Humboldt Neighborhood Association (HNA) – Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Saturday, October 24, 2026
Time: 1:00 PM – 1:36 PM
Location: Virtual (Zoom)

Attendees

- **Lynne R.** – President / Co-President
- **Connor** – Co-President
- **Madison Wagner** – Treasurer
- **Jeremy** – Secretary
- **Beth Whittenberg** – Board Member / NECN Representative
- **Jason Whittenberg** – Board Member / Community Engagement Coordinator
- **Alta** – Board Member / Historian
- **Lita Malvo** – Board Member at Large

Absences noted: Joshua

Meeting Proceedings

1. Call to Order & Opening Remarks

The meeting was called to order at 1:03 PM by Lynne.

- Agenda confirmation: All attendees confirmed receipt of the meeting agenda.
- Contact sheet: Board members were reminded to update their details on the contact sheet for submission to NECN.

2. Board Member Introductions

Board members shared background information, neighborhood residency history, and community priorities:

- **Lynne:** In Humboldt since 2019; civic background in city government and WA state legislature; led effort to restart HNA.
- **Beth:** Relocated from SF ~4 years ago; background in retail and Autodesk (operations/data); initially connected via neighborhood parking issues; values walkability and cycling infrastructure.
- **Jason:** Highlighted neighborhood greenways (e.g., Michigan Ave) and community connection; emphasized ongoing neighborhood parking concerns.
- **Madison:** Resident for 4.5 years; professional background in tax accounting; passionate about neighborhood accessibility and grounded community character.
- **Connor & Alta:** Residents for ~1 year in middle housing development; passionate about housing affordability, pedestrian/cycling infrastructure, and building an inclusive, anti-NIMBY association culture.

- **Lita:** Relocated to Portland ~7 months ago from Atlanta (originally Southern CA); background in higher education administration; inspired by neighborhood walkability, greenery, and community-building opportunities.
- **Jeremy:** Resident since 2018; technical/security background; manages association digital platforms, website, and technical infrastructure.

3. Annual Priorities & Initiative Brainstorming

The board discussed high-level priorities and potential community initiatives for the 2026–2027 term:

- **Neighborhood Aesthetics & Ecology:** Discussed community garden highlights ("Humboldt Habitat"), pole-painting/art projects, litter cleanups, and local grant opportunities (such as East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District small grants).
- **Humboldt "Joy Map":** Explored creating a localized map of unique street art, sculptures, little free libraries, and exchange boxes (e.g., art/slug/dog treat exchanges) paired with neighborhood walking tours.
- **Safer Skidmore Initiative:** Connor presented an update on a joint advocacy letter drafted with the Boise Neighborhood Association and informed by a Lewis & Clark pedestrian safety study. The initiative seeks city infrastructure investment (crosswalks and curb cuts) along N Skidmore St between N Mississippi Ave and N Vancouver Ave. The letter will be presented for formal HNA approval at the November General Meeting.
- **Community Events & Socials:** Jason proposed establishing low-stakes monthly summer socials (modeled after Overlook's successful Wednesday socials) featuring casual gatherings, music, and games. Discussion emphasized creating inclusive activities for introverts and solo attendees (e.g., structured mini-workshops, silent reading, or guided projects).
- **Fruit Tree Gleaning & Community Resources:** Discussed partnering with the Portland Fruit Tree Project to organize volunteer harvesting days to reduce street waste, feed neighbors, and support homeowners.

4. Election of Officers & Role Assignments

The slate of board roles and committee assignments for the 2026–2027 term was proposed:

- **Co-Presidents:** Lynne R. & Connor
- **Treasurer:** Madison Wagner
- **Secretary:** Jeremy
- **NECN Representative:** Beth Whittenberg
- **Community Engagement Coordinator:** Jason Whittenberg
- **Historian:** Alta
- **Board Member at Large (Social Media & Community Service Lead):** Lita Malvo

Action: Lynne moved to elect the slate of officers as presented. The motion was seconded by Beth and passed unanimously (No nays).

5. Bylaws Term Adjustment

The board discussed current bylaws language indicating board terms begin January 1st. Given immediate onboarding and active duties, Lynne proposed submitting a formal bylaw amendment

to have terms take effect immediately upon election. The board expressed consensus support.

6. McMenamins Friends & Family Night Fundraiser

The board reviewed options for the upcoming McMenamins fundraising night:

- **Location:** Unanimous consensus to select the local **Chapel Pub**.
- **Day & Scheduling:** Consensus to host on the **second Monday** of the month to align with typical meeting habits, replacing the regular business meeting.
- **Preferred Months:** 1st choice: February; 2nd choice: March; 3rd choice: May (skipping April to accommodate tax season).
- **Target Purpose:** Dedicated fundraising to support the annual Block Party (permits, band stipends, and food vendors).
- **Event Elements:** Information/welcome table, neighborhood map, sticker check-in, community feedback board for block party ideas/bands, and potential use of the HNA trivia prize wheel.

7. 2026–2027 Calendar & Scheduling Overview

- **November 9:** General Meeting (Led by Connor; presentation of Safer Skidmore letter).
- **December:** Holiday Cookie Exchange at East Multnomah.
- **February:** Target McMenamins Chapel Pub Fundraiser (in lieu of regular meeting).
- **May – July:** Monthly Summer Socials on 2nd Mondays (replacing formal business meetings).
- **August:** Annual HNA Block Party.
- **September:** Volunteer Community Fruit Harvest event with Portland Fruit Tree Project.

8. Announcements & Upcoming Dates

- **Thursday, Oct 29:** District 2 Land Use notification and planning process briefing (Lynne & Connor attending).
- **Wednesday, Dec 9:** Jefferson High School PTSA meeting with PBOT regarding Killingsworth pedestrian safety and crosswalks.
- **Elections:** Reminder to all members to submit general election ballots.

Action Items & TODOs

Action Item	Assignee	Target Date / Status
Complete HNA contact sheet for NECN submission	All Board Members	Immediate
Submit Oregon Secretary of State annual corporate/officer filing update	Madison	Upcoming
Review and upload meeting minutes & documentation to Google Classroom for NECN Communications Grant compliance	Jeremy & Lynne	Prior to Oct 27
Draft bylaw amendment to align board term start date with immediate election	Lynne	November Meeting
Circulate Safer Skidmore advocacy letter / Google Doc link for board review and include in November meeting agenda	Connor	Prior to Nov 9
Finalize and submit McMenamins Friends & Family application for Chapel Pub (February priority)	Jason & Lynne	Immediate
Update HNA website Resources page: add Portland Fruit Tree Project link, Dishman membership info, and Rain Garden / Swale references	Jeremy	Next site update

Meeting Adjourned: 1:36 PM
Next Meeting: Monday, November 9, 2026