

**NEPNA MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 11, 2018
NORTHEAST RECREATION CENTER**

PROPERTY AT 18th & TYLER

- Planning to restore as a duplex
- Primary building is structurally sound. Fence removed due to cost.
- City has assessed a Vacant Building Restoration (VBR) fee to encourage and accelerate restoration
- Need restoration agreement in order to remove from VBR fee of \$7K/year
 - Owners concerned with the city's requirements that will apply under the restoration agreement to make sure that any work that is started will be in compliance.
 - City representative offered to help with permits and inspection – can schedule inspection as early as next week
- Owners plan to work on the property throughout the winter and complete final weather-sensitive construction tasks in the spring

BUDGET/FUNDING UPDATE

- Jack Hantage requested board members to complete a voluntary diversity survey, which is conducted every 2 years (Lori to collect and send in)
- Discussed Robust Community Engagement Plan and reviewed funding spreadsheet prepared by Jack Hantage
 - Sufficient funds still available especially in CPP contract
 - Additional funds will become available in January 2019 (~\$40K)
- ***Board vote: In favor of approving spending plan provided to us for the Engagement Plan 10 votes in favor***

PLANNING FOR ANNUAL MEETING

- To be held at Sociable on Tuesday, November 20
- Annual meeting committee includes Luna, Marissa, and Lori
- Considering catering by Holy Land or Mya Cuisine
- Costco may sponsor
- We have a gift card from Eastside co-op

HOUSING GRANT PROGRAM

- ***Board unanimously approved motion to evaluate opening up the grant program to non-owner absentee properties after 6 and 12 months***
 - Considerations discussed:
 - Start with homeowners and reevaluate after 6 months if we should open up to renters/landlords
 - Smaller grant amounts

- Limit scope of what can be done. Prioritize projects on a need basis (dilapidation or health/safety risk) but difficult to evaluate.
 - Case-by-case assessment
 - Do other neighborhoods have similar clauses? Have community organizer review existing grant programs to compare.
- Group discussed and arrived at consensus that grant funds should not be made available for services/improvements if grants/subsidies are available through other sources (i.e. solar).
 - Will post information about existing resources available to the public, including NE Tool Library, on the grant website
- **Board unanimously voted to make the following edits to the program guidelines:**
 - **Remove skylights from list of ineligible improvements (item 16)**
 - **Strike the phrase “unless a part of a kitchen remodel” from list of ineligible improvements (item 16)**
 - **Add landscaping, unless a safety or structural issue, to the list of ineligible improvements (item 16)**
 - **Require 2 bids if grant is over \$3K (item 17)**
 - **Allow use of funds to rent equipment (item 18)**
- **Board voted to approve the motion to approve the program guidelines, as amended (see above)**

OTHER

- Renters are not receiving newsletters. Once the community organizer is hired, we will assign task to him/her to review and reconcile mailing list.