

**Phillips West Neighborhood Organization
Board Agenda**

Monthly Board Meeting

Monday July 25, 2022

[Hybrid Meeting](#)

6:00pm - 7:30pm

Present: Becky, Jen, Genna, Kelly, Brenda, Steve Alex

Call to order: 6:20pm

Opening - 6:00 PM

1. Kick-Off (2 minutes)
 - a. Mission statement
Our mission is to engage the diverse voices of all those who live, learn, work, and play in Phillips West in order to advocate for greater individual well-being and community empowerment. PWNO aims to be an inclusive and accessible hub of resources, information, and connection for all in Phillips West. PWNO acknowledges that our neighbors work, study and build lives on lands violently taken from communities Indigenous to the area; further, we acknowledge that racism, in all its forms and as borne out of the atrocities of slavery in this country, is a real and pervasive threat to the lives and livelihoods of our neighbors locally and globally. We thereby commit to increasing our knowledge of Indigenous sovereignty, equity and antiracism, and to apply these principles in everything we do on behalf of our community.
 - b. Adoption of the proposed agenda - Brenda moving, Steve seconding - ADOPTED
 - c. Consent Agenda review - foregoing since there was no consensus, have to make sure we have the link to fill it out, not to edit it
 - i. but we all had a chance to review the information? Yes
 - ii. Motion to approve last month's minutes? Genna motions, Becky seconds - ADOPTED
2. Officer report backs (15 minutes)
 - a. Chair– Alex
 - i. Vote: Kelly Muellman for Director at Large
 1. Alex will nominate Kelly! Motion to vote? Brenda motions, Genna seconds - APPROVED
 - ii. Joint Personnel Committee Update
 1. our last meeting was rescheduled, John was unable to make it; Jo resigned from SSCO as well as the committee, so we couldn't really get into it
 2. Morgan was terminated, but we have not met yet to discuss the next steps

3. SSCO board did meet that night on July 11
- iii. SMCC dissolution or continuity vote.
 1. Questions about frugality, budget, amount of staff we can handle, what our budget needs to look like, what the city might think
 2. Depending on what we vote for, we could have either 1.5 FTE staff or two $\frac{3}{4}$ time staff members; if we stay, we would likely have to jointly hire someone
 3. SSCO is planning on going on hiatus and pausing programming to get themselves reorganized
 4. VOTE: Motion to sever our relationship with SSCO via the SMCC. Motion by Genna, seconded by Becky. Discussion: We owe it to staff to consider the impacts and figure out next steps. This does start a 60 day clock and nothing will happen immediately.
 5. Motion: Five yes, one abstention
 6. We have ended our relationship with SSCO - we will use these 60 days to make sure we are doing our due diligence by staff
- b. Vice-Chair– Genna
- c. Secretary– vacant
 - i. Does anyone want to be the secretary? Genna thinks it is better to have a 4 person executive committee and it's silly for her to be doing two roles. Brenda nominates Kelly, Kelly accepts
 1. APPROVED
- d. Treasurer–Steve
 - i. Budget Revision: Surplus Funding
 1. Treasurer's report is in the board packet, if you have any questions ask Steve
 2. we had a few proposals after our budget revision meeting
 3. total is around \$34,000 - allocating - it would be useful to have $\frac{3}{4}$ of that be available for us to use for staffing, especially considering our severed relationship
 4. in the future, we will have just under \$100k a year from the city, as long as we're open about how we're using those funds, we have the flexibility to use that primarily towards staffing - still allocate towards other pots, but be conservative towards staffing
 5. Proposal: 30% to staff, 25% to events, 25% to garden and 20% to safety
 6. Steve counter-proposes we allocate 50% to staffing and can always reallocate it later; 25% to events, 12.5% to safety and garden each

7. Friendly amendment: Allocate 50% to staffing, 25% to events, 12.5% to garden, 12.5% to safety, and if we are to re-allocate funding, it would go to the safety and garden committees - Brenda seconds
8. Jen wondering about housing - Genna responds that it's more about the committees that are more established that we know could spend the money soon, since there's a ticking clock. There is still pools of money that the housing committee could dip into
9. Becky wondering about the concerns about the maintenance of the garden and thinking about how we were discussing using this money for garden maintenance contracts
10. Alex thinking that there are other funding streams for us to draw from for that
11. VOTE: Allocate 50% to staffing, 25% to events, 12.5% to garden, 12.5% to safety, and if we are to re-allocate funding, it would go to the safety and garden committees - APPROVED

e. At-large members

- i. Brenda - has a person of interest to bring into the neighborhood organization! She is out here recruiting

3. Committee report backs (25 minutes)

a. Executive Committee–Genna

- i. Be on the lookout for a meeting invitation to review our policies from Genna
- ii. we discussed board evaluations (do them!), budget surplus (we just voted on it)

b. Safety committee– Brenda

- i. Lighting update
- ii. Violence Prevention web resource update - need this list; a resource booklet was a goal from Mira's
- iii. There were minutes from the recently rescheduled meeting, we're looking to see what's left in inventory from the lighting project, and brenda is looking to revive the energy on the safety committee, there needs to be more people
- iv. how do we get the remaining lights installed? try for a contractor, or volunteer power?
- v. Steve mentioning Dr. Deb's presentation at the community meeting as a place of connection

c. Garden committee

- i. Maintenance contracting– Steve
 1. steve has been dealing with our finances!
 2. steve will reach out to Cristeta

- 3. Question on Sentence to Serve program - does this still exist? contact steve with any other resources
 - ii. Preliminary vision for Garden– Cristeta
 - d. Events committee– Becky
 - i. Bridge Fest
 - 1. been communicating with Dallas, still need to finalize a date - would labor day weekend be okay? either August 28 weekend or September 9 weekend
 - ii. Annual Meeting - November 12
 - 1. Becky communicating with St. Mary's
 - 2. J went to a pop-up market and did some networking and some spots are interested in coming to sell wares and donating a percentage to us
 - iii. becky talking with target about school supplies
 - iv. also talking to augsburg academy and other area schools and got their lists of what they are looking for
 - v. Jen and Genna can help Becky with Bridgefest; Alex will help with fall fest and so will Steve
 - e. Housing committee
 - i. Rental assistance resource requests– Staff - taken care of
 - ii. Preliminary Vision for Housing Committee – Jen
 - 1. come from a housing organizing background and envision a network for renters/tenants union, and the first step is a lot of outreach, door knocking?
 - 2. brenda says we could pass out tenants rights on the door knock
 - 3. could do some sort of renter's right's info session?
 - 4. there's a significant amount of money in the neighborhood revitalization program that can be used
 - f. Working groups
4. Past business
 - a. K-Mart Redesign Update– Staff
 - i. we are joined with whittier, lyndale, and kingfield on the kmart redesign project on nicollet and lake
 - ii. we won the city's bid
 - iii. we are going to start doing more outreach with the committees and at the community meetings; we want to start canvassing neighbors
 - iv. J would like to see a community park that has a center and has resources
 - v. becky recommending we talk to lake street council - they are already involved!
 - b. Letter to the Editor, Vote– Alex - will send an email

- c. GOTV: Voter Voucher Program update– Alex - will send an email
- 5. New business
 - a. Board Workgroup Proposal, Vote– Alex
 - i. community committees vs board committees
 - ii. currently our only board committee is the executive committee
 - iii. Alex is proposing we have more board committees
 - 1. the Executive committee will take on the responsibilities of a governance committee
 - 2. internal affairs committee - all internal issues, finance, personnel, etc - propose Hadiya be on this
 - 3. external affairs committee - fundraising, comms, public relations - propose J be on this
 - iv. propose for a trial period until the october board meeting; every board member would be required to participate in one of these
 - b. Brenda motions to accept this proposal on a trial, Kelly seconds, APPROVED
- 6. Announcements
 - a. if you have any grant writing experience, join J on the external affairs committee

Adjournment: 7:55 pm