

PRESENT: Bryan Lee (rbryanlee@gmail.com), Casey Losh, Bill Mahoney, Jason Cook, Barney Mansavage, Kevin O'Doherty, Stacey Kryman, Holllly Smith, Susan Minogue, Mary Gallway, Liz Pisciotta (lizpisciotta@gmail.com), Rob Ward, Deirdre McCrary

Guest Bryan Lee: Representing Madrona Grace Church, Bryan attended the meeting to solicit ideas for using some of the church's under-used spaces as a venue for various community gatherings in addition to the current homeless shelter that houses 20 to 25 people. At first the church would open with limited hours and under supervision to test use and results with the intention of expanding uses as warranted. The goal of the church is not to impose Christian ideology but rather to make it a gathering place for various community purposes and optimize spaces that are currently empty most of the time so that they serve community needs. Julia's Place, housed in the basement, works because "Mary's Place" manages it, and the church wants to see how to incorporate needed outside management for other activities. Some ideas he mentioned are after-school activities, homework tutoring, rooms to rent for storage or events. The common space that would be available is upstairs at the south end of the building (fellowship hall), plus several additional rooms adjacent to the hall, as well as a fully outfitted kitchen, which is not yet available for public use. Thus the various spaces can accommodate different-sized groups. Bill suggested using Google Groups and Madrona Moms as well as the MCC newsletter to reach out to the community. There is already a nursery, so child care would be possible. Other ideas are music festivals drawing from different cultures and other adult activities such as an appearance by Pat Wright's gospel choir. Bryan would like to see anchor tenants rather than occasional groups to start. Masvita at Garfield CC was suggested as a possible resource for ideas. Bryan hopes that bringing additional groups to the church will enhance the shelter's needs by creating a situation in which Julia's Place residents can give services back to the community, perhaps preparing a meal or tutoring. BOOM's email list might also generate ideas or needs. MCC might sponsor a lecture, bring in Madrona authors, or hold a meeting that draws a larger crowd. MCC and the church might undertake a joint effort to launch the newly available space.

Wine Tasting, Halloween, and Wreaths: Stacey and Kevin reported on the wine event, calling it the best-executed of the three we've held so far. They suggested finding one sponsor for the food, some entity that would pay \$500 and MCC would choose and control the food. They would like to see more crackers, cheese, and grapes. We could either give more direction to food donors or pay Steve to bring what he has available from the store. The wine sales were deemed successful by Ken, and people generally felt the ticket price was reasonable. Kevin is inclined to leave the price the same next year as long as we fill the room. Last year 115 attended; this year it was closer to 100+. Leschi Market promotes the event with an email from Ken, so attendees are mostly our friends and neighbors and customers of Leschi Market. Email addresses were collected at the door in order to create a database for future events. The hours seemed right, and the Bottlehouse party went well afterward. Because we didn't have to make any purchases of food this year, our profit from the event will be around \$3,300, but Casey hasn't figured out the total yet. Glassybaby sold 55 items, so Madrona K8 will receive a percentage of those sales.

The Halloween event was well attended with about 200 children, but it would be good to use the school as an ending point in future. There was no collective follow-through with the scavenger hunt--maybe next year there will just be a map and no scavenger hunt. All of the bounty of baked goods was eaten and the space was left neat.

Kevin reported that we sold 65 wreaths last year and the goal is 100 this year. He'd like to run a contest with submissions or hire a photographer to take photos of doors to use for ads for future sales. Kevin will send a request asking us to sign up for a shift during the 10-to-2 pick-up on December 7, also the day for "Merry in Madrona." He would also like to set up a table after Thanksgiving outside Leschi Market to sell wreaths to folks outside Madrona. All business last year came from Madrona Moms and the newsletter. Kevin asked that we alert friends and relatives, and Susan will put an announcement in the *Central District News*. Kevin will prepare flyers to give each board member, asking them to canvass the streets around their houses. He would like to use the Mayfair tent for the set-up in Amara's lot, and he'll make about ten wreaths available for walk-ups.

Book Fair at Madrona K8: Barney suggested that it be held on December 7 to capitalize on the partnership with the other Madrona events. He is looking for volunteers to help run the book fair during the day.

Shelterhouse Remodel: Window treatments arrive this week, and vintage photos are being framed, including a donated photo from Marty Liebowitz. The City still plans to tuck-point and deep clean the building. Spanish will be offered to children in two groups, K-2 and 3-5. There will be a Mom's "morning out" with three hours of licensed child care for \$20, for which people can sign up online or use as a drop-in. Arts and sports camps are also planned for this summer. Susan will call Masvita about the lack of heat currently in the shelterhouse.

Neighborhood Hooligans: Stacey described continuing problems with large groups of partying people intimidating and disturbing neighbors living around the playfield/park. She is working with police, City Light, Parks, and a community ombudsperson to eliminate the activity and strengthen the park with positive alternatives rather than just posting negative warnings. The park is too dark, and that need and other problems will be addressed. Flyers will alert people to call 911 after each incident, with a reminder to get details, license numbers, descriptions. The more calls, the more action. Park bathrooms will now be closed in the evenings during all seasons.

Susan described a community discussion happening in Leschi to address problems with criminal activity. We might be able to begin a similar neighborhood action with an article in the newsletter. Liz suggested establishing a Facebook page for neighbors to communicate, much like, or in addition to, a phone tree.

Kraus Fund: Bill revised and distributed the application to include suggestions offered at the October meeting. He'll get hold of the previous newsletter story about the Krauses and make it available. New dates are February for application deadline and

April for selection and announcement. He stressed that these are one-time awards and not maintenance. Those present agreed that any application should have prior approval for the concept, though not necessarily final design approval. Previous applications are public information, and Bill will provide previous samples if anyone wants them.

Central Area District Council: Susan has been attending monthly meetings representing Madrona. Each meeting includes reports from each neighborhood in the district about events. She will attend the November meeting.

Projects and Purpose: Now that the Council has some financial stability, how can it give back in ways other than fund-raising? Susan suggested one idea from her prior conversation with Mary McDaniel about a follow-up to the gift of books to the library. We could organize a story time, buy the coffee, and get the word out. Our goal continues to be to increase our relationship with the school, but we need to embrace the larger community with programming that involves music, parks, the elderly.

MCC Business:

- Treasurer Casey reported that bank statements total \$28,000 in checking, with \$10,000 in savings (for Blossoms) and \$21,000 in Kraus. Interest was \$2; checking decreased by \$521. The shelterhouse improvements for which we are responsible have cost \$600. Casey asked permission to write off three advertisers in the newsletter who haven't responded to repeated requests for payment. Amounts outstanding are \$110, \$95, and \$55. Holly asked for pertinent information from Casey so that he could pursue the payments. Susan moved to write off the amounts if Holly isn't successful, and everyone agreed.

- Casey raised the issue of the Madrona playground account, which has about \$6,000 remaining from the original community donations and no apparent plan to use the funds for anything. Casey asked the person who was in charge of the playground renovation whether MCC could use some of the money for the shelterhouse improvements. She said that if it isn't needed for maintenance, we can decide how we want to use it. Stacey wondered whether we could apply some funds to the \$600 we've spent already on the shelterhouse upgrade and then use an additional amount for windows and lights. We could also add some extra Ikea chairs to keep in storage. The black ones we had previously have been returned to Garfield CC. Locking storage would be another use for some of the funds. Stacey amended her original request of \$1,000, which had been seconded and passed to a new amount of \$1,500, which Bill seconded and all favored.

- Metro #2 bus riders' advocacy group wants MCC to help it by inviting Metro to come to a meeting in December to talk about proposals and invite feedback. We would likely need to get onto Metro's calendar soon. We could connect the group with Bryan to set up a meeting in a church space, and we could help advertise and act as a community liaison. Susan will get a separate meeting (not a regular Tuesday MCC slot) onto the calendar and put Bryan and Ann Knight in touch with each other to work out a date and time and place.

•**Pot on 23rd**: Bill brought up the neighborhood concern that there could potentially be as many as 20 pot dealers moving into spaces along 23rd because that location meets the requirements about encroachment on schools, playgrounds, etc. There may be a meeting with the East Pac group about it, but unless some neighbor raises the concern at an MCC meeting, it's not up to us to tackle the issue. There is a gap in community coverage that leaves out that area on Cherry between MLK and 23rd. A more productive idea seemed to be Barney's suggestion of a community meeting on the future of 23rd in general. We could tap into the Garfield meeting previously held on that topic. Susan pointed out that the Central Area misses out on Office of Economic Development funding because we aren't organized the way such other communities as Capitol Hill are.

Officer Election: Bill stated his willingness to accept any office as long as the current office-holder doesn't stop attending. Holly suggested that he would likely not continue to attend if he were no longer president. Issues of Madrona boundaries and MCC by-laws were discussed, since current wording and boundaries would prevent both Bill and Rob from holding office. Possible solutions are 1) change by-laws (issue: could someone with a vested interest use the office to promote that interest and then leave?); 2) re-draw the boundaries (issue: current boundaries are open to interpretation, depending upon the source); 3) create a vetting period to establish the credibility of an out-of-boundary candidate with an addendum to the by-laws stating that "based upon a certain level of participation, people who don't live within the boundaries but who otherwise have been involved in the council can serve."

Stacey suggested that we actively recruit people to play a significant role and invite them to become at-large members. She suggested specifically inviting someone from the business community, for example. Someone will try to recruit Paige Smith, who again lives in the neighborhood. The goal is a succession plan, possibly with staggered terms, so that we have past, present, and future officers involved in the council, creating continuity and ensuring that not all officers leave at once. Currently we need to focus on the three jobs that require at least 6 months of mentoring: treasurer, events, and newsletter editor. Barney volunteered to serve as an officer after next year when his work for the school decreases. At Casey and Bill's suggestion, moved by Stacey and seconded by Rob, we agreed to ignore the by-laws and vote on a slate of candidates, who were elected unanimously as follows:

President--Holly Smith
Vice-President--Bill Mahoney
PTA--Susan Minogue
Treasurer--Casey Losh
Events--Stacey Kryman
Secretary--Deirdre McCrary

Submitted by Deirdre McCrary, Secretary