

Minutes of CONA Steering Committee Meeting
June 29, 2013
Bloomingfoods Meeting Room, 2pm

Present: Georgia Schaich, Green Acres, Matt Press, McDoel Gardens, Patrick Murray, Prospect Hill, Cynthia Bretheim, Prospect Hill, Carrie Winkel, Crescent Bend, Paul Ash, McDoel Gardens, Elizabeth Cox-Ash, McDoel Gardens, Jon Lawrence, Bryan Park, Sandi Clothier, Near West Side.

The meeting was called to order at 2:15pm by Sandi Clothier after Georgia requested that she not chair the meeting.

Approval of the minutes of June 19, 2013 meeting. A discussion of the information regarding JB Salvage ensued and Carrie Winkel presented an addendum to clarify the facts of the case. It was also noted that this meeting time was changed due to a conflict with a prior group meeting at Bfoods until 2pm. Minutes were approved as amended, vote was unanimous.

JB Salvage issue: Elizabeth presented a Letter of Support for members of CONA to sign regarding support for neighborhoods resisting a Waste Transfer Station on the west side of Bloomington. Members of the Steering Committee signed the Letter of Support.

A discussion of options for the CONA checking account was presented by Elizabeth; it was agreed that this business would be presented and discussed in detail at the next full CONA meeting, and appreciation for Elizabeth's research was offered.

In new business, discussion of changes to CONA'S bylaws, and nominations of officers were discussed. The Nominations for officers included a discussion of the advantages and disadvantages of President/ Veep as opposed to Chair/ Vice Chair; it was agreed that the terms Chair and Vice Chair would be used. The following Slate was agreed upon by the Steering Committee:

Chair- Jon Lawrence

Vice Chair- Georgia Schaich

Co-Secretaries- Cynthia Bretheim and Sandi Clothier

Treasurer- Elizabeth Cox-Ash

The Slate recommendations will be sent to the CONA membership no later than July 7 in order to be voted on during the July 17th General meeting.

A discussion of proposed Bylaw changes then took place; it was agreed that this would be an ongoing process, to bring the Bylaws up to date in terms of CONA's current configuration, being volunteer based rather than having paid employees.

ARTICLE I: NAME – no changes

ARTICLE II: PRINCIPAL OFFICE- no changes

ARTICLE III: PURPOSE

The proposal to change the word purpose to MISSION, with the following wording, which has been taken from the CONA Planning Retreat of September 10, 2011.

ARTICLE III: MISSION

Neighborhood associations working together to create healthy, secure neighborhoods, provide organizational support, and serve as a unified, advocating voice for neighborhood concerns. CONA envisions a government that respects the non fiscal attributes of our community, which include our natural resources, green space, trees and other elements of the physical environment that enhance our overall quality of life.

Sections 1-4: Proposal is to remove these sections of the Bylaws, as they relate primarily to CONA as a corporation run by a paid professional.

ARTICLE IV: GOALS. Propose replacing goals with the following set of goals, as taken from the Sept 10 Planning meeting noted in the previous section.

GOALS

- Foster a sense of community in city and county neighborhoods
- Promote neighborhood preservation and advocate for appropriate land use
- Support and empower neighborhoods for effective community action
- Maintain and improve the quality of life
- Encourage the formation of new neighborhood (associations?) in our community
- Enhance communication and cooperation between neighborhood organizations
- Provide a forum where neighborhood organizations can discuss specific concerns

ARTICLE V: MEMBERSHIP

Proposal is to replace Section 1 with the following:

Any neighborhood organization registered with the City of Bloomington or County Government has automatic membership in CONA. Any other neighborhood organization can request membership in CONA and be granted membership by a 2/3rd vote of the Board. Said application shall include:

1. A description of the neighborhood boundaries and
2. A statement of interest from the neighborhood organization.

Section 2, 3, 4 no changes

ARTICLE VI: BOARD MEETINGS

Section 1: Change Executive Director to Chairperson

Section 2: No changes

ARTICLE VII: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ~~AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR~~

Remove wording And Executive Director from the title of Article VII

Section 1: delete current wording and replace with

Section 1: An Executive Committee shall consist of the Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer; no member will be compensated for his/her services.

Section 2: remove entire section

Section 3: Remove only the first line of Section 3, rest remains as is.

Due to time constraints, the meeting was called, with the understanding that the review of bylaws would continue at a later date

The meeting was adjourned at 4pm