

## MADRONA COMMUNITY COUNCIL, 3 October 2017

**PRESENT:** Rob Ward, Mary Gallwey, Galen Kawaguchi, Karinda Harris (New Seasons Mkt.), Sharon Safarik, Kristina Darnell (SPL), Karen Ko (DoN), Barbara Parker, Kevin Lundeen, Christina Lundeen, Bill Mahoney, Susan Minogue, Alison Gross, Marty Liebowitz, Mary Ellen (?) and others who arrived after the meeting began.

Introductions by all present.

**NEW SEASONS MARKET:** To be located at 23rd and Union in the building being developed by Lake Union Partners. Karinda Harris, Community Coordinator for New Seasons, described the Portland-based retailer as a sort of combination of QFC, Fred Meyer, and PCC, offering a spectrum of products with a range of prices. Currently there is one New Seasons on Mercer Island and one will open next spring in Ballard. She expects the Union location to open some time in 2019, if not sooner, and the retail space will occupy the entire first floor of the building. Karinda sought to mitigate what she described as untruths about the company with regard to employees and environment. She emphasized that both staff and environment are important values for the company, which seeks to build partnerships in the communities where the stores are located and to hire from that community. One partner is the Urban League. New Seasons gives 10% of its profits to non-profit organizations. Karinda will put her email address into the newsletter to field questions from the community. Susan suggested that Karinda come to the larger District Council meeting to cover more area and offer a different view from the previous presentation there by the Grocer's Union and that she work with Good Shepherd Lutheran (?) and the former Jackson Red Apple community.

**WINE TASTING:** Barbara reported that we are about where we were last year at this time in terms of ticket sales, around 50. The goal is to sell 100 tickets. Volunteers will set up for about an hour at 2 on Saturday. There is no schedule yet for people to work the night shifts, but Ly likely has the template for sign-ups and will send it out. Ly will bring small paper plates, plastic utensils, and napkins. Food is being provided by BluWater Bistro, Naam Thai, and Macrina Bakery. Raffle prizes, for which winners need to be present, come from Union St. Dental (Oral-B electric toothbrush), Heyday (\$50 gift card), local artist Nancy <http://dogloverart.com> (small gift bag of her printed work), WoodShop BBQ (full rack of ribs dinner for two). Garfield will send two violinists to provide music, and their parents will receive free entry.

**HALLOWEEN:** Starts at 4pm at the Shelterhouse. The event is posted on next-door, Madrona Moms, and the readerboard. Bill will notify googlegroups. We'll need to get the Shelterhouse key that day. Parents are asked to bring candy. Christina Lundeen will coordinate with businesses that will be open on that Tuesday to contribute treats. We're keeping it simple—just candy, no stamps or scavenger hunt this year and no decorations for Shelterhouse.

**NEIGHBOR APPRECIATION DAY:** The date is officially the Saturday before Valentine's Day, this year February 10. Our 23rd event takes place from 9:30 to 11 at Madrona School, and Sharon will put it onto the school calendar. Nominations need to be received by the end of December in order to give us time to coordinate. Barbara summarized the five awards—Nora Award for neighborhood activist, Local Hero, Tyrone Love Unsung Hero, Madrona Resident for Life, and Madrona Good Neighbor.

**NEWSLETTER SUGGESTIONS AND CHANGES:** The new editors have proposed an increase in number of pages when funding permits, looking for additional ad revenue, extending distribution to Denny Blaine, and adding a few color pages. The Council agreed to the increase

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in number of pages as long as there is additional revenue to support the cost. Barbara emailed the list of people waiting to get ad space, asking how many would sign up for three months and pay in advance, and she found that of the 13 or 14 potential advertisers, there was a sufficient number of pledges to support about 1+ pages. She cautioned that the three-month term for 16 pages would be binding if we took the additional ad revenue. Galen reported that newsletter revenue is down by about \$1,000, possibly because we're behind in collecting from advertisers and also because she hasn't downloaded September revenues from Paypal yet. We agreed to try a three-month test and see how it goes.

The issue of extended distribution requires more study to look at such factors as expense, which additional neighborhoods, whether it would be digital-only. Currently the newsletter is available in a number of public places if nearby neighbors want to read it. Barbara reported that many from the Central District pick up copies at Grocery Outlet; Sharon noted that Madrona School's boundary is 14th, so a lot of parents living in the Central District are often in Madrona and might want to get the newsletter. Marty remembered that in the 1980s the boundary for Madrona was 23rd, but MCC decided to set a new boundary at MLK, where it remains. Those interested in receiving the newsletter should email Madrona News.

Christina noted that there are both a community page and a business page on Facebook. Casey controls the community page, and she would like to have control of both.

The question of adding a color page for the Holidays was tabled.

**FINANCES:** Galen described difficulties resulting from not having a consistent mailing address for MCC, and she proposed renting a postal box that would be official and unchanging. The closest location is Park Postal (\$15/month), and Galen will research cost and location.

Galen finds the current Excel system cumbersome to use and would prefer to use Quick Books for ease of entering data and generating reports, which would still be shown in the drop box monthly for the sake of transparency. The Council supported the change, which she will make as of January 1.

Galen reported little activity for the month—\$75.49 utility cost, \$1,500 newsletter costs. One of the summer bands requested pay of \$450, as they received last year, instead of the \$300 they received, so Galen will send the difference.

Bill is investigating the reason for a \$500 charge from the City for permitting.

**ELECTIONS:** Bill invited questions about individual MCC jobs and asked for people to step up to fill them, particularly President, Advertising Manager, and Secretary.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Bill nominated and Rob seconded adding Sharon Safarik to the MCC Board. All favored.

Rob reported a new level of difficulty in acquiring the Shelterhouse key. We have gone from having our own key under Steve Orser's doormat to having to travel each time to Garfield, sign a contract, and return the key the same day by 9pm. Marty recounted the terms of a gentleman's agreement from the 1980s by which substantial renovations were done to the building in exchange for free use forever, an agreement made when Holly Miller represented

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Seattle Parks. Subsequently MCC and Stacey Kryman have done a second renovation to upgrade the interior, and we have continued to pay the utilities in exchange for use of the building, but that use is being made increasingly burdensome to the point where we are considering alternatives. Since Holly Miller still lives in the neighborhood and works for the interim Mayor, Barbara will ask her whether there is anything she can do to fix the problem.

**PLAYGROUND UPDATES:** Sharon reported that the transformation is happening, thanks to summer work by several volunteer groups and the receipt of \$220,000 in grant funding plus the sale of lots of donor bricks. Playground equipment should be installed this month or next. At the end of the school year the bulldozing will begin. Tom Flood is designing a gate and sculpture. SDoT is working with the group on re-landscaping the pathway on Spring. Marty urged thinking about future maintenance by making judicious choices of drought-tolerant and non-invasive plantings. Sharon advised that the Council grant would not be executed until spring.

Adjourned at 8:45 in order for Rob to be able to return the key to Garfield.