are open to anyone interested in the committee's work, we expect that those attending our meetings and contributing to the discussions will be courteous and respectful of everyone in the meetings.

There has been a noticeable increase in Dan's hostility toward certain committee members and the chair including repetitive, disruptive behavior during LUTC meetings. We have also discovered that Dan contacts individuals and agencies he learns of during our meetings and on several occasions has made calls to these people/agencies to discuss the business of the committee, improperly stating that he represents the committee. This is not appropriate behavior and these calls have required time to straighten out, time that could otherwise have been used for committee business.

At last months meeting (February 4,2014) three members (our committee includes six members and the Events Planning chair), asked me to stay a few minutes after the meeting. They apologized to me for not confronting Dan during the meeting regarding his disrespectful behavior. Of course we are all there to perform the committee's business and we all feel uncomfortable concerning the way Dan conducts himself. They expressed a desire to find some way in which we can conduct our meetings openly again without dealing with these disruptive and discourteous outbursts. The day after the February meeting I received an email from a fourth committee member asking why we need to tolerate Dan's rude and inappropriate outbursts.

So that the information going to the board is timely and accurate, we have always welcomed the input of neighbors to strengthen the committee's input to the board thus assuring the board that they are hearing from as many voices as possible. We regularly reach out to individuals and agencies beyond our neighborhood as well to assure ourselves that we are informed of best practices and of the city's position on various topics, for instance, as we prepare our information for the SGNA Board's consideration.

It is difficult to work in an environment of disruptions and inconsiderate outbursts. Therefore, the LUTC seeks to work with the board to remedy this issue. We respect the opinions of everyone and we believe everyone should have a voice in the affairs of their neighborhood. At the same time, we also want our volunteer time to be well spent and productive so that the board receives the best input possible. All of our committee members work all day and give up valuable personal time to attend these meetings. They deserve to meet in a comfortable, encouraging environment.

Therefore, the SGNA Board should be made aware of the hostile environment the LUTC has worked within over the past 6 months and should be part of the discussion regarding a solution to these conditions. Just as we inform the board on land use topics in an unbiased and comprehensive way, so it is appropriate to bring this issue to the board for their consideration and action.

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CAROL GOSSETT
(503) 449-1253
gossett.carol@gmail.com