

Union Square Neighborhood Council - Meeting January 2, 2019

Attendance

USNC Voting Members:

Ben Baldwin, Bill Cavellini, Ann Camara, Pennie Taylor, Michèle Hansen, Jacob Kramer, Ben Bradlow, Tori Antonino

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Neighborhood Resident Members: 5 total

Co-Facilitators: Bill Cavellini

Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions
 - a. Bill opened the meeting and led introductions
 - b. Jacob to assist in facilitation
2. Public Comment
 - a. none
3. Approval of 12/5 and 12/19 minutes
 - a. December 5
 - i. Vote: 8 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain
 - ii. Motion passes
 - b. December 19
 - i. Vote: 7 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain
 - ii. Motion passes
4. Discussion, decisions and volunteering for tasks associated with referendum on Permanent Bylaws
 - a. 12-6pm at the Somerville Public Safety Building
 - b. Eligible voters are Union Square residents, property owners, and workers
 - c. Discussion of what constitutes a "volunteer," ie can an advocacy group count? Board to eventually vote on a defined meaning
 - d. Needs: ballots, sign in sheets/membership sheets, signs for doors, copies of new bylaws and changes, box for ballots (Bill has)
 - e. Election committee was asked to supply one person to MC the candidates night, ask SCC to accept board candidate packet submission and supply a person to count votes for the bylaws vote.
5. Review of upcoming schedule leading up to Board elections
 - a. Bill reviewed upcoming schedule
 - b. Items required of USNC Board candidates: biography, 5 signatures of USNC members, photograph, candidate information form.
 - c. Jacob: Motion to have the candidate forum on Thursday 1/17 at 7pm
 - i. Michèle- Second
 - ii. Discussion- purpose of having it on Thursday is to provide some more time between candidate submission and candidate forum.
 - iii. Vote: 4 yes, 3 opposed, 1 abstain
 - iv. Motion passes
 - d. Candidates forum requires an MC, preferably one who is not running.
 - e. Election 12-4pm on Saturday 2/2, 7am-8pm Monday Feb 4

6. Outreach for all of the above
 - a. Candidate packets to be sent to neighborhood organizations, TinyLetter, Facebook
 - b. Election outreach- list of groups that should receive information about the election is being provided by Ben Bradlow
7. Progress with US2 Negotiations
 - a. There has not been a negotiation session since the last USNC meeting.
8. Discussion of USNC participation in Somervision 2040 committee.
 - a. Board to explore the possibility. Ann Camara volunteers to participate
9. Public Comment
 - a. Gary Trujillo- Somervision 2030 will be used as a template to justify changes to things like Open Space. I would like to publicize this to the general membership.
 - b. Gary Trujillo- web site is still down. Configured a new server from the ground up. We should have our site up by the end of the week.
 - c. Somervision 2040 may not be a farce- we should not stay out of it without knowing more.
10. Executive Session to discuss strategy and tactics for further negotiations
 - a. Michèle- motion to move into executive session
 - i. Pennie- seconds
 - ii. Unanimous yes
 - b. The negotiations committee needs more time to prepare for negotiating sessions.