

Eugene Neighbors, Inc.
Annual meeting minutes
October 29, 2023
Roaring Rapids Pizza

There were 17 in attendance. 11 representatives of ENI membership present included Randy Prince of Amazon Neighbors, Pete Knox of Downtown Neighbors, Thia Bell of Friendly Area Neighbors, Sandra Bishop of Jefferson/Westside Neighbors, Rene Kane of the Neighborhood Leadership Council, Anne Milhollen of Northeast Neighbors, Jon Belcher from the River Road Community Organization, Jerry Finigan from the Santa Clara Community Organization, Dennis Hebert of Southeast Neighbors, Carolyn Jacobs of the South University Neighborhood Association. And Lin Woodrich from Active Bethel Citizens. Current ENI Board members present included Randy Prince, Jerry Finigan, Carlos Barrera, and Rene Kane. 5 members of the general public was also present including presenters Lucy Bambrey and Joan Medina.

Randy Prince called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. He described ENI and its mission and the purpose of the annual meeting and ENI's need for Board members. Besides the annual business meeting, the gathering would be presented with the issue of sidewalks - their maintenance and establishment. Randy introduced Carlos Barrera of the Friendly Area Neighborhood who is in charge of stewarding the College Street Infill Project. He passed out diagrams illustrating the project. The goal of the project is to make a continuous sidewalk along the street and give sidewalk access from College Hill to the Willamette commercial district. The City has been cooperative and will supplement the funds that have already been accumulated to complete the project. His presentation was followed by a question/answer period.

Randy then introduced Lucy Bambrey of South Eugene Neighbors (SEN) transportation committee. She described some of the issues the committee has taken up to date. One of them is problematic sidewalks. She said the SEN transportation committee is aware that some of the sidewalk issues SEN is encountering is true in a number of other neighborhoods experience the same problems. She would like to form a coalition with other neighborhoods and nonprofits and service groups to troubleshoot the issue. The City does not have a category in general funds to deal with sidewalks but expect property owners to maintain their own sidewalks. The project should begin by finding and inventorying the problem areas. Maybe this can be aided by recruiting college students to do this. Her presentation was followed by a question/answer session. Randy made some observations about the sidewalk issue.

At 7:34 Randy called the business meeting to order. He encouraged people to join the ENI Board and summarized the projects ENI have supported during the current year. Sandra Bishop moved the minutes from the 2022 annual meeting be approved as submitted. Pete Knox seconded. Motion passed unanimously with one abstention. Randy asked if there were any questions concerning the treasurers report. Jon Belcher asked for some details of the River Road Community Organization account. The treasurer said he would send him details. Randy then opened nominations for the ENI Board. Jerry Finigan said he would like to run again for his seat. There were no other nominations. Jerry was reelected to fill the seat for 2023 through 2025. Rene Kane was appointed to a seat that was vacated. She was nominated to fill that seat from 2023 through 2025. She was unanimously elected. Randy opened nominations for three open seats - two for one year (2023-2024) and one for two years (2023-2025). Noah Birnel of Downtown Neighborhood Association offered his name for a one year term. He was unanimously elected. Lucy Bambrey also offered her name for a one year term. She was unanimously elected. There were no nominations for the two year term. The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Randy then introduced Joan Medina who described the project: "Make Way Day". She described the international project that encouraged neighbors to organize to free sidewalks from intrusive vegetation each September 30th. During her presentation she presented a number of slides that showed not only vegetation intrusion but also hazards presented by sidewalks generally from hazardous sidewalk failures to the obstructions presented by rental scooters abandoned in the middle of sidewalks.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Submitted,

Jerry Finigan, secretary