

## MCC Meeting Notes, March 4, 2014

**PRESENT:** Holly Smith, Marian Mullally, Wayne Duncan, Barbara Parker, Jim Brown(?-illegible), Susan Minogue, Barney Mansavage, Lynne Iglitsin, Walter Bodle, Winky McCoy, Justin Martin (SVR Design), Amalia Leighton (SVR Design), Jennifer Wieland (SDOT), Larry Reid, Kevin O'Doherty, Rob Ward, Brianne Ingertila, Margaret Cesena, Jason Cook, Bill Mahoney, Casey Losh, Anne Knight, Rich Appleton, Deirdre McCrary

### **METRO UPDATE FROM ANNE KNIGHT:**

Anne reported that, thanks to King Co. Council, Proposition 1, with 60% for transit and 40% for roads, will be on the April 22 ballot and, if passed, will help to close the \$75,000,000 gap in transit funding. As a counter to the regressive sales tax increase, there will be both a low-income fare of \$1.50 and a smaller increase in the license-tab fee for low-income residents. Planned cuts are currently suspended, but Metro still needs to cut 550,000 hours. If Prop. 1 fails, the #27 might have only peak-hour service. If it passes, there will be no cuts for possibly 6 months, when Metro will again look at re-structures. The new Sound Transit links under construction won't trigger cuts, but the #2 will be moved to Madison. Anne suggested that this month is the time to write SDOT and urged MCC to write a letter to SDOT and the consultants that she will draft to reiterate our concerns. Bill will edit the letter, put it on MCC letterhead, send it to the Board for consideration, and post it if approved. A meeting at Town Hall on March 22 from 10 to noon will offer the public a chance to give opinions to Metro in person. There will also be a Q-and-A forum from 12 to 1:30 in which the League of Women Voters will address such issues as the regressive tax structure and service guidelines that would make government entities more responsive. A website, [www.movekingcountynow.org](http://www.movekingcountynow.org), offers opportunities to help get out the vote and raise funds. The mail-in ballot comes out on April 4, but citizens can also go online up to 30 days prior to the election and download the ballot themselves.

### **TREES AND SIDEWALKS:**

Jennifer Wieland apologized for her mix-up regarding her expected appearance at last month's meeting. She reported that the outreach plan is now final, although the best-practices research continues. Three case studies have been chosen: Madrona from 34th and Union to Cherry; Rainier Beach along Rainier Ave. from S Henderson to Seward Park Ave.; Lake City 35th Ave NE from NE 125th to 130th St. Because so much effort is currently being focused on 23rd Ave.'s re-design, it wasn't chosen for this study, but results of this effort will be useful there as well.

Amalia Leighton, a design consultant, summarized the best-practices research and proposals:

- Revised SDOT tree list
- More transparent sidewalk and street tree assessment
- New guidelines for sidewalks and curb ramps
- Update construction specifications
- Update the easement process for private property
- Identify and obtain additional funding

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Jennifer stated that the .3-mile section in Madrona under study will be replicable to other blocks. Healthy trees will be maintained as much as possible through cost-benefit analysis, but the focus will be on the whole corridor. She invited public involvement in such projects and stressed the importance of the City's getting feedback early in the process so that it can be used in shaping outcomes. To that end, she announced three public meetings and promised that information would be widely available. Meetings will be held at Madrona K8 from 6:30 to 8:30 as follows:

- March 25: Background on issues and opportunities, introduction of the assessment used to inform the cost-benefit analysis.
  - April 29: Applying different options along the corridor
  - May 29: Review of revised corridor plan and plan for phasing, plus cost estimates
- A re-cap of the meetings will be available online.

The March meeting, too soon for announcement in the newsletter, will be advertised two weeks in advance through postcard mailing, posters, and flyers.

Funds have been set aside in 2014 for sidewalk repair of at least another block on 34th by autumn, with stop-gap repairs done in the meantime only if safety is an issue.

Council members expressed appreciation to Jennifer for her department's responsiveness to the community's concerns.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Bill made a plea for an assistant to Casey to help in obtaining and following up with advertisers in the newsletter. Casey would work with the volunteer willing to help with emails, collecting the ads, sending them to Barbara, invoicing the ad, and following up for payment. The ads allow the newsletter to break even and so are necessary, but there might be a more efficient model for ads, such as that used in Mt. Baker, which solicits quarterly and pays online with either Paypal or credit cards. Casey will follow up with Mt. Baker for more information.

Kraus Fund--\$21,425.

Checking--\$32,329, including Mayfair funding and affected by newsletter timing

Savings--\$460, down from \$2,745 because \$2,500 donated by Pritty Boys for Christmas decorations has been spent.

Casey requested a formal process of authorization for writing checks so that he knows expenditures are authorized. He would like a BOOM representative appointed who would authorize requests. He said Blossoms is underfunded right now and needs in the future to be collected in advance of spending. According to Brianne, the Christmas garlands are still up because BOOM can't afford to take them down. When they do come down, they will be stored in Bowling Green's garage.

**MAYFAIR:** Bill reported for Stacey that preparations are in place. Casey will work on obtaining insurance. Bill and Barbara will write up something to notify businesses.

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Stacey will take care of posters and banners and make certain tents are still stored at Garfield.

Brianne proposed holding a co-sponsored BOOM/MCC party on the Bowling Green rooftop after Mayfair. She would make it open to the whole community with music, BBQ, possibly wine-tasting or a keg. Issues of insurance, charging money, and offering liquor were raised. Brianne will consult Stacey for more information about requirements.

**KRAUS FUND APPLICANTS:**

Two applications were submitted for this round of funding through the Kraus bequest. Rich Appleton submitted an application on behalf of Nora's Wood to replace a set of rotting timber steps for a maximum of \$1,400 with permanent stones that will coordinate visually with the other stonework in place in the park. Seattle Parks will provide free transport, and volunteers will do the installation. Nora's Wood was created from a residential property in the late 1990s by Fran Wood with the help of the Trust for Public Lands to honor his deceased wife and provide a park on the west side of the ridge.

Walter Bodle proposed re-doing a photo project he began in the 1990s with merchants of Madrona to highlight changes in the business corridor over the years. The previous event was shown at the HiSpot with 30 portraits of merchants. He will enlist Youth in Focus, a photography project for teenagers that he began, to work on the project. He proposes making the Shelterhouse its final display space in order to satisfy provisions in the Kraus bequest. The request from Kraus would be \$3,530, with the remainder coming from other grants reliant on MCC's first approving the request.

Public portion of the meeting adjourned at 8:45.

Submitted by Deirdre McCrary, Secretary