

LCC Trustees Meeting
Laurelhurst Community Center
May 13, 2013

Attending: Don Torrie, Emily Dexter, Stan Sorscher, Jeannie Hale, Kay Kelly, Linda Luiten, Colleen McAleer, Brian McMullen

Excused: Kevin Chang, Liz Ogden, Maggie Weissman, Leslie Wright

Guests: Albert Shen, City Council candidate

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM, followed by introductions.

Albert Shen is running for City Council. He explained some of his history in Washington State and City of Seattle. He is motivated by his experience in transportation and civil engineering. Albert says we need a real transportation vision.

For example, China has high-speed rail, and other cities have effective mass transit systems. Freight mobility is economically important. We haven't integrated our transportation systems to increase capacity. Funding for buses should be maintained.

A transportation vision should have a time metric – it shouldn't take riders more than an hour to get where they need to go. Albert can bring these perspectives into the public discussion.

Another priority is public safety. In the past, we have been successful with community policing strategies. Officers should be visible and in regular contact with residents, businesses and community leaders.

Albert summarized his public service and business background, and his experience as an advocate for public policy.

CALLS AND CONCERNS

1. Car prowls and thefts at Laurelhurst Condominiums (4545 Sand Point Way): Beginning the first of April, the Laurelhurst Condominiums have had a series of car prowls in the parking lots across from the Wells Fargo Bank. Offenders were filmed on surveillance cameras going from car to car. They also stole a car, bicycles and emptied out storage lockers and loaded the items into the stolen car and a truck. The theft occurred between 4 and 5 a.m. one morning.
2. "Intelligent" signage on NE 45th: On April 22 and other dates, neighbors emailed concerned about the huge sign erected down from The Burgermaster. LCC responded that the signage will alert drivers to backups on Montlake and is part of

Seattle Children's mitigation.

3. Drainage issues: The Blog emailed on April 22 in response to a concern from neighbors about lack of drainage south bound on Montlake Boulevard. This has been a big problem over the years and LCC will follow up with SDOT.
4. Sad news: Longtime neighbor Wally Keyser sadly died on April 23. A memorial service was held on May 5 at the Sand Point Country Club.
5. Car prowlers: On April 20, LCC was notified of four car break-ins on West Laurelhurst Drive. Three of them took place the evening of Tuesday, April 16. One car was a BMW, another a Yukon. A wallet was stolen and thousands of dollars were charged on a credit card at a Wal-Mart. The owner's briefcase was thrown on a car down the street. The 4th vehicle was a truck. A neighbor returned the owner's business card holder that had been thrown in the bushes. There was no obvious sign of break-in of the vehicles.

In a separate incident, LCC was notified on April 23 that two cars on West Laurelhurst were broken into on April 16. A police report was filed.

On April 25, the Blog notified LCC of a car prowler on the evening of April 17 in the vicinity of 42nd Avenue and NE Surber Drive. The person walked down a neighbor's driveway, flashed a light into her car and then headed to another neighbor's home where the car was locked and alarmed. He then found an unlocked parked car across the street and opened the back door to look inside. The prowlers then got back into their car and headed south, stopping at all cars parked along the street. The prowler is described as a young male, white, black hair wearing black pants and black hoodie in dark beige newer four-door hatchback. There is no description of the accomplice.

6. Peace garden project: LCC followed up with Liz Becker about its recent award of a Neighborhood Matching Fund grant to renovate the Peace Garden at Laurelhurst School and prepared an article for the May newsletter to update neighbors.
7. Digital billboards: KOMO TV called and emailed on April 30 requesting an interview with LCC about its position opposing video billboards on Sand Point Way. LCC responded with the letter it had written to legislators.
8. Attempted break-in: On May 6, the Blog notified LCC of an attempted home break-in on 50th Avenue NE and NE 43rd Street the preceding week. A garden shovel was taken from a doorless shed and was used to smash the basement window. There was no sign of entry, as the person(s) may have noticed the window has an alarm contact and got spooked.
9. Basketball resurfacing project: LCC has received several emails in April and early May asking for updates on the status of the basketball resurfacing project. The co-

chairs of the project provided an update to donors and LCC has included an update in the May issue of the newsletter.

10. Talaris: LCC continues to receive calls and emails from neighbors about the proposed redevelopment of the Talaris property.

11. Lights: Kay Kelly asked about replacement of street lights and the fixtures. Some lights have been out since February.

ADMINISTRATION

Minutes: Review of the February and April minutes was deferred until the June meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Emily summarized the Treasurer's report, based on handouts in the packets. The security patrol revenue is running above last year at this time. Dues are down very slightly from last year. Emily filed LCC's Form 990 for 2012.

Announcements:

1. NEDC announcement handout: Included in the agenda packets.
2. CUCAC: Jean Amick has agreed to represent LCC on CUCAC. Thank you, Jean!

REPORTS/ACTION

Crime Prevention: Linda Luiten reported on car break-ins and an attempt to break into a house. Emily suggested an article for the Newsletter, with a profile of the police officers, to give neighbors an impression of what the patrol does for the community.

Seattle municipal court judge Edward McKenna spoke at the North Precinct meeting. The 7 judges heard 11,000 cases last year. The court handles traffic tickets, domestic violence non-violent misdemeanors and gross misdemeanors.

The North Precinct Station is being rebuilt. They are looking for a site with 4 acres zoned commercial, with good traffic and access to freeways.

SR 520 Update: Colleen McAleer said the legislature has not confirmed a new Secretary of Transportation, yet. An appointee is acting in that position. Discussion of pontoons that did not meet structural standards and started to crack.

Annual Meeting Planning: Discussion of program ideas – We should invite Peter Eglick and Carol Eychaner to talk about the permitting process for Talaris. Another item could be changes at the playground. A third topic could be the nomination for historic preservation of the Talaris site.

Board recruitment; Discussion of potential trustees.

Begin Executive Session at 8:10 PM

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Notes by Stan Sorscher