

# Cully Association of Neighbors Board Meeting Minutes - DRAFT

Tuesday, September 28th, 2021, 6:30-8:30pm

Online meeting via Zoom

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## Welcome and Introductions

Board members in attendance: Annette Pronk, Chris Browne, Gregory Sotir, Josh Heumann, Isha Leinow, Maria Grzanka, Absent: David Sweet, Talia Kahn-Kravis, Vena Rainwater  
Also in attendance: Michael Morrissey

## Public Comment Period

None

## Approval of previous minutes

**Motion to approve:** Gregory Sotir motions to approve August meeting minutes

**Motion to amend:** Annette Pronk

- Last month board voted to approve \$500 donation to provide dumpster for Cully litter pickup event, event said thank you but save your money for another event because Republic Services is making donation of dumpster and removal to support the event
- **ACTION ITEM:** Maria to add update as note on previous minutes - DONE

**Motion to approve:** Gregory Sotir motions to approve August meeting minutes with above amendment, Isha Leinow seconds

**Vote:** All present in favor. None opposed. None abstain. Motion passes.

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### Community agreements

Maria Grzanka raises request to revisit CAN community agreements, used to be shared at in-person general meetings

Josh Heumann adds agreements to chat: Be respectful, One person speaks at a time, Focus on topic at hand, Work towards resolution or agreement, Monitor your air time, Assume good intentions

Josh: Used to be on a poster, asked someone to read aloud at beginning of meeting

Gregory: why do we need to revisit, think they're fine

Josh: Less about updating or changing, but to remember them as a regular practice, physical artifact not present in virtual meetings, could we have a splash page in Zoom

Chris Browne: could add under assume good intentions, accepting views, has been told in past to stop talking when raising contrary views about partners, was offended, should be able to speak our minds, assume good intentions, without fear of being shut down

Annette Pronk: recalls objectionable behaviors in community that were not called out and people were shut down, acknowledges incident

Gregory: perception is reality, has been vocal in past about issues with partner organizations, but norms [community agreements] are predicated on idea of personal honesty, meant to elucidate communication, not to give opportunity to express opinions, allowing people to have a voice that may have been marginalized, don't think you have been marginalized

Maria: Segue into next topic on agenda, could the details be worked out in the working groups

Isha Leinow: supports community agreements and revising, wants everybody's input, needs air time with whole board

### Working groups

Josh: explains working group concept and proposed groups, shares link to working document, a lot to do, groups intended to provide space for deeper discussion to happen outside of board meetings, [group work to] be brought back to board meeting, provides inroads for others not on board to start participating, for example people who want to find out about PBOT could join TLC (Transportation & Landuse Committee), people excited about volunteering could join event and meetings group, people like Michael Morrissey CNN representative could join up with others partnering with other orgs

Chris: would be nice if we could invite people either with e-blast or website, invite people to participate

Isha: distinction between committee and working group, working group less formal, less cumbersome in terms of technical requirements and process to follow

Josh: some working groups don't rise to level of committee structure needed, communications or event/meeting stuff don't need a committee, more like a subgroup for doing the work

Maria: groups to work on action items and collaborate with each other

Isha: how do these align with CAN priorities: advocacy, connections, shoring up the box

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Gregory: replace partnership with another term, like working relationships

Chris: likes it

Isha: could we use allies

Chris: sometime we are not allies

Maria: we could be for or against

Josh: in support of idea, is there any governance

Chris: is there a beginning or end

Josh: duration, feels like things that are always going on are part of what it means to operate CAN, hope is we do the things we need to do, give an avenue for those who want to have an input on this thing and how to join, groups can make recommendations to board, but board still needs to vote on things that board needs to vote on, in terms on membership, everyone on board would be on at least one and maybe more, for a lot of this many hands make light work

Maria: example of meeting group

Gregory: is this making more work, need an open idea working group, how do we bring in new ideas, are we over-managing

Annette: micro-managing vs shoring up the box, if there are working meetings, should be regular scheduled dates, rather than trying to schedule, hearing two issues, setting up topics, and nuts and bolts, re: Gregory, how do we make public comment period more effective, or maybe reframe announcements, what's the issue, air the issue, will this go into a working group, can we create another working group, as a Cully resident (if you own/rent/work in Cully), come find resources, get support for your concern in the neighborhood, could we approach this in the public comment period?

Gregory: seeing process taking over time in meeting, feels more about being nimble and quick, only have 9-10 meetings per year, appreciate time

Annette: let's see what happens, essentially create mini workgroups to figure it out, would have been helpful to have standard working group to say this is where I'm at, recommend we move forward with this, should not take away from opportunity

Chris: what I see is shoring up the box, a lot of the hard work being done but not by me, working groups as a lot of work but a good thing because it takes a load off whoever has been doing all this, for example events, and communications, would like to pitch in

Isha: in support of working groups, agree with Gregory, look intimidating, [wants to stay] fun and creative, [working groups provide] space to do it, pivot to focus on immediate needs

Annette: Is working group participation limited to association membership only?

Josh: participation could be anyone, only Cull members can vote if/when required

Annette: fine, but can't vote officially in CAN, can't think of reason to say no

Maria: [working groups] lump ideas together, put like-minded people together to work together

Isha: one dichotomy is standing working group for specific tasks, outside people give them direction, could be interim working groups

Gregory: we should all consider each other liaisons to each other

**ACTION ITEM:** Maria to follow up with each working group and absent board members who previously expressed interest in idea (Vena, Talia, and David)

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### Proposed update to the purchase policy to increase childcare rates

Josh request to table topic for next meeting, not providing childcare at this time, Vena not present to talk about policy changes

Isha: agrees

Maria: concern about Zoom interpretation price increase from \$50 monthly to \$79

### October general meeting topic

Isha: WeShine presenting, share what they do, see if any interest in Cully, <https://weshinepdx.org/>, builds tiny houses, 2 projects in exploration, can do up to 12 micro-houses on standard city lot, 5000 sq ft, what they need to make it happen, would be candidate for TIF funds, even though funds not yet available, presentation on what they do, innovative, assess if interest in Cully, need to send out announcement, close to ready to go  
Gregory: availability to send emails, will get to them as soon as he can

Isha: supports anti-displacement, consistent with inclusive policy, expect there will be some opposition, one founder was David's peer at city, is prepared to deal with any unneighborly behavior and advance conversation to be more inclusive

Chris: what did you mean by how to handle if not a neighborly welcome

Isha: sometimes neighbors say antagonizing, inflammatory things, try to make them look bad, or to make their counter-arguments more vocal

Chris: are you trying to suppress counter arguments?

Isha: good at taking abuse, stays positive if we can maintain conversation

Josh: eventually meeting group can handel, do you need support?

Annette: interpretation as a need for this topic, outreach for this particular meeting

Isha: might be worth, to extend invitation

Annette: good standard to have interpretation available, will have to confirm availability

Gregory: in terms of next meeting and recent developments with Owens-Brockway, situation is evolving quickly, would like 5-10 minutes on agenda

Josh: yes, we can bring in, plus teaser for November meeting

Gregory: Commissioner Rubio will likely accept, meaning to write up synopsis of recent events, still counting on it for November

**ACTION ITEM:** Gregory reach out to Commissioner Rubio and DEQ for November meeting

**ACTION ITEM:** Annette will request Courtney for October meeting and in advance for November meeting

Isha: what is meeting standard for translation

Annette: for perspective, IRCO has translation services, or tap into OCCL - do you have any services, do you have some grant opportunities so we can have ongoing services with IRCO?, falls under relationships working group

Isha: falls under communications

Josh: falls under several

Josh: could be consistent, rather than chasing it

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Gregory: having gotten any feedback on Spanish translation [in emails], some feedback about TTT function for visual impairment, needs to have some kind of text, alt text for images, all in body of message

Annette: relationships, City's Office of Accessibility?, could lean into them to give support or grant funding

**ACTION ITEM:** Maria to add to working group ideas - regular translation, write out schedule and timeline needed, create workback schedule of when things are needed, announcement 1 wk before and day of/day before

Josh: this is exactly how the working group can function, backwards schedule

Isha: should it be translated? [for this meeting]

Josh: how long does it take?

Isha: 6 hours to never, usually a day

Josh: suggest set a deadline, if not done, send out Spanish later

### Check in with CNN Rep Michael Morrissey

Michael Morrissey: Being member liaison to CNN wasn't working so well, most others [at CNN] are board members of other orgs, made it hard to represent on issues that needed representing, haven't heard much about what to do, obviously some history [between CNN and CAN], maybe there is some room to take something we're working on to bring to CNN and have them pick it up, mostly they have presentations, Cully has many non-profit support organizations within the neighborhood, others may not or are not interested, learned everything i can in last 6 mos about TIF and affordable housing, would help me to pick one or 2 things to focus on

Josh: struggle from chair is to make things clear for board, not understood in role that you inhabit, have not given much direction or established relationship

Annette: appreciate of filling seat, always missing you, should have some report out, [I] have been asking for their meeting minutes, extreme racist experiences [in the past on] a grant selection committee specifically designed to support underserved communities, their response was 'this is not diverse because no white people are served', asked managers to address, egregious concern of mine, individuals do nothing to promote certain behaviors, empathize with hard place to sit

Michael: now they have their own land use committee, difference in opinion of from city's material, difference from David's opinion, don't fully understand, would rather connect organizations

Gregory: appreciate wanting to continue in thankless role,

Michael: but could [contribute more] with spot on board, or bring opportunities forward

Gregory: board can designate special (at-large) members, propose designating as board member without being a board member

Chris: went to last land use mtg, had presentation about Slow Down Portland, put in a thing for slowing down Cully Blvd, find some things interesting, been going to a couple, other boards not pushing for much change, agrees with Gregory

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Annette: thank you Michael for your service, coming on board without having much to go on, apologize, responsibility of each board member to attend a mtg with Michael, for us to hear and get to know Michael, have a CNN experience for themselves

**ACTION ITEM:** Micheal to reach out and connect with each us with schedule of meetings and to signup for one

**ACTION ITEM:** Josh will send to board to sign up to go with Michael

Josh: Michael please continue to attend board meetings to integrate

Adjourn

**Motion to approve:** Chris motions to adjourn, Isha seconds

**Vote:** All present in favor. None opposed. None abstain. Motion passes.

Delta/plus

Enter comments in chat or stay after to discuss further

listening to others I appreciate the effort maria great new way to approach our work (working groups, integrating Michael and his approach to working with CNN Participation good discussion nice to see you all glad to hear from michael shoring up the box!!!! (By talking about working groups)	energy was low going going over on time :) missing female board members better preparation for meeting topics
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**ACTION ITEM:** Josh to write up document about navigating CAN Google Drive

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*Meeting Minutes recorded by Maria Grzanka, CAN Secretary. All CAN Board Meeting and General Meetings are open to the public to attend. Please reach out to a board member for more detailed information about discussion points.*

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### **Active Committees & Other CAN Roles**

- CNN Representative: Michael Morrissey
- Grievance Committee: Isha Leinow + 1 board member vacancy + 3 community member vacancy
- CAN website: Chris Browne
- CAN email list-serv: Gregory Sotir
- Cully Air Action Team: Gregory Sotir
- Transportation and Land Use: David Sweet
- Tree Team: Bruce Nelson