

Madrona Community Council, 7 November 2017

**PRESENT:** Susan Nembhard (Seattle U), Ned Conroy, Ly Tran, Bill Mahoney, Rob Ward, Galen Kawaguchi, Mary Gallway, Kevin Lundeen, Kristina Darnell (Library), Todd Foster (Epiphany Church), Judith Starbuck, Christina Shires Lundeen, Deirdre McCrary

**PUBLIC SAFETY SURVEY:** Susan Nembhard, a research assistant from Seattle U, brought information and flyers about the survey being conducted to measure public perception of crime and policing in micro-communities. The data will be published in a January report on the Seattle Police Dept. website and will be used by Seattle Police to develop strategies appropriate to each micro-community. Bill asked about numbers of citizens responding, which Susan said had been about 10,000 last year, but most responses had come from the north precincts. The goal this year is to involve more precincts. Wider responses would be helpful as they create focus groups based upon the results of the survey. Susan will be attending various community council meetings throughout the area to spread the word.

**MADRONA BUSINESS REZONE:** Ned Conroy, a neighbor, brought maps and information regarding the areas that will re-zoned in the business district to allow four-story buildings instead of the three-story previous maximum, as a part of the city's efforts to create more affordable housing. The Madrona area affected is the commercial district from Marty's planned building at Spring to Al Larkins Park. Bill will put Ned in contact with Marty Liebowitz for more information and will inform the newsletter of any action.

**CHERRY STREET YWCA:** Judith Starbuck, a volunteer for the food bank program at the YWCA facility, which has been at that location since 1947, described the work the volunteers do to set up the distribution of food outside each day, which includes assembling tents to protect food and volunteers from rain and sun, and then taking down the tents at the end of each day. Since only a temporary structure is allowed at the site and since the procedure to put up and take down the tents adds to the volunteers' work, they would like to purchase a structure (16' x 20' x 8') for \$1,200 to \$1,600 that meets the requirement to be temporary but wouldn't need to be assembled and disassembled each day. The YWCA declines to pay for the structure, and volunteers have raised \$700 of the cost. Bill explained that the request fits our general approach of supporting community members' efforts. Rob moved that MCC match the lower cost estimate of \$1,200 by donating \$500, with any additional money needed to be raised from nearby neighborhoods that also benefit from this facility. All approved Rob's motion.

**WINE TASTING:** Ken was pleased by the results. Bill still holds some of the funds and will get the money to Galen. Some small expenses may remain to be paid. There was general agreement that the arrangements and plan we have in place work, and we should maintain them.

**HALLOWEEN:** Christina suggested more and earlier publicizing of the event next year and adding carnival games in the shelter house in addition to giving out candy. Christina would like to have posters such as those for Mayfair next year, when Halloween will be on a Wednesday and more businesses will normally be open.

**RE-ACTIVATING BOOM:** Christina said that Susan Fondren, with her new business in Madrona, is spear-heading getting businesses back together into an organization. Bill indicated that MCC is willing to support such a group if it happens. Not all businesses find such an organization advantageous and may not want to join. Christina suggested an idea, patterned

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after “Little Box Shopping” in Portland, to make BOOM involving for those not currently interested.

**BUDGET:** Barbara has been bringing in lots of advertising revenue, \$4,000 this month versus \$189 last month. There were also more general donations, amounting to \$358 and \$450 for Blossoms. When revenue from the wine event is complete, we’ll have a net monthly increase of over \$6,000. Galen distributed statements. We discussed writing an “ask” letter for the December newsletter, reminding people about including MCC in tax-deductible donations.

**MADRONA NEWS:** Christina noted the incorrect date indicated in the last newsletter for the November MCC meeting. She asked for people’s feedback as she and Kevin try new approaches in the newsletter. She said that they are starting to get more contributors and they’re looking for still more. Bill suggested they check with Barbara regarding guidelines for articles that might touch on issues such as politics, which would violate the non-profit status of the newsletter. Christina added that they will be doing more stories spotlighting businesses.

**NEIGHBORHOOD APPRECIATION DAY:** Bill received an email from the city regarding an intention to move the event from February to April. He suggested we go ahead as planned for this February and consider changing in the future.

**THAT KEY:** Parks Dept. is now managing buildings like the shelter house, and Bill has negotiated a contract by which we’ll be issued a key to the building long-term, with strict requirements imposed on our management of both key and building.

**MAYFAIR:** Barbara has suggested trying an online fund-raising approach to Mayfair as a means of raising money for the event before it happens. We would invite people to contribute to individual events through future newsletters that would direct donors to the “Go Fund Me” site and offer the same rules for recognizing donors that currently apply to sponsorships.

Meeting adjourned except for the Board members at 8:25.

Board members discussed alternatives to continuing the MCC as it presently functions, which is not sustainable with the current lack of volunteers and neighborhood interest. Only the activities draw people’s interest and participation. One possibility is to enlist people to sign up for an activity of interest through some sort of online forum. Another is not to have a president, just a manager of meetings if and when a meeting is needed. It was decided to table elections until Bill has checked with a couple people not present to gauge their interest.

Christina suggested meeting at her business location next time. Bill will draft some sort of resolution regarding the future of MCC for the newsletter and send it to current board members.

Submitted by Deirdre McCrary, Secretary