



Brooklyn Action Corps Neighborhood Association
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BAC November 2021 board meeting minutes

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Date

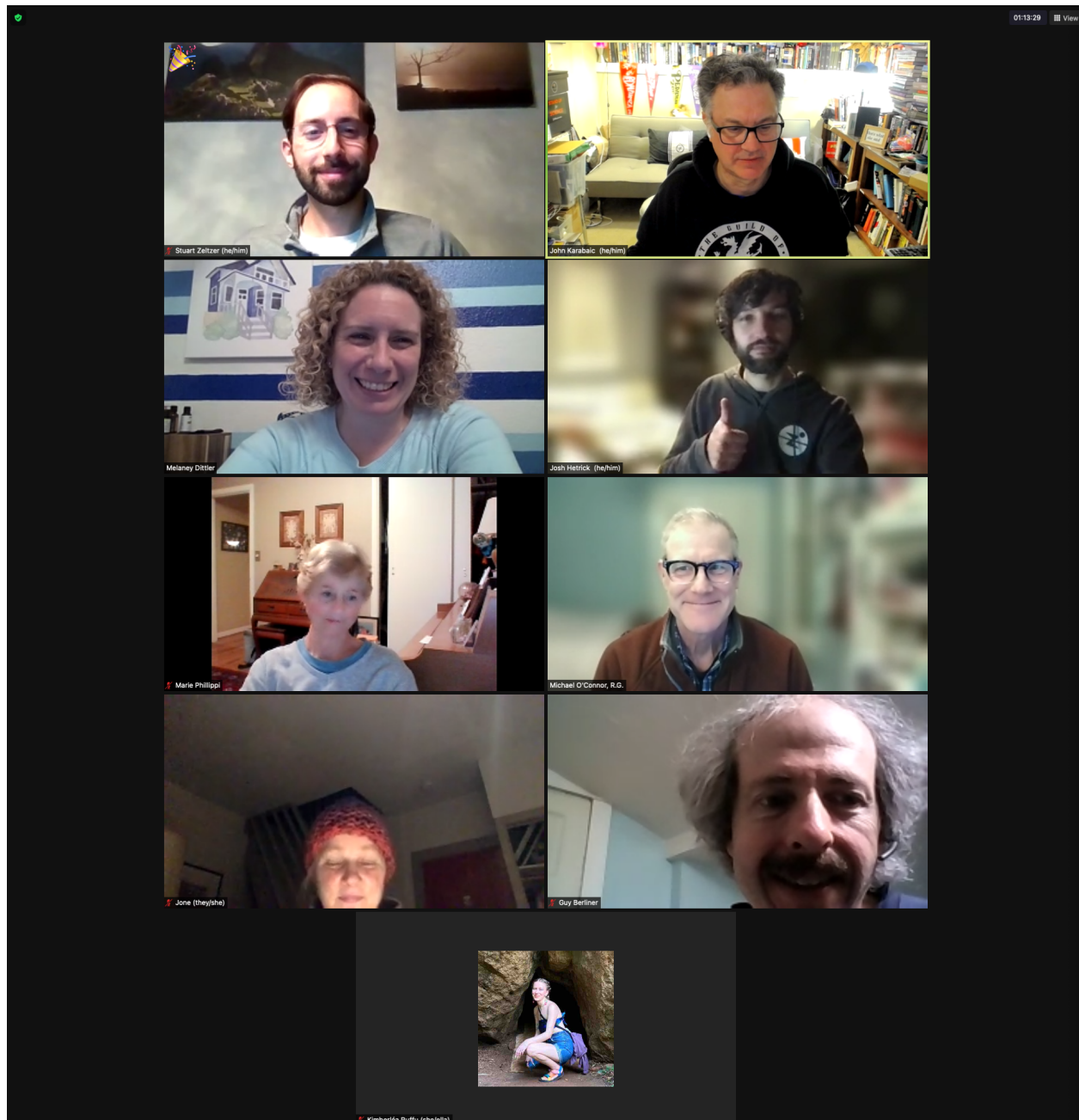
November 10, 2021

Attendees

Guy Berliner
Melaney Dittler
Josh Hetrick
John Karabaic
Marie Phillippi
Kimberléa Ruffu
Jone van Rees
Stuart Zeltzer

Allen Feid
Michael O'Connor

Zoom Photo



Welcome, introduction, and land acknowledgement

Read by Kimberléa, called to order 19:05

Main topics

Neighbors Together training

Stuart summarizing safety meeting from earlier this month. Talks about origins of [Neighbors Together](#) as a replacement for earlier programs. Free 60-90 minute city-sponsored facilitated session around topics of our choosing, done virtually. Stuart will coordinate with the city.

Discussion around timing. General agreement that mid-to-late January might work best, particularly with notifications in the newsletter.

General agreement that we'll settle on topics in time for next newsletter deadline in mid-December.

SE Uplift bylaws proposal

Stuart: SE Uplift going through bylaws review this year, and they suggested a set. There are 2 separate amendments,

1. Modifies the mechanism for updating the bylaws to loosen the requirement postal mail the updates to members. Seems OK to modify that bylaw in a minor way
2. More complex in changes and history. SEU has board members from many places: neighborhood associations, nonprofit staff, businesses, etc. It changes who holds the power and final say over who can remove board members. Board can remove its members, but must be approved by neighborhood associations. Business association members don't have that requirement. There's "with or without cause" that's a controversial change.

Complexity around the Mt Scott/Arleta incident earlier this session that resulted in some of this controversy. Marie asks what happened during that meeting, Stuart says he was there for some of it, but some of it happened during a breakout session afterwards and there was an exchange involving Allen Feid which didn't go well. [Stuart: "I was there for the SEUL meeting but was not present for any of the incident since it happened in the break out room." Allen talks a little about it. 6 SE uplift board members didn't reup for personal reasons, presented a question to go into breakout session. A question involving personal involvement in a question about white supremacy, which Allen says was never defined. Says the topic needed facilitation, and the session was silent for a while. Matcha dropped after a while, and it was kind of silent. Allen says he was told to be quiet when he asked a question when Tiffany speaking. Some difference of opinion on whether they knew why particular board members left. Says Tiffany was doing most of the talking, Allen says the "white members of the board were afraid to talk". Allen says he was defensive, and he said, in response to Tiffany saying that "white people are doing all the talking", that, "Tiffany, you're doing all the talking." And suggested that another board member, Dave?, say something. Allen apologies a few days later, he says he's done this a couple of times. This blew out of proportion. Allen points out actions he says he's taken on SEU issues

with reductions in funds, changes to rules, and other things that he says he's a "whistleblower" on. Mentions changes to the bylaws that he feels would be better, like changing the comment period from 14 days to 45 days.

Stuart: talks a little bit about how he feels about the amendments. The first seems to make sense because it removes that obsolete postal mail requirement. The second seems to have some baggage around it due to this controversy, but Stuart does feel that SEU should have control of its own board. That shouldn't prevent a neighborhood association from adding someone to the own board once someone who represents them has been removed. Asks Kimberléa to comment on it.

Kimberléa says its more appropriate for SEU to work with their own bylaws, and it does seem inappropriate that neighborhood associations get additional protections. It does seem as if some of these rules are rooted into listening to BIPOC people when they say they've been harmed. It is appropriate for Stuart to have an opinion as a member of the SEU board. Stuart says he's soliciting opinions to think out how he'd vote.

Josh expresses confusion on the issue over whether Stuart is representing the consensus of the BAC when he votes, or is just voting the issue as he feels as an SEU member.

Melaney thinks he's just consulting with us as his colleagues in the BAC before he votes, but he would be accountable to the BAC board if we don't think he's representing the BAC when he votes in a particular way.

Josh talks about the local rep, Neerden (spelling?), who was expelled from the legislature.

Stuart says he can be removed by the BAC or SEU.

Allen says that the representative to the SEU from the NA board is obligated to vote as the NA wishes. Says that the system would work if the SEU had to explain it the NA, because they would vote to remove someone unfit. Says with or without cause is bad language, and that the NA Board representatives are treated differently than at-large members. Asks that "with or without cause" be replaced with reasons for dismissal.

Josh wraps it up by thanking Allen for telling his side of the story while reminding us that it is only one side. Sums up the problematic language, and says we will continue discussion over email.

SE Uplift grants

Josh summarizes some changes to the grant process, including the approach around specific goals around the grants.

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Kimberléa: DIA capacity building is one goal, the noncompetitive comms grant, and perhaps one competitive community small grant. Total funding has been doubled.

Josh: The noncompetitive \$500 grant which just involves filling out the paperwork and demonstrating need. Need to have clarity of goals and an idea of the deadline. All 3 grants are due January 10, 2022, which is before the board meeting. If we have additional discussion needed around the grant, we may need to call a special board meeting to make the 1/10 date. The noncompetitive may be due 12/30

Kimberléa says that some of the folks who worked on the grant proposal for the bulletin board have moved away. There's some discussion around what might do a grant proposal around. John talks about the Original Practice Shakespeare in the park, which folks agree might not qualify for a grant. Marie says she did get a grant for the ice cream social one year, and it was a lot of work for a pretty large grant.

Josh: we'll definitely do the noncompetitive funds, but we should start a google doc and discussion around goals. Look at last year's grantees for ideas.

Street Roots distribution ideas

Josh: Saw a bulk delivery option in the back of Street Roots, which allows for a business to distribute it.

Discussion around who might distribute it. It gets distributed for free. It probably goes through a vendor, who probably delivers it.

Kimberléa talked about getting this in the budget for next year, the ESJ. Also in favor of getting the Rose City Resource books in this.

John points out that this should fit into our budget process. General discussion around it: what should the deadline be, what will the process be around it. Seems appropriate to have the budget put together after the January visioning meeting, February proposals, March approvals.

Marie: Need to write an article for the newsletter about the process.

Kimberléa: (in chat) Also if we had a grant proposal that incorporated street roots publications into a broader project that could cover the costs.

Also offers to work with Josh on it, to work with the businesses and get a proposal together for the next budget year.

Jone: (in chat) And I am happy to help with writing the grant proposal

Regular updates

Review of prior meeting minutes

[October 13, 2021 minutes](#) approved by acclamation.

Treasurer's report

Marie: transferred a bunch of money into a savings account. Needs help moving the documents from storage to the house volunteered by Ethos development on 11/20 at 10AM. Some discussion .

Committee updates

Community Connections, Friends of Brooklyn Park, Groceries for Grout Melaney

Cancelled Re-leaf cleanup on 11/20 because of lack of participation and organization. Will try it again next year with some improvements. Are going to deal with the problem of the half-dozen bags that weren't picked up by Brooklyn School Park on SE 16th.



Going to do a food drive on 11/20 instead.

Community connections will be planting 100 daffodil bulbs on Monday, 11/15 around noon. Place TBD.

Recognition event for all Brooklyn volunteers sometime in Jan/Feb. Appetizers and drinks at Brooklyn Park. Will be asking for budget on that.

Insert in the next newsletter, with a heart that folks can decorate and deliver to someone in the neighborhood that they appreciate. Sometime in February around heart date. It will also include

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a calendar of events. This will cost \$100 to print a double-sided B&W item in the newsletter. Motion to do to it, Kimberléa points out that it's being treated a little differently than equivalent proposals in the past. Stuart points out that it is violating the budgetary process. Going to move the proposal to next week.

Ice cream social: needs permit written up, map of event, and all details nailed down by early December. If we don't do this, it doesn't happen. Folks like the ice cream social, but they also liked the Best of Brooklyn BBQ event, so they want to combine the two events. This involves about 25 business tents (from the BBQ event) and the ice cream stuff. Will probably charge the businesses for the tents (maybe \$25). No bouncy house, because no room and maybe COVID still a concern. No face paint/balloon animals in favor of games kids can play for prizes rather than the raffle. ESJ doing the coloring contest, and perhaps the other committees doing something. Ice cream, of course, and perhaps some food catered by someone local (Botto's, Local Grind, Upside Down are all possibilities.) Music. Raffle prizes donated by the businesses in tents. Raffle tickets issued at booth, and that ticket is put by the attendee in a bucket next to the prize they want. Everyone gets a ticket per booth, so they have a chance to win each of the prizes if they visit all the booths and drop their tickets in each bucket evenly.

Kimberléa asks specifically how detailed the plans need to be. Melaney says it doesn't need to be super detailed, but they need the map, food, music, etc. Josh makes the point that we could aim high and remove items, because that might be more acceptable. Melaney talks about the additional cost items on the permit: food, amplified music, etc. Max cost would be ~\$200 if we permitted all possible items, with average cost \$30-60. No alcohol allowed.

Kimberléa (via chat) I think the ESJ would want to have input from both a racial justice and sustainability perspective - as long as there's an opportunity to integrate those ideas/feedback after the permit app is submitted, it makes sense to me to move forward

Motion to move forward with ice cream social plus businesses as proposed. Passed by acclamation.

ESJ

Kimberléa: working on outreach after some members moved from neighborhood. Focusing on food justice issues. Didn't follow up on Mt Scott/Arleta issues and letter of support, seems inappropriate to do it now, but may work on a related issue.

Mental health/first aid training provided from Portland Street Response last Sat, Kimberléa attended. Training was about recognizing when someone needs assistance. It was an 8 hour training that might be broken down to 2 4h sessions. They can come to Brooklyn to do training, even though PSR hasn't been extended as far west as Brooklyn yet. January seems like the best time. There has been interest in it. Would be good to have funds for food and to buy books from the NAMI program for the attendees.

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Land Use and Transportation Committee (LUTC)

No updates

Newsletter

No updates

Community Garden

Liaison updates (if needed)

SE Uplift - Stuart

No updates

SE Uplift LUTC - Josh/Melaney

No updates

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

No updates

Jone: 890 signatures on the petition

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

Discussion about requiring video and in person meetings. Marie feels strongly about requiring video. Others feel strongly that it's an accessibility issue, as well as a COVID safety issue about meeting in person. Marie makes a motion, but there's no second for it.

Officer Authentication

Chairman

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Secretary

Chat log

19:03:37 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."

19:05:11 From Melaney Dittler to Everyone:

I have a bunch of CCC updates.

19:08:06 From Kimberléa Ruffu (she/ella) to Everyone:

If there's time I can share about the Portland Street Response Mental Health First Aid training I attended this past weekend

19:13:13 From Stuart Zeltzer (he/him) to Everyone:

<https://www.portland.gov/civic/communitysafety/neighbors-together-1>

19:43:47 From Kimberléa Ruffu (she/ella) to Everyone:

With 2/3rds approval of the board

19:44:27 From John Karabaic to Josh Hetrick(Direct Message):

Thanks, I was about to remind you of the time.

19:47:08 From Kimberléa Ruffu (she/ella) to Everyone:

Capacity Building

19:48:31 From Jone (they/she) to Everyone:

I thought the comms grant was for \$500 and non-competitive

19:50:05 From Josh Hetrick to Everyone:

<https://www.seuplift.org/grants/>

19:50:06 From Melaney Dittler to Everyone:

SO 3 grants

19:50:06 From Allen Field to Everyone:

Communication grants are up to \$1,000

19:51:53 From Jone (they/she) to Everyone:

Should we have people volunteer for this?

19:52:31 From John Karabaic to Josh Hetrick(Direct Message):

We've spent 5 min on this...how much more would you like?

19:52:58 From Josh Hetrick to John Karabaic(Direct Message):

Let's give it another 5 and check again

19:57:30 From John Karabaic to Josh Hetrick(Direct Message):

5 more minutes up

19:58:01 From Josh Hetrick to John Karabaic(Direct Message):

Thanks, let's wrap up, set a next action, and move on

19:59:49 From John Karabaic to Josh Hetrick(Direct Message):

5m clock running

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20:01:22 From Stuart Zeltzer (he/him) to Everyone:

Brooklyn pharmacy?

20:02:44 From Jone (they/she) to Everyone:

The Saturday sidewalk market?

20:03:01 From Kimberléa Ruffu (she/ella) to Everyone:

The co-op would probably be down

20:03:15 From Kimberléa Ruffu (she/ella) to Everyone:

maybe meta and the new shops at some point

20:03:19 From Guy Berliner to Everyone:

yeah, coop would be a good place for it

20:05:40 From John Karabaic to Josh Hetrick(Direct Message):

reset the clock for another 5

20:08:47 From Kimberléa Ruffu (she/ella) to Everyone:

Also if we had a grant proposal that incorporated street roots publications into a broader project that could cover the costs

20:10:52 From Guy Berliner to Everyone:

me too!

20:11:14 From Jone (they/she) to Everyone:

I agree!

20:11:33 From Jone (they/she) to Everyone:

And I am happy to help with writing the grant proposal

20:12:15 From Guy Berliner to Everyone:



20:12:24 From Kimberléa Ruffu (she/ella) to Everyone:

Thank you Jone :)

20:13:04 From Jone (they/she) to Everyone:



20:14:38 From John Karabaic to Josh Hetrick(Direct Message):

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1_xCn6NvIJw_9UJ6g4zB3DW8GzZBynogz5kxL-7AfBz8/edit#

20:14:44 From John Karabaic to Everyone:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1_xCn6NvIJw_9UJ6g4zB3DW8GzZBynogz5kxL-7AfBz8/edit#

20:16:04 From Guy Berliner to Everyone:

abstaining since i missed the meeting!

20:28:09 From Jone (they/she) to Everyone:

I can help an hour or 2 with Groceries for Grout

20:37:57 From Kimberléa Ruffu (she/ella) to Everyone:

My neighbor is a DJ

20:41:30 From Jone (they/she) to Everyone:

And the Sunday after Labor Day 2022 is 11 September FYI

20:42:52 From John Karabaic to Josh Hetrick(Direct Message):

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20 minutes done

20:43:07 From John Karabaic to Josh Hetrick(Direct Message):
set another 5

20:43:09 From Josh Hetrick to John Karabaic(Direct Message):
thx

20:48:04 From Kimberléa Ruffu (she/ella) to Everyone:

Are we able to apply for an alcohol permit? Just thinking about Ruse and the 2 bottle shops in our neighborhood should they want to be included. I know the process is different for giving it away for free or selling it

20:48:11 From Kimberléa Ruffu (she/ella) to Everyone:

If we wanted to apply for that*

20:48:27 From John Karabaic to Josh Hetrick(Direct Message):
5 minutes up

20:49:05 From John Karabaic to Everyone:
weed? :-)

20:50:10 From Kimberléa Ruffu (she/ella) to Everyone:

I think the ESJ would want to have input from both a racial justice and sustainability perspective - as long as there's an opportunity to integrate those ideas/feedback after the permit app is submitted, it makes sense to me to move forward

20:53:30 From John Karabaic to Josh Hetrick(Direct Message):
another 5 gone by

20:56:39 From John Karabaic to Josh Hetrick(Direct Message):
set a 5m clock

21:01:30 From John Karabaic to Kimberléa Ruffu (she/ella)(Direct Message):

You were 5 minutes on the dot for your update! Efficient and informative, bravo.

21:01:49 From Kimberléa Ruffu (she/ella) to John Karabaic(Direct Message):
I tried! :)

21:02:40 From Kimberléa Ruffu (she/ella) to Everyone:

Oh! I emailed Valë about the translations for the welcoming packet. I haven't heard back yet and will check in with them again this week.

21:03:12 From Josh Hetrick to Everyone:

Thanks, I meant to ask about that

21:05:27 From Kimberléa Ruffu (she/ella) to Everyone:

Could we follow up on this at the general meeting?

21:08:38 From Kimberléa Ruffu (she/ella) to Everyone:

It's easy to move it to next week!