



## APPROVED MINUTES OF THE MEETING

**Mike McGinn**  
Mayor

**Diane Sugimura**  
Director, DPD

**Marshall Foster**  
Planning Director, DPD

**Mary Johnston**  
Chair

**Julie Bassuk**

**Graham Black**

**Brendan Connolly**

**Malika Kirkling**

**Laurel Kunkler**

**Julie Parrett**

**Norie Sato**

**Donald Vehige**

**Valerie Kinast**  
Coordinator

**Tom Iurino**  
Senior Staff

**January 20, 2011**

Convened 8:30 am  
Adjourned 4:00 pm

### Projects Reviewed

Mercer West II  
Neighborhood Planning and Station Area Planning  
Seattle Fun Forest  
SR520 Improvement and HOV Corridor Project

### Commissioners Present

Mary Johnston, Chair  
Julie Bassuk  
Graham Black  
Malika Kirkling  
Laurel Kunkler  
Julie Parrett  
Norie Sato  
Donald Vehige

### Incoming Commissioners Present

Osama Quotah

### Staff Present

Valerie Kinast  
Tom Iurino  
Tera Hatfield



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**January 20, 2011**      **Project:**      **Seattle Fun Forest – Chihuly Glass Exhibit**

**Phase:**      Schematic  
**Last Reviewed:**      January 2010  
**Presenters:**      Jill Crary, Seattle Center  
                                  Ron Severt, Space Needle Corporation  
                                  Owen Richards, Owen Richards Architects  
                                  Kate Cudney, Owen Richards Architects  
                                  Richard Hartlage, AHBL

**Attendees:**      Anderson Parks, Chihuly Studio  
                                  Helaine Honig, City Attorney’s Office  
                                  Caroline Davis, Owen Richards Architects  
                                  Billy O’Neill, Chihuly Studio  
                                  Mary Bacarella, Space Needle Corporation  
                                  Bonnie Pendergrass, Seattle Center  
                                  Brit Cornett, Chihuly Studios  
                                  Layne Cubell, Seattle Center  
                                  Mark Siwek  
                                  Richard Hartlage, AHBL  
                                  Bob Wicklein, Seneca Group

**Time:** 11am – 12am

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## **DISCLOSURES**

Commissioner Quota of Jones and Jones disclosed that Jones and Jones worked on an idea for a Native American Center at the Seattle Center in the latest RFP process.

## **ACTION**

The Commission would like to thank the design team for a thorough presentation of the Seattle Fun Forest Chihuly Exhibit proposal. The Commissioners appreciated the team’s responsiveness to comments from the last meeting. With a vote of five to one, the Design Commission approved the schematic design with the following recommendations:

- Create a dynamic, expressive space that will continue to evolve and change. Design it as a space for Seattle residents.
- Reconsider the location and style of portal pieces. Their placement and style reinforce the notion that the Chihuly Museum is separate from the campus as a whole, creating a flat, trivialized experience of the art. These pieces, if utilized, should instead provide an up-close experience of Chihuly’s art for the general public.
- The canopy creates a sense of separation from the campus as a whole. Consider eliminating it. If needed, simplify the canopy and avoid a funnel effect into the building. One possibility might have the canopy run further along John Street. The canopy might be run past the structure so that it serves the campus, with only an incidental benefit to the Chihuly building.

- Expand and extend the deep, lush plantings out into the surrounding areas of the campus so that the palette is not an isolated pocket.
- The removal of the North/South access is fine as long as it meets the master plan goals for permeability.
- Design the plantings on the mural wall so they thrive. Provide a variety of colors in the plant palette.
- Vary the vertical height, density and meander of the fence as well as the planting to fence ratio. Jean Nouvel's musée du quai Branly fence in Paris is a good reference. Add additional fencing to the east side of the garden path as well so that the fence on the west side of the path doesn't feel like a barrier.
- Meander the garden path more in an expressive manner to create deep, bold eddies as places to linger. This should not be accomplished with mere benches or other outdoor furniture. Instead, the path should intermingle more with the art and possibly the glass house.
- Make the glass house more visible to the public.
- Keep the east side outdoor dining café space public more often than not.
- Move the fence on the north side of the garden, along Thomas Street further south so that the vestibule building facade is a public edge, enabling people to see the building. Allow the public to interact with the vestibule facade.

Commissioner Sato voted no because she does not see that the Chihuly museum meets the goals for the area established by the master plan.

Commissioner Parrett did not vote because she left the meeting before the vote.