

**PINE CREEK COMMUNITY LONG TERM RECOVERY GROUP | BOARD MEETING**

**Wednesday, November 18, 2020 at 7pm via Zoom**

---

**Meeting recording, audio transcript, and chat box file available here:**

[https://washington.zoom.us/rec/share/sb2eGvSbq6i4u7hCRYnTf0RZKAQeNWpBJ4gS\\_fDcUop6SI6HxttO0-g16YPsQhev.\\_HYyEW3OIMS34\\_h4?startTime=1605755799000](https://washington.zoom.us/rec/share/sb2eGvSbq6i4u7hCRYnTf0RZKAQeNWpBJ4gS_fDcUop6SI6HxttO0-g16YPsQhev._HYyEW3OIMS34_h4?startTime=1605755799000)

**Board Attendance:** Misty Harriman, Chance Backest, Vanessa Place, Colleen Cross, Heather Smith, Tonya Neslon, and Dan Harwood (*quorum established*)

**Guest Attendance:** Jamie Vickery (University of Washington), Julia Havens (Dept. of Commerce), Molly Sanchez (Innovia Foundation), Eric Fejeran (United Way Whitman County), Travis Linares-Hengen (Washington State Emergency Management, Division of Human Services), Art Swannack (Whitman County Commissioner), Katie Pedersen (Washington State Emergency Management, Recovery Coordinator), Shantyl McGuire (St. John Rural Relief), Paul Kimmell (Avista Corporation), Heather VanDyk (community member), Rachel Blakeley (Secretary), Scott Hokonson (LTRG Director), Gerry Bozarth (Spokane Emergency Management), Melissa Davidson, Hank Cramer (Washington State Emergency Management), Robin Fahle Ohlgren (Communications and Web Development for LTRG), Janell Turner (community member), Bill Tensfeld (Whitman County Emergency Management), Carlos Watkins (case manager).

**Attending Executive Director:** Scott Hokonson

*\*35 Total participants on the call, including board members and guests*

---

**I. Call to Order**

- a. Dan Harwood called meeting to order at 7:16pm and led the meeting since Misty was not initially able to access the meeting.
- b. Roll call – starting with board of directors, then guests (listed above)

**II. Articles of Incorporation & Bylaws Vote to Approve**

- a. *Articles of Incorporation*
  - i. Concerns expressed by Colleen Cross regarding changes to the bylaws and time to review (14 days required). Suggested not moving forward on a vote for the revised bylaws. Specific concerns include:
    1. In article 11, are we saying that by having 9 being the upper limit that the board expansion was withdrawn? Scott: the original did say between 9-11 (for board members); 9 were on the original, so it was printed as 9.
    2. In article 13, that's a lot of language.. we are saying that if any of the directors/officers are sued, the corporation covers the legal expenses.
      - a. These are typical boiler plate statements. Can get more specifics from Kelly.
    3. In article 15, we talk about a process for amending the articles of incorporation, but there aren't any details. Will it be by majority vote of the board? How many advance notice of proposed changes?

4. Colleen: Since there have been changes to the bylaws we are being asked to vote on.. It has not been 14 days since we've seen the proposed changes. It's only been 7 days. Recommend holding on until next week for the questions to the attorney. These are for review. Waiting another week would be best.

ii. Vanessa – motion to accept articles as written. Tonya seconds the motion.

1. Tonya: yay
2. Vanessa: yay
3. Colleen: nay
4. Chance: yay
5. Heather: abstaining
6. Dan: yay

iii. Motion has passed 4-2.

b. *Bylaws*

i. Concerns expressed by board members:

1. Tonya: Noting “blanks” in the bylaws, such as “time on board” and another with a blank where a name should be.
2. Response: 4.2 includes supporting people like Paul, Gerry, Hank, and Bill. That's that specific section. 4.3 director shall be directed by a nominating committee to hold an office for X number of years.
3. Colleen: Several concerns with bylaws. Revised section allows removal without cause and allows charges/votes to be cast in the same meeting. Why were such substantial changes made? Current bylaws afford time to review before a vote since it hasn't been 14 days since we received the proposed changes.
4. Heather: Let's allow 14 days. Especially since she hasn't seen the changes to the bylaws. They were handed out but not emailed for those who were in attendance. Need to make sure all board members are getting the information whether they are present or not.

ii. Vanessa suggests setting aside an hour for bylaws/articles of incorporation so that everyone's concerns are heard. Scott will see to this.

iii. There was discussion of rescinding the votes for the articles of incorporation, but it was decided to instead amend the articles that were passed at the upcoming special meeting.

iv. Request from board members to provide the board with advanced written objections, corrections, etc. so that they can be addressed in a cohesive manner.

v. Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws will be viewed at a special meeting by board members (with 48 hours prior notice).

**III. *Remarks from LTRG Board member Dan Harwood***

a. Carlos: listening to conversation, he sees a lot of heart and energy, but what needs to happen with this group is instead of pointing out the differences, look at the strengths...This group looking at the negative and not being able to see the positive in one another. Being able to talk kindly with one another.

**IV. Approval of meeting minutes (11/11/20) - Bypassed**

- a. The minutes are not ready. This will be tabled and vote to be approved alongside 11/18/20 meeting minutes.

**V. Treasurer's report - Tonya**

- a. See full report.
- b. Still haven't received assistance from FEMA. SBA will be able to verify low interest loans once they receive official disaster declaration.
- c. Mennonite and Amish service groups offered to construct 3-4 homes that will serve the most vulnerable within the community. Cost of materials will be about \$60k per home.
  - i. We have yet to put together a group of individuals or committee to represent those people and the agencies and organizations who are providing those donations to allocate the funds appropriately. Carlos will provide us with information on his findings throughout the ensuing months. St. John Rural Relief has been a contributor to our organization, including housing for Mennonites and Amish constructing homes. They have \$775 in gas gift cards as well. The Episcopal Diocese will have gift cards available at noon on Friday, 20<sup>th</sup>. They also have additional gift cards available, though lockdowns will affect some of these future meetings.
- d. County United Way: Spokane Tribe Casino funds - putting together fundraising campaigns and round-up camp gains. They would like a representative from the United Way to be on site to accept these donations.
- e. There was another donation from Avista for LTRG operations for building. Everything else is pretty much set out in the narrative of the report. We now have a total of \$400k for the building.
- f. Colleen: Motion to approve treasurer's report as written. Chance seconds that motion.
  - i. Tonya: Yay
  - ii. Vanessa: Yay
  - iii. Change: Yay
  - iv. Colleen: Yay
  - v. Heather: Yay
  - vi. Dan: Yay
- g. Motion passed 6-0.

**VI. Grievance Committee Report – bypassed**

- a. Roxanne unable to use Zoom. Maybe by next week, we can get her to where she can be on the Zoom meetings. She is currently listening in, but we will work to ensure she has access to Zoom moving forward

**VII. Recovery Resource Committee - Rachel**

- a. Wednesday meetings need to be for high-end direction, and nuts and bolts can be resolved offline.
- b. Issue 1: the general store needed all of the affected children registered for the shopping spree. It was not assigned to anyone. Vanessa took the initiative.
- c. Issue 2: we talked about thank you letters.. so far nothing more has been done on thank you notes. The fix is to have a decision made on Wednesday meetings to move forward on

something. Have someone be in charge of it, and that person can reach out to community members. Imagine if that had to be approved at every step with the committee? Instead Vanessa had proactive optimism.

- d. To that end, our community has a lot of people who want to help and those who need help. Right now, we need committee or community members in the trailer to volunteer for 2 hours a week to answer questions. We could be available so that Paul, Gerry, etc. can be working on things they actually *need* to do.
- e. The other thing: we have Carlos as a part-time case manager. We need both case managers hired at full-time with all potential case managers. Scott's job is to take our concerns and hire someone to fit the needs to get more people on/helped.
  - i. We would like to have the case managers be here in Malden at the trailer to meet face-to-face instead of working remotely like Carlos has thus far.
- f. Chance (re the tool library): updates since last week's meeting:
  - i. picked up chairs and tables. They have been delivered down to the site where the trailer is located. He met with the Lowes manager this afternoon and they have a spreadsheet with a list of supplies to be included in the tool library, and he trusts what they provide in these kits. They will forward this list to us. If we see something that needs to be changed, we can do that. They will be donating all of those tools to us at some point in the future.
- g. Colleen: Re: In-kind donation of funds for building materials? Can we bring that cost down through in-kind donations? I remember at some point they would need space to put it. Is that still an obstacle?
  - i. Rachel: It's a matter of getting these two things together. We can coordinate with donators
- h. Heather: We need to be telling people resources *we have*. People are giving up on us. They are going to do their own thing. We should be getting info out, they shouldn't be asking us.
- i. Jeannie (resident/fire survivor) presented concerns regarding eligibility for who received help and how information/resources are made known to survivors. She shared that there should be a focus on those who lost everything. They should be top priority. Jeannie also expressed concerns about the county tax assessor's office having incorrect name/address affiliations on file.
  - i. Carlos is reaching out to Jeannie directly to set up a time to meet this weekend, and they are giving Carlos a key to get into the new building so that they can safely meet one-on-one.

#### **VIII. Old Business**

- a. Old business addressed in treasurer's report.

#### **IX. New Business**

- a. Dan: working with representative Joe Smitt(?) re: propane bottle donations. We need to get a list of folks of those in need of a 100lb propane bottle in RVs and trailers. If we could get folks to let us know who they are, we are working to get tanks if you don't have them.
  - i. Get people to call-in to Scott or via website to do that. Vanessa said she can also start talking to everybody that are in RVs and get a list that way.

- b. Colleen: Question/concern about language within cleanup permit in that it authorizes all members of our organization to go onto property.
  - i. Scott: Dan of DRC and I created that, bringing a template from the Camp Fire in California. This is nothing nefarious – it allows our group to facilitate information from the family to the cleanup crews.
  - ii. Colleen: Could something be on the permit to let people know why that’s there? Permit doesn’t explain to them that we are a communication resource.
- c. Private information cannot be shared between organizations, so residents have to fill out similar forms with separate organizations.

**X. Board matters (President VanDyke resignation/replacement)**

- a. Misty can move into the chair position. Then a vice chair would be elected among the group. Or nominations could be made.
- b. Given that there is a board secretary position to fill, the board voted to incorporate Rachael Blakeley as board secretary.
  - i. Colleen: motion to bring Rachel onto the board in her position as secretary. Chance seconds the motion
    - 1. Dan: Yay
    - 2. Colleen: Yay
    - 3. Chance: Yay
    - 4. Heather: Yay
    - 5. Misty: Yay
    - 6. Vanessa: Yay
    - 7. Tonya: Yay
  - ii. Motion passed 7-0. (Misty was able to participate in this vote)

**XI. Updates (Case Managers; Debris Removal; Modular; Housing; other matters)**

- a. Need for clarity as to whether this is a combined board meeting and needs assessment meeting, or if there should be a separate meeting. Carlos wants to be clear on how to bring updates to the board on an ongoing basis. He suggests that the board decides upon priorities and guidelines to go by for how/who to help.
  - i. Hank: direction we are heading in is not the model he’s seen succeed. There should be an unmet needs committee with board members on it. Not all of them. Most successful models have the funders themselves present at the meeting (not as voters); the unmet needs committee should include these folks.
    - 1. Scott: asked Hank to create unmet needs “table” to put those components together.
- b. Question about “double-dipping” and “duplication of benefits” – Public law calls it duplication of benefits that prevents people with insurance for debris removal to acquire state funds for removal.
  - 1. Hank: If someone doesn’t have debris removal covered, then they are on the uninsured list; it was not uncommon for Malden residents to tell me that we were asking for too much personal information. The contractor will be here for 30ish more days.

- c. Travis Linares-Hengen – his area of focus is on individual assistance, SBA. He will take concerns regarding who is/is not covered for debris removal back to his leadership who is part of decision-making process for this. Debris removal not a typical function of the state. The same offer has not been made to other communities for debris removal. Across the board, we have made some exceptions for Whitman County.. understanding the tragic situation that you are in (and potentially asbestos in debris)

***XII. Action Items***

- a. Create special meeting for articles of incorporation and bylaws, giving 48 hours notice.
- b. Meeting minutes will also be provided 48 hours in advance of each meeting.
- c. Need committee or community members in the trailer to volunteer for 2 hours a week to answer questions. We could be available so that Paul, Gerry, etc. can be working on things they actually need to do.

***XIII. Adjourn***