Meeting Attendees
Paul Van Orden, Chair, At-Large
Luke Norman, At-Large, Sullivan's Gulch
Donn Dennis, Concordia
Jere Fitterman, Eliot
Dennis Kennedy, Parliamentarian, Woodlawn
Sean Green, Treasurer, Sabin
Lauren Gross, At Large
Mariah Dula, Vice Chair, Alameda
Kym Jeka, Humboldt
Shirley Minor, At-Large, Woodlawn
Michelle Johnson, Sullivan’s Gulch (attending for Chris Tanner)

Adam Lyons, Executive Director
Laura Becker, Planning and Operations Manager
Caitlyn Burke, Alternative Shelter Program Specialist, A Home for Everyone (AHFE) | Joint Office of Homeless Services (JOHS), And Office of Neighborhood Involvement (City of Portland)

Meeting called to order by Paul Van Orden at 6:40 pm

Review and Approval of Minutes
The board reviewed the March 1 and March 20 board meeting minutes. Sean moved to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Kennedy, approved.

Executive Director Report
Adam presented his monthly report of NECN activities. Highlights include releasing a congestion pricing ‘primer’ video, the first in a planned series to explain complicated civic challenges and projects. He also reported on ONI’s budget recommendation for cuts to coalitions if an add-package for East Portland doesn’t make it into the Mayor’s budget, which will be released April 30. The board will continue to discuss next steps in May.

Alternative Solutions to Homelessness
Caitlyn Burke presented an update on a pilot project for safe sleeping in faith-based parking lots. She is currently collecting feedback from coalitions regarding the most pressing concerns around homeless issues, and hopes answers can come from other providers and advocates outside of city staff, to make more direct connections and build a map for resources

Finance Report
Laura presented the March finance report. NECN’s financial position remains strong at the end of the third quarter and finances are on track with budget.

Neighborhood Emergency Teams (NETs) Discussion
The board discussed how to improve coordination of emergency response issues within the coalition and among neighborhoods. Mariah suggested targeted outreach to community members with natural connections to resiliency (community garden experts, environmental protection advocates, etc.) to help build teams. Next steps include asking neighborhoods to track and report their inventory and prioritize resonant messaging to help start larger conversations.
Neighborhood/Board Updates
Alameda: Neighborhood Clean-Up and Swap scheduled for May 5 at Madeline School
Concordia: Establishing guidelines and possible fees for the use of the Kennedy School Community Room
Eliot: General meeting had good turnout and included a guest presentation by Natasha Butler, Principal of Harriet Tubman School.
Humboldt: Association exploring boundary changes with King, with implications about Alberta Abbey project.
Sabin: Annual Meeting May 14 with presentation from PSU geology professor Scott Burns about the Cascadia Subduction Zone and ‘the big one’.
Sullivan’s Gulch: Selected for Parking Pilot program with Irvington
Woodlawn: Impromptu Earth Day Clean-Up around NE Dekum and MLK Jr. Blvd April 21

Other Business
Portland for Everyone Endorsement: The board reviewed an endorsement statement to join the Portland for Everyone Coalition. NECN’s Land Use and Transportation Committee (LUTC) support joining the coalition. Board members agreed to go back to their associations for feedback, for a vote at the May board meeting.

Residential Infill Project Proposed Draft: LUTC will review the proposed draft at the April meeting and expect to have a letter for board approval at the May meeting.

Minutes taken by Laura Becker