

North End Neighborhood Council
2015 Annual Report and 2016 Action Plan

2015 Annual Report

1. The NENC by-laws were NOT updated in 2015.
2. The board roster for 2016 has been sent to Carol Wolfe.
3. Board member distribution should be to all board members who have provided their emails on the updated roster for 2016.
4. We still meet on the first Monday of each month at the University of Puget Sound, but we have moved our meeting room from Thompson Hall, Room 193, to Trimble Forum. Our Candidates' Forum in October takes the same time slot on campus but may use a different room, which we announce ahead of time. We also post signs, if necessary, that day. We occasionally cancel or move meetings to the second Monday because of holidays like Labor Day or Independence Day.
5. Online presence
 - a. The Facebook page draws a steady amount of traffic and typically attracts a couple new followers every week. As of the end of December 2015, our FB page had a little over 1,250 followers.
 - b. The website became fully operational in the spring of 2015.
 - c. We will update the website and work to make it more dynamic and accessible.
6. Board membership
 - a. Board membership is currently four short of capacity. Two new board members were elected in 2015 (to serve in 2016).
 - b. We had all new officers in 2015.
 - c. Board elections were promoted multiple times on our Facebook page and through our email distribution list.
 - d. Our officer elections were held in January 2016. A retreat with a focus on orienting our new officers will be held sometime in February or early March.
 - e. CCOT members for 2015 were Morf Morford and Bea Christopherson. We both attended almost every meeting. There was not a meeting without at least one of us present. Here is our attendance records - Morf, Jan, Feb, March, Apr, excused May, Jun, July, Aug, Sep, Oct, Nov excused. Bea- Jan, Feb, March, April, May, Jun excused, July, Aug, Sep, Oct, Nov
 - f. For 2016, we are expecting at least one new board member to attend CCOT.
 - g. We rely on sign-in sheets for attendance, and since not everyone signs in, the numbers provided here will be estimates. Our only barrier to board membership is a requirement to attend at least two meetings in the six months prior to the election. We use the sign-in sheets to verify that qualification should it come into question. It's important to note, since their numbers are not reflected below, that liaison attendance was consistent and memorable; and the board never lacked a comfortable quorum.
 - i. January-March—45 attendees
 - ii. April-June—120 attendees (included a large forum on Click and zoning)
 - iii. July-September—30 attendees (no September meeting)
 - iv. October-December—80 attendees (included the candidate forum)

2016 Action Plan

- Monitor the Facebook page to make it even more user friendly, engaging and accessible.
- Continue to advocate for neighborhood livability and improved vibrancy and quality of life (through letters, attendance at various meetings, partnering with other organizations, building a broad coalition connected through our website and email lists)
- Proactively support neighbors in their efforts to apply for and implement Innovative Grants
- Establish a series of 'themed' or topic-centered monthly meetings. Our focus in 2016 will be primarily on issues that emerged in 2015. Some these are zoning, especially related to height restrictions in the Proctor neighborhood, street repairs (with an emphasis on life-cycle costing) a city wide design commission and how to have an influence on the removal/replacement of the utility towers on North 21st and the productive and community supported reuse of the Cushman Substation.
- Our 2016 election forum will be in October and our NENC board elections will be in November.
- Look for more local organizations to support.
- Welcome and work alongside emerging neighborhood groups like 4Proctor, Next Door and local Buy Nothing groups.
- Streamline and formalize application process for local organizations to get financial support from NENC.
- More public awareness of city wide services like 311.
- Raise public awareness and involvement in city decisions, outreaches and surveys that impact us all. Some examples are the proposed ban on plastic bags, access and use of Mason Gulch, the methanol plant and CLICK!, among many others.
- One or two of our new (2016) board members have expressed interest in the CCOT meetings.
- Our meetings have been on the first non-holiday Monday of each month. In the past we have not had a meeting in September. We are reconsidering this decision.
- Consider establishing action committees to respond to emerging issues as board members have time or interest.