



Brooklyn Action Corps Neighborhood Association
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BAC October 2021 board meeting minutes

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Date

October 13, 2021

Attendees

Melaney Dittler

Josh Hetrick

John Karabaic

Marie Phillippi

Kimberléa Ruffu

Jone van Rees

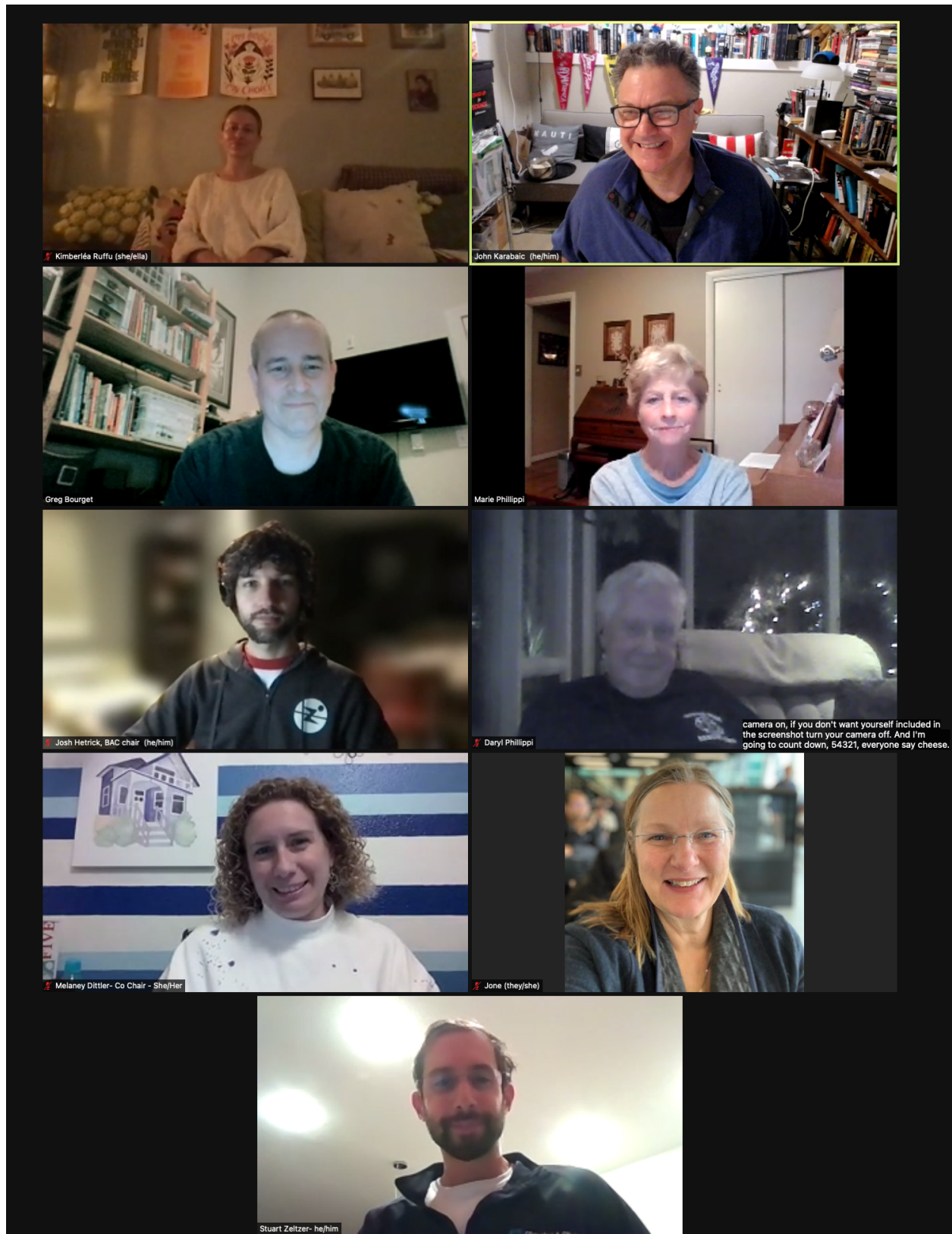
Stuart Zeltzer

Greg Bourget, invited speaker from Cascadia Action

Barbara Mohl (joined later, around 8:30PM)

Daryl Phillippi

Zoom Photo



Welcome, introduction, and land acknowledgement

Read by Josh, called to order 19:07

Main topics

Cascadia Action / air quality letters to endorse - Greg Bourget

Jone introduced Greg.

Here is Greg's intro: Greg Bourget works as the Executive Director and Lead Researcher for Portland Clean Air. He has a BA in Political science and has worked full time for sixteen environmental and social justice non-governmental organizations since 1991 including Bark, Mendocino and North Coast Environmental Centers, Earth First, Greenpeace, and National Environmental Law Center.

We're going to vote on joining and signing his letters, Stu has given Jone his proxy.

Greg Bourget (503) 995-5453 gregbourget at hotmail.com

Greg talks about the dangers of the sub-micron diesel particulate (.2 microns in size), and the specialized device that's needed to read it. Also talks about the mobile 2.5 micron mobile readers they'll be using on bikes to measure PM 2.5 and VOCs around the city, particularly during inversions.

Working with many neighborhood boards and community organizations to address the problem with legacy industries here that have been identified as polluters. Current regulatory environment only allows the regulation of new polluters. Citizen action seems to be the best way to address this issue, since the state regulatory apparatus seems inadequate.

Jone asks about getting our own letter out about Union Pacific, and getting other members to sign on to it.

Greg explains the process: each letter that's sent out requires a board-level action of each board to send the letter on behalf of that board. Explains that process in particular for the UP action was taken in the past and Creston-Kenilworth & Brooklyn decided, in the past, to take no further action, but they'd welcome revisiting that decision.

Kimberléa: Asks about the strategy of approaching polluters directly rather than going through the legislators.

Greg talks a bit about the barriers to state-wide legislative action due to the way elections are funded, in particular corporate funding/contributions to elections. Direct negotiation seems to be a model that works, as the experience with Bullseye Glass proved.

Josh asks about the process on the letters.

Greg talks about the multi-year process around the letters which depends on the organizational consensus process around the letters. It's difficult to change because it requires consensus of all the board members. Talks about once when a change was made to add citations to a letter, and that was justified.

John asks a question about how things are verified, are we relying on the instrumentation they have to verify that the controls are implemented.

Greg explains that when they install mitigation equipment, the equipment isn't shut off or bypassed for a variety of reasons: the cost of the equipment, the chance that logs would be subpoenaed, and the danger of cracking it open.

Josh states the motion: to join the coop, appoint Jone, and sign the letters. Melaney seconds. Approved unanimously.

Kimberléa asks if there are any tribes or indigenous groups affiliated or represented in this.

Greg: They're not. Primarily focused on Neighborhood Associations next to worst polluters. But they're aware of the justice issues around BIPOC affected by major polluters. They just got a \$5K grant to pursue BIPOC justice issues around pollution.

Clean-up follow-up

Josh: Following up on the email that was sent to the board around the finances and results.
Marie: made \$800, deets in the newsletter.

SE Uplift fiscal sponsorship renewal

Marie: all deductible donations must go to SEUplift to gain tax deductibility. We must list projects to them for accounting. It seems pretty labor intensive. Seems like a different requirement than in the past.

General discussion of the process around it.

John will negotiate the terms on it and find out what we actually need to do.

Supporting anti-racism and equity at SE Uplift

Board resignations at Mt Scott, Arleta, Lents and Richmond, the issues around volunteerism, and problems with some board members at SE Uplift.

Do we ask SEU to amend the bylaws to make it easier to remove board members?

Discussion around sending letters of support to some of the boards, and prior proposals for mediation workshops.

Discussion around some past incidents on our own board.

Discussion around a formal code of conduct.

We're going to get some input from ESJ and get that back for the next meeting.

Melaney raises bylaws update.

Write an update for the newsletter announcing bylaws update. John will write it, get it to Marie by Friday.

Put it on the agenda for the next general meeting.

PO Box keys

Motion to get an extra key up to \$30. Seconded, passed by acclamation.

John proposes using a lockbox of some sort so he and Josh can share a key.

Communication grant funds

We did get grant for \$600 for some communications purposes, like translation, which are use or lose by December.

Kimberléa could use help translating social media posts.

Melaney, translating welcome packets.

Motion by acclamation that we'll apply that grant money to translating welcome packets

Regular updates

Review of prior meeting minutes

[September minutes](#) approved.

Treasurer's report

No questions about the report.

Proposal to start a savings account, and leave about \$1K in checking?

Are we allowed to have a savings account?

Look at other approaches, including setting a debit card limit?

Marie will set up a savings account and manage transfers.

Committee updates

Community Connections, Friends of Brooklyn Park, Groceries for Grout

Melaney

Socktober: bring your socks by October 22

Neighborhood street cleaning for trick-or-treat, Saturday October 30.

Another street cleaning November 20 for Thanksgiving.

Lots of green bins involved, getting leaves off the streets to make them safer.

Trees on the eastern part of the neighborhood beyond the tracks aren't well mapped.

Another food drive

Don's memorial tree: Cheryl still working on it, \$35, will plant but not provide gaiter for watering.

Jone may have gaiters we can use.

Marathon went well, don't know if we've won yet.

FOBP gets their check for managing the aid station.

Mark your calendars: Feb 24 2022 online auction for FOBP.

ESJ

Kimberléa

Last meeting was smaller because some folks have moved.

Three parcels of land around SE McLoughlin are currently unused, Portland Maps say it's owned by ODOT, wondering how the community garden got their land from ODOT.

Grant application deadlines start as soon as November, so we should figure out what we want to apply for.

Would like to get a mention of Native American Heritage month mentioned in the newsletter.

Land Use and Transportation Committee (LUTC)

Jone

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1. Share CEIC update: Peter Fry to propose **PIA impact traffic analysis** (traffic study) for SE 12th & Clinton
2. Board permission to write The Bee for coordinated media package re intersections & UP blockings to be disseminated simultaneously with SE Examiner and SMILE (Marie to connect Jone to Eric)
3. Ask permission to file with Trimet a letter for public records disclosure of unfiltered buses at headquarters and usages; previous history: Jone wrote Luke Norman on October 5, 2021, and received on October 6 a reply from Janet P. (Customer service rep) that BAC is to write the legal department and file a request for inspection of public record, specifically pertaining to the number of unfiltered diesel engines in buses, with the number of buses in service and their condition (using this fillable form online <https://trimet.org/publicrecords/recordsrequest.htm>); LUTC approved requesting under Public Info Act; John may know a lawyer to help with language
4. Update re Planning & Sustainability meeting re BPS proposed Clean Air Fee, 4 Brooklyn businesses affected (Bullseye, PGE, Northstar, PCC Structural) and how anticipated \$2 million (annually) will be spent on grants, admin, FTE and to create environmental justice intersectionality for impacted communities and BIPOC folks located near immobile sources

Newsletter

Marie

Needs the houselessness story from Kimberléa

Story on foot patrol is premature, since they haven't decided on the policy.

Stories on the marathon, cleanup, historical stuff

Need to get stuff from the current storage location to new location (SE Uplift) before October 30.

Needs agenda for November meeting: by laws, land use, mcloughlin, petition for UP blockages on SE 11/12.

Community Garden

Barbara Mohl

Marie points out garden has \$6K.

Barbara says there's \$3.5K at SEU that belongs to the garden.

Water bill was \$319 this time, for September. Vs \$162 for the last billing period.

Some discussion around hauling rates and RV's that have been parking around there.

Melaney asks about general status.

1 person dropped, plot needs cleaning up.

2 people passed, want to be on that list, 3 other new folks

Turnover is usually 5-7 folks per year.

Some discussion about spraying for invasives. Only happens in common areas, not on plots, has been voted on.

Barbara will send a synopsis to the garden

Liaison updates (if needed)

SE Uplift - Stuart

SE Uplift LUTC - Josh/Melaney

Central Eastside Industrial Council (CEIC) railroad/land use committees

Jone

Updates around SE Clinton, including signage changes & the UP blocking issue

Coordinated media outreach to the Tribune, Bee & SE Examiner

Bureau of Planning and Sustainability on Clean Air Fee, that affects Bullseye, Northstar, PGE and PCC, to raise about \$2M annually to create intersectional environmental justice programs.

Trimet issues around unfiltered engines. Wanted to invite Luke Norman of Trimet to a meeting, their response was we need to do a public records request to get the information we need.

Marie will introduce Jone to Eric Newberg at the Bee.

Email about junk on SE Lafayette, need to respond to the mailer. Discussion around the how to get the resources in the welcome packet to both residents to answer questions about who to call, as well as to the unhoused in the neighborhood.

Motion for a public records request around diesel activities. Motion passes by acclamation.

Open forum / late-addition agenda items (time permitting)

Storage space

Meeting scheduling

Discussion about correcting the November General Meeting (showing as the 24th) & the Land Use meeting (showing as the 23rd) in the calendar.

Officer Authentication

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Chairman

Secretary

Chat log

18:57:39 From John Karabaic to Everyone:

Sign in to the meeting here <https://forms.gle/JSSDeiAmUGThdg2a6>

19:00:19 From Melaney Dittler- Co Chair - She/Her to Everyone:

John can you hear us?

19:02:16 From John Karabaic to Everyone:

Sign in to the meeting here <https://forms.gle/JSSDeiAmUGThdg2a6>

19:02:57 From Jone (they/she) to Everyone:

Hi everyone, I had a covid scare this morning and am feeling pretty awful so I am going to stay off video since I am attending in my pjs

19:03:06 From Kimberléa Ruffu (she/ella) to Everyone:

<3

19:07:22 From Kimberléa Ruffu (she/ella) to Everyone:

We would like to start this event by acknowledging that Multnomah County is geographically located on the ancestral homelands of the Indigenous tribes of the Multnomah, Kathlamet, Clackamas, Tumwater, Watlala bands of the Chinook, the Tualatin Kalapuya and many other Indigenous nations of the Columbia River. We recognize that Indigenous/Native American communities still exist today.

While land acknowledgements are important in helping us frame a sense of place and history, we recognize that they are only the first step towards reconciliation.

19:12:23 From Jone (they/she) to Everyone:

<http://portlandcleanair.org>

19:12:40 From Jone (they/she) to Everyone:

You can find the graph he is talking about on the home page

19:14:15 From Kimberléa Ruffu (she/ella) to Everyone:

Maybe it would be helpful for Greg to turn off his camera

19:14:26 From Jone (they/she) to Everyone:

Yea turn off your camera Greg

19:15:20 From Jone (they/she) to Everyone:

Here is Greg's intro: Greg Bourget works as the Executive Director and Lead Researcher for Portland Clean Air. He has a BA in Political science and has worked full time for sixteen environmental and social justice non-governmental organizations since 1991 including Bark, Mendocino and North Coast Environmental Centers, Earth First, Greenpeace, and National Environmental Law Center.

19:16:59 From Jone (they/she) to Everyone:

@Greg: Maybe you can send me a summary of what you're sharing right now, so that John can add it properly into the notes

19:28:05 From Stuart Zeltzer- he/him to Everyone:

Hi All, my apologies for being a bit late, busy day at the hospital. Working on eating some dinner and then will turn on video. Good to see all of you!

19:28:26 From Jone (they/she) to Everyone:

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Hi Stuart

19:34:18 From Kimberléa Ruffu (she/ella) to Everyone:
@Greg - are there any tribes or Indigenous groups affiliated or participating in this?

19:37:24 From Greg Bourget to Everyone:
Greg Bourget (503) 995-5453 gregbourget@hotmail.com

19:42:54 From Kimberléa Ruffu (she/ella) to Everyone:
That sounds like a lot more work for them?

19:43:46 From Jone (they/she) to Everyone:
That sounds so strange

19:45:13 From Jone (they/she) to Everyone:
Do we know anyone who is a CPA

19:45:53 From Jone (they/she) to Everyone:
To check Marie's interpretation?

19:50:41 From Kimberléa Ruffu (she/ella) to Everyone:
John seems to be asking all the right questions here...

19:50:50 From Kimberléa Ruffu (she/ella) to Everyone:
If we're looking for someone to take it on :)

19:51:07 From Jone (they/she) to Everyone:
Second!

19:53:43 From Stuart Zeltzer- he/him to Everyone:
Sorry guys, reviewing my SE Uplift notes - Looks like their fiscal year ends in June.

19:58:55 From Kimberléa Ruffu (she/ella) to Everyone:
Matchu is super nice and helpful!

20:01:50 From Jone (they/she) to Everyone:
I did

20:15:30 From Stuart Zeltzer- he/him to Everyone:
Josh I will look through SE Uplift materials

20:16:04 From Kimberléa Ruffu (she/ella) to Everyone:
Agreed

20:16:14 From Stuart Zeltzer- he/him to Everyone:
I will help Kimberlea with the letter as well

20:16:16 From Jone (they/she) to Everyone:
I nominate you Melaney

20:18:44 From Melaney Dittler- Co Chair - She/Her to Everyone:
You don't want me doing bylaws.... LOL

20:36:27 From John Karabaic to Everyone:
Sign in to the meeting here <https://forms.gle/JSSDeiAmUGThdg2a6>

20:36:51 From Kimberléa Ruffu (she/ella) to Everyone:
And an FYI the grant process starts November for community projects

20:37:02 From Kimberléa Ruffu (she/ella) to Everyone:
Last year it started in early spring

20:38:39 From Jone (they/she) to Everyone:
Are we allowed to have a savings account?

20:41:36 From Kimberléa Ruffu (she/ella) to Everyone:

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I think it's good to create a savings account if we're allowed to do so.

20:43:07 From Stuart Zeltzer- he/him to Everyone:
agreed. will all stated

20:48:42 From Kimberléa Ruffu (she/ella) to Everyone:
Valë may also be able to translate that flyer

20:48:47 From Kimberléa Ruffu (she/ella) to Everyone:
Into Spanish

20:49:54 From Jone (they/she) to Everyone:
Ok and no not this year; I have a big tree myself

20:56:30 From Kimberléa Ruffu (she/ella) to Everyone:
I should clarify: I think our ESJ focus for a possible grant proposal to SEUL will be centered around food justice + accessibility and mutual aid gardening

20:56:35 From Josh Hetrick, BAC chair to Everyone:
Not sure if we're technically a CEIC member proper, but we do participate in CEIC's railroad committee

20:59:23 From Kimberléa Ruffu (she/ella) to Everyone:
I support that

21:01:44 From Kimberléa Ruffu (she/ella) to Everyone:
I'm not

21:02:14 From Kimberléa Ruffu (she/ella) to Everyone:
Thank you for doing this Jone!

21:04:30 From Kimberléa Ruffu (she/ella) to Everyone:
I am working on a 3 pager pamphlet lay out with resources specifically addressing community safety

21:04:38 From Kimberléa Ruffu (she/ella) to Everyone:
It's just taking me a minute

21:04:41 From Kimberléa Ruffu (she/ella) to Everyone:
And we could do that

21:04:50 From Kimberléa Ruffu (she/ella) to Everyone:
They're our neighbors too and they need resources as well

21:08:22 From Josh Hetrick, BAC chair to Everyone:
Still here, gotta feed my cats, they're circling me like sharks

21:08:48 From Jone (they/she) to Everyone:
My cat is hunting around the house :)

21:09:34 From Kimberléa Ruffu (she/ella) to Everyone:
I have to leave in about 10 minutes - have to go pick up my partner

21:09:50 From Melaney Dittler- Co Chair - She/Her to Everyone:
meeeee tooooo! LOL

21:10:07 From Stuart Zeltzer- he/him to Everyone:
me too x 2

21:10:08 From Jone (they/she) to Everyone:
Stay safe!

21:10:35 From Melaney Dittler- Co Chair - She/Her to Everyone:
And Stuart looks like he is going to fall to sleep from exhaustion any second! :)

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21:10:54 From Jone (they/she) to Everyone:

Long shift Stuart, thank you for what you do

21:11:05 From Kimberléa Ruffu (she/ella) to Everyone:

I'm right there w/you Stuart

21:11:07 From Stuart Zeltzer- he/him to Everyone:

don't worry, I could do another 12 hours easy

21:11:23 From Stuart Zeltzer- he/him to Everyone:

its the lighting in my kitchen

21:11:28 From Jone (they/she) to Everyone:

:)

21:11:57 From Melaney Dittler- Co Chair - She/Her to Everyone:

You're a young buck.... I used to be that way.

21:15:58 From Kimberléa Ruffu (she/ella) to Everyone:

If it's an organic garden and is expected to be organic it should maintain organic processes or there needs to be a clear notice to users that pesticides and chemicals have been sprayed. Additionally, the Board should have some say if there is a decision to spray pesticides if we high level oversee the garden? Not totally sure what our role is here.

21:17:34 From Kimberléa Ruffu (she/ella) to Everyone:

Yes! Please send it Barbara - thank you

21:17:45 From Jone (they/she) to Everyone:

Can you spray with something other than RoundUp so that no glyphosates are used, so that bees have a chance

21:18:16 From Kimberléa Ruffu (she/ella) to Everyone:

I'll get them to you Marie!

21:18:41 From Kimberléa Ruffu (she/ella) to Everyone:

I have to go - have a good night everyone

21:18:44 From Jone (they/she) to Everyone:

Does Marie have the chat open?

21:18:48 From Jone (they/she) to Everyone:

Good night!