**Minutes of CHEA Meeting 05.27.14**

@ 8:45 p.m. Sasona Cooperative

2604 Paramount Ave., Austin, TX 78704

Present: Donny Goff, Board Chair, Gatlin Johnson, 4th Member, Abigail Tatkow, Community Board Representative, Clayton Matthews, Treasurer, Hannah Wright, Secretary, Nicole Clounts, Sasona Treasurer, Sasona Accountants, Ruth, member of Sasona.

Donny called the meeting to order at 8:55 p.m.

THANKS TO NICOLE!!!!

Nicole filed our CHEA taxes, and we will wait and see is the IRS wants any changes to be made. We filed taxes a little late, so we might owe a $60 fine… Thanks again, Nicole, for your hard work!

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| **Agenda** | **Action** | **Comment** |
| Approval of last meeting’s minutes | Donny moves to approve; Abigail seconds; approved by consensus. |  |
| Mission Statement Menu, a la Abigail. |  | Abigail brought a menu of mission statement options (7!). She also brought a selection of notes from CHEA meetings, as well as HACA meetings and coop surveys, to help us crystalize our thoughts around a revamped mission statement.  There is overlap, and difference, among the different mission statements. A rainbow!  Group equity? Should we include that phrase? Is it too technical?  Gatlin votes for #5. Also, #7.  Ruth joins the conversation!  Right now, the mission statements are what we do and how we do it. The mission statement should be what we mean to do…  We need to cut the language that details “how we are doing it.”  Ruth likes #3, even with the neighborhood revitalization.  CHEA supports community building, community education, and neighborhood revitalization.  Ruth also likes #5.  What are we aiming to do…. Sustainability. Sustainable communities? Clayton also likes.  Are we self-sustaining?  Gatlin: what do we care about?  Ownership, affordability, the whole that is greater than the sum of its parts, cooperation, put less in, get more out, leave a house knowing more than when you went in.  Abigail: phrases? Cooperative. Less frillly, more straight to the point.  We need a brief mission statement. We can add more documentation to support later.  Back to #5.  This is a declarative document, not descriptive.  Needs to be one sentence…  What will we present to the houses?  Let’s bang out a few (or even one), well-thought out mission statement(s) to present to the houses.  We are nuancing the mission, not starting from scratch.  We keep going back to #5. Let’s try to put it into a single sentence.  Diverse, affordable, well-connected, functional, sustainable, healthy communities.  Sustainability: social, financial, environmental.  Sustainable communities.  Building sustainable communities through affordable group equity housing cooperatives.  “CHEA serves to establish, maintain, and expand affordable group equity housing cooperatives…”  Growing community knowledge base.  Cultivating strong, healthy communities.  CHEA is a group equity cooperative community.  Donny: we need a subcommittee.  Who? Gatlin, Abby, Ruth?  Meeting in person, via email?  Subcommittee of Abby, Gatlin, Ruth, before meeting next week, at Sasona, 7:30 pm. Alex to join, too. Tuesday! |
| Treasurer update. |  | Taxes filed. Update, Clayton changed passwords on accounts, will give to Donny, who will give to Ryan.  Clayton lobbied for another maintenance hour, and got it on a trial basis. Passed unanimously. Month-long trial. He’s reporting to Sasona about it.  Clayton and Hannah reported to Sasona about Brian Donovan’s update. Acquainted house on MAS.  Nicole and Clayton are going to get books online, then they will make MAS spreadsheet. Fiscal year is almost over. End of June.  Clayton took $500 from each house to pay accountants. May have to pay $200 for QB dropbox. |
| Simplifying/Solidifying the MAS. | Punt? Tabled until next week. It’s late. | Donny updated it, simplified it, put it on the wiki.  Gatlin could take a look for next week.  Donny threatens to pass it next week! |

New Business:

Does Sasona have a birthday? Yes! Entering the tweens. 12 in summer.

**Agenda, Tuesday, June 3rd, at Sasona, 8:45 p.m.**

1. Complete the mission statement to present to houses, with advice from subcommittee..

2. Treasurer update.

3. Passing of the Maintenance Allocation System.

Donny adjourned meeting at 9:47 p.m.

Hannah Wright, Secretary