

MCC MEETING, December 6, 2011

PRESENT: Bill Mahoney, Holly Smith, Nikki Lundin, Susan Minogue, Jason Cook, Soni Davé-Schock, Kevin O'Doherty, Stacey Kryman, Kim Herber, John Lahti, Peter Mason, Sabrina Seward, Rob Ward, Casey Losh, Sarah Westneat, Deirdre and Jay McCrary

Neighborhood SNAP:

Sabrina Seward wants to assess Madrona's interest in signing up for SNAP to help neighbors be self-sufficient for a period of three days after a disaster. The first 30 minutes after an event are critical, and people need to be prepared in advance with an inventory of neighbors' resources and skills. She suggested organizing in hubs with sufficient critical mass to get city support and resources. She described mock drills in which residents meet at a designated place to exchange information. The Council has talked about hosting a SNAP meeting in the Madrona K-8 library. The agenda for the first meeting is to talk about SNAP, what people do, who lives where, locations of water and gas cut-offs. She suggested going door-to-door with packets of materials as a way to get started once the informational meeting has been held. She also seeks interested schools and businesses who might offer shelter and aid. Perhaps choose one item per month to assign all hub members to do (assemble drinking water or camping equipment, for example), and then, after 12 months, everyone in the hub is organized. She urged us to hold the organizational meeting first and then hand out packets. The city asks that a captain for each hub register with them as a block organizer to facilitate communications. Block captains could get together periodically to work out details for the larger neighborhood. Soni suggested that BOOM also have a captain. Once a meeting place is chosen, sandwich board signs could direct people to the meeting place.

Susan reminded us that a minimum of 20 people is required to hold the SNAP initiation meeting with city support. She will set a date at the end of January or early February. Madrona Moms could be a starting point for communications, but Sabrina wondered about the possibility of setting up a tab on the MCC website with information and links. We can judge larger community interest by noting how many turn out for the city-sponsored meeting. We can network also through a newsletter article inviting people to come to the meeting. Jason will work on adding a neighborhood resources tab on the website with links to various city resources and information. Sabrina will write an article for the newsletter, but a central location and person within Madrona will be needed once we get organized.

Wine-Tasting Re-cap:

Stacey thanked all for a successful event. All tickets were sold and lots of walk-in tickets as well. Including the additional Leschi Mart donation, we made \$2,975. Enough Glassy Babies were sold (83) not only to waive the rental fee (minimum 25 sold) but also to generate \$300 for Madrona K-8. Windermere and Kevin donated the glassware, linens, and tables, and food was donated by several restaurants, making the event a zero-cost affair. Stacey reported conversations with Spectrum to hold a summer event there with tents on the lawn. There would be no fee (except possibly city fees), and 200 people could be accommodated. Stacey has reserved Glassy Baby

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facility for next November in case we want to repeat there. The event also worked well for Steve, who sold more wine with fewer attendees than he has sold at events with more people. We need to identify someone to photograph such events for the website in the future.

Fundraising:

Stacey suggested a smaller subcommittee be put together to create a plan for 2012, with Mayfair the first item. She will send out a request to see who's interested in working on Mayfair and fundraising. Bill suggested the possibility of a Madrona 5K run as a summer or early fall event.

With regard to monetary requests from Madrona K8, the council agreed that its first priority is to achieve financial stability for MCC--getting out of debt and creating a financial plan. We still owe between \$2,000 and \$3,000, but Casey would like us also to have a reserve of about \$5,000, so that we need to raise about \$7,000. But we do want to show support for the needs of the school with work power rather than money for now. Susan suggested a spring work party to do labor needed in the library. We hope to have a draft for the project and a date by early 2012. Could we create an opportunity in the newsletter to inform people about donating to address specific needs of both Madrona and St. Therese? Should we publicize more in the newsletter about what MCC does and how much the various activities cost? We should have a re-cap of the year's events and a financial summary to illustrate. Use events better to ask for donations--Mayfair, Halloween.

Soni asked about promoting BOOM's Madrona festival in conjunction with Mayfair as a way to bring more people to restaurants and retail. She suggested extending the hours of Mayfair in order to bring people back to the businesses for the festival after the park events. Combining events would also make Mayfair more interesting for those without children. Stacey will work with Soni, and BOOM will move its event to May. BOOM is able to circumvent fees and permits, but Mayfair pays big park and insurance fees.

Streetscape:

Sarah Westneat noted that she was incorrectly identified in the newsletter as the person in charge of tree removal. She will correct that attribution with Barbara. Her neighborhood committee met with SDOT and arborists. Six or eight trees have already been removed, and they plan to remove 29 more trees with no room or plan to replace them. SDOT has said it will try to reduce the number of trees needing removing by adapting the sidewalk to accommodate them where possible. Sarah hopes to apply to the Neighborhood Special Project's fund to create curb bulbs for space to plant trees, but the fund specifically excludes sidewalks, and adding bulbs eliminates parking and bike lanes. Some neighbors express concern about the danger of uprooted sidewalks; some complain about leaves, but people generally like the look of tree-lined streets, although sufficient room for the trees was not part of the original plan. There is no time-line for the sidewalk replacement and no funding, but we are on the city's list when money is available. Neighbors don't yet know that the trees are being removed. Kevin and Sarah will write something for the newsletter (?) Sarah's committee needs funds,

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help, expertise to develop a plan, and they can identify those needs in the newsletter article. Maybe a specific block could be designated as an example for a trial modification? The business corridor would be a separate project. Each curb bulb costs \$40,000, roughly \$120,000 per block. Susan urged the committee to consult a land-use attorney for advice on what is possible. Sarah has emailed representatives from specific neighborhoods that have successfully negotiated this problem but has not heard back from any. Kevin urged readiness in case the city decides to act quickly, as it previously did in another block. The grant deadline is February 1. Sarah will get in touch with Karin Richard, who has experience in writing grants. Jason suggested trying Cambium on 34th and Cherry for advice/help.

MCC Nomination:

Holly nominated Barbara Parker to be a member of the council. All favored; none opposed.

Crime Update:

Susan is waiting to hear back from Sgt. Williams about the latest criminal activity on 31st, including an attempted break-in that was in-progress, chased by homeowner, and SPD took 30 minutes to arrive. In addition there have been four other break-ins in the area. Susan has followed up on all of them but has not heard back. The East Precinct, council members, and the mayor have received the neighbors' complaints. Kevin described flagrant drug dealing on MLK, reported but not followed up on by the police. The East Precinct has a monthly crime-prevention gathering. If we attend those meetings, we bring greater attention to our needs. We also need to learn what to say on 911 to get attention, and we need to call often to generate action.

Other Business:

Peter Mason from Friends of Madrona Woods spoke about his efforts to partner with Friends of Cedar River Watershed to address the remaining unrestored area of Madrona Woods, labeled SE Mess. It is located at the south end of the park, with a trailhead across a poorly marked crosswalk from Spectrum Dance Studio. The plan is to remove the invasive plants, largely blackberry, from this wetland, replant the area, maintain it, and enhance the trailhead to make it safer and more visible. Peter has received provisional approval from Parks to proceed using its city-wide SEPA permit, and the Cedar River folks are eager to help. They would organize volunteer work parties, apply for grants, and hire contractors where needed. Cedar River says they can do the job for \$13,000 to \$16,000. They propose doing a one-day demonstration event to establish their credibility at a cost of \$1,500. That effort would get the project started and get a big chunk of the work done. Cedar River would also apply for a matching grant from the Fish and Wildlife Dept. with a February deadline to help us meet future costs of the plan. That grant can be matched with volunteer hours, donations, and any Kraus bequest funds that Madrona Woods receives. There remain unused Kraus funds that were allocated to Madrona Woods to clear the slope above the boulevard [\$12,072], which dollars were not used because Seattle Parks took on the project. In exchange for Parks' assuming the cost of clearing, Friends of Madrona Woods agreed to use the money available to buy plants and hire someone to re-plant

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the area. [Total cost for plants is \$1,693.20, leaving \$10,378.80 unused] The issue is how to access Kraus funds in this situation--assume the funds are available and can be switched or reapply for funding as a new project? Casey suggested that reapplying would be a cleaner way to proceed. Deirdre will verify original amount granted, amount spent of that original allocation, and amount remaining [see above and sent separately as an email]. Peter will use the format of the original application to apply for the \$1,500 as a first step in the process.

Kim spoke about the dedication ceremony for the brass rings. It was attended by some city officials and lots of folks from the past, including Black Arts West and Carolyn Downs Clinic. Soni noted that as the rings get dirtier they'll be easier to read. BOOM would like to include a link on our website to BOOM, which Jason will do, along with an image of the brass rings and photos. Soni will post a brochure in a protective cover so that people can read the information written about the rings. Soni also noted that BOOM will move to email and googlegroup strictly for communication. The next MCC/BOOM mixer will be in February at Bottlehouse and then in May at Pritty Boys'. The restaurant June closed this week. The new wine shop is seen as complementary, not competitive, with Bottlehouse. Funding has gone through for Tom Flood's building to come down and be replaced by a multi-use building soon. In the event of sidewalk replacement, the brass rings can be easily uprooted and replaced. The leaves were placed only where no sidewalk changes are expected. There was a good turn-out for the Christmas ships.

Adjourned at 9:10

Submitted by Deirdre McCrary, Secretary