

MAGNUSON PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING March 14, 2018

Members present: Gabrielle Gerhard, Aaron Hoard, Lhorna Murray, Mitch Cameron, Lynn Ferguson, Humberto Alvarez, Carol Valdrighi, Porsche Daggett, Jan Bragg, Tom Kelly, Chandra Hampson

Staff Present: Brian Judd

Guests: Mary Ann Ward, Gordon McHenry Jr., Alisa Luber, Bill Farmer, Adrienne Caver Hall, Will Gibbs, Dee Hillis, Diana Kincaid, Loren Hill, Thomas Whittemore

6:00 Call to order Quorum Gabrielle, Chair

Minutes Presented, one correction of email address for SPACE - The email address for news, tips and stories to news@space101fm.org. Lynn moved, Jan seconded, minutes approved.

Public Comment: Bill Farmer, Friends of Athletic Fields, spoke of masterplan and adding more athletic fields.

Jan Bragg has requested nesting boxes for ducks—Brian will help to secure if needed

Presentation of Pilot Park Champion Volunteer Program by Adrienne Caver Hall Please contact Adrienne.caver.hall@seattle.gov for information detailed in hand-out. Program coming to Magnuson Park to provide an alternate to the Park Rangers in a more friendly way to help Park visitors and staff. The Volunteers will provide customer service to Park visitors throughout the Park from their headquarters in Bldg 41. They are in need of two golf carts for the summer for them to serve the entire Park.

SOLID GROUND DISCUSSION

Presentation of Solid Ground background and current issues by Gordon McHenry, Jr. Gordon gave an overview of Solid Ground's work throughout the Seattle area. He emphasized SG's response to the City's recent evaluation of programs the City will continue to support. After the tragic loss of Charleena Lyles last June, SG is working to bring the Solid Ground community from "crisis to recovery, to stability, and then to thriving." There was discussion among the committee with Gordon over SG's policies toward resident advisory councils/committees. Lynn said the long time Sand Point Housing Committee had been disbanded in September. Lynn asked that resident and neighborhood committees be established sooner rather than later to avoid any issues with the wider community. She said support housing agencies need to interface with the broader community to avoid the community push back as happened when transitional housing was changed to permanent housing without community Knowledge. Gordon stated he recognized the need for deeper connection with the residents, stakeholders and neighbors, but it is more difficult now that there are other agencies—Friends of Youth, Youth Care, and next year Mercy Housing on the campus. June is his target date for committee formation.

Mitch asked if SG contract will be with the City of Seattle—after some attempts to answer, it became apparent the answer was too complicated to be dealt with in the confines of the time allotted, i.e., Humberto, “each program is unique.”

Lhorna asked if SG will take action on the recommendations from the UW Master in Public Health Community-Oriented Public Health Practice Program Evaluation of Youth Programming at Magnuson. Gordon spoke of the financial needs to service traumatized population exceeding government funding –SG is constantly trying to leverage public sector monies with private sector funds.

Lhorna asked for information about the SG Board. Gordon explained the tripartite structure of 1/3 those who have experienced the need for services the agency is intended to address, 1/3 elected officials, 1/3 community at large. In 2014 Federal Government warned SG to reshape Board to fit the tripartite pattern. May/June will be the time for SG to reshape its Board, ideally with 12-15 members.

Chandra explained the importance of public knowledge of what the residents want/need in order to foster resident relationships with the broader community. Lynn reinforced the need for SG to be welcoming to community volunteers. Gordon replied that he would work with Dee and Mia to come to Magnuson SG to learn of the situation. Chandra added that SG often acts as “gate keeper” rather than expeditor for integration of residents in broader neighborhood. Carol suggested a more open communication between SG and the Community Center to efficiently use funding and prevent losing access to necessary funding due to rushed circumstances, i.e. holiday vacations. It was suggested that SG should have a regular, dependable relationship to fund Community Center programs for SG residents.

Tom asked which agency decided to make the transfer from transitional to permanent supportive housing. Gordon answered that the decision was mutual with City, King County and United Way of King County. “Fundors made the decision.”

Diana reported on the need to connect—work for integration of Park residents and the larger neighborhood.

SAIL SAND POINT: Request for letter of support by Sail Sandpoint Director Mary Ann Ward. SSP is applying for \$50,000 from Major Project Challenge Fund for a feasibility study of the renovation of the boat house. In addition, they are asking the MPCF for \$30,000 for a consultant to strategize their fund raising plan, currently estimated at \$1.5 M. Mary Ann asked MPAC for a letter of support to MPCF. Chandra made the motion, Lhorna seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

MPCCAC: Carol gave update on Community Center—no change in Potential Fresh Meat Roller Derby’s use and schedule in the Community Center gym. The hope of the MPCCAC is that SPR is

working to right the situation for the benefit of the entire Park community and especially for our SG youngsters who already have such limited access to the only free gym.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Brian reviewed 3 questions on the MPAC survey for Committee input as to effectiveness of MPAC in broader community, transparency, and influence on shaping outcome of decisions, responsiveness of SPR staff. Suggestions were offered: get the agenda out to broader community before the meeting, especially when we have a presenter like Adrienne with the Pilot Program for Park Champion Volunteers or Gordon McHenry, Jr. from Solid Ground. Another suggestion: Add this choice to the answers: "I have had no experience with this issue."

Brian on upcoming topics:

This week Brian will email Annual Strategic Plan Report to the members.

April meeting: Presenters from Finance Department: Michelle Finnegan and Dottie Grabowski to report on Park finances. Chandra asked they provide data in advance of the meeting.

Brian thanked Lhorna and Chandra for their work with Arena Sports to provide reduced gym rates for several programs: soccer, gym access, passes to bouncy houses, camp scholarships, free gym time on Sundays, etc. Brian thanked Arena Sports for its cooperation to expand its Public benefits. There will be a party to celebrate the roll out of the programs.

NEW ITEMS

Diana sought MPAC letter of support for her Major Project Challenge Application to fund an urban planner to assess pedestrian safety in the Park. She reported this would lead to an efficient overall comprehensive plan. Carol moved MPAC send a letter of support, Lhorna seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Diana will supply details for the plan, including amount requested.

Humberto reported that SDOT will be making pedestrian improvements on 70th this summer.

Gabrielle reported there will be a meeting Sat March 17 and 24 to explain the sidewalk project along Sandpoint Way north of 74th. The speed limit on SP Way might also be discussed at this meeting.

7:40 Adjournment

Respectfully submitted, Carol Valdrighi, Interim Secretary