

LCC Trustees Meeting
Laurelhurst Community Center
July 9, 2012

Attending: Kevin Chang, Emily Dexter, Jeannie Hale, Kay Kelly, Linda Luiten, Colleen McAlleer, Liz Ogden, Brian McMullen, Don Torrie, Maggie Weissman, Leslie Wright

Excused: Kristen Curry (leave of absence), Stan Sorscher

Guests: Carol Eychaner, Peter Eglick, Barb Ragee

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. and was followed by introductions.

CALLS AND CONCERNS

1. Cable replacement in south Laurelhurst: In June, City Light has been responsive to neighbor requests for minor plan changes regarding its utility project. In one case, the street sign was moved to the opposite side of the street as the parking strip of the original corner location had been reduced by about six feet due to installation of a curb cut. In another case, the location of the cable was moved two feet closer to the curb to avoid damage to nearby tree roots.
2. Home burglary on West Laurel: On Friday, June 15, sometime between 2 and 5 p.m. intruders broke into a home on West Laurel. They broke through a glass door in the backyard. The dog was inside, but that didn't deter them. A neighbor saw a white Audi driving erratically on West Laurel at about the same time that afternoon; it pulled out into the street in front of the neighbor almost causing an accident. Five minutes later, the neighbor saw the Audi again exiting the alley with the back seat full of stuff, some of which matched the description of a few of the missing items.
3. Home burglary on 48th: On June 16, there was a burglary on the 3700 block of 48th Avenue NE at about 4:30 p.m. The homeowners had only gone out for less than a couple hours and when they returned home the intruders were still in their basement. They stole jewelry and credit cards. The homeowners had their alarm on but the burglars knew which rooms to go into so as not to set the alarm off.
4. Hit and run: Around 6:30 a.m. on Sunday, June 17, a car parked in front of a neighbor's house on the 3800 block of 46th Avenue NE was hit by another car. The driver left the scene, but a large piece of the other car (right front bumper/under bumper of a black car) was left behind in the street. The police responded quickly and believe that the other car was a black Toyota, based on the piece they collected.
5. Another developer exploiting loopholes in the land use code: On June 18, Ogden followed up with neighbors on a development issue. A developer purchased the 80-foot wide property, 4812 NE 40th Street, which included the whole of Lot 27, 30 feet of Lot 28, and 10 feet of Lot 26 (on which the garage was built). The house is built

about three feet from the old Lot 28/27 line. He asked the city for a letter stating whether the 30 feet of property that was once part of Lot 27 qualifies for development as a separate legal building site according to the Land Use Code which DPD supplied. Neighbors contend that developer Dan Duffus is exploiting a loophole in the Code to erect a house that is out of scale for both the lot and the neighborhood as he has done in Wallingford, Fremont, Queen Anne and Montlake. Councilmember Jean Godden visited the site and was sympathetic. Neighbors have written to the City Council about this.

6. Waterway No. 1: On June 19, DNR forwarded LCC an email he had sent to Judith Thornton. She had left him a voicemail about damage to the basketball court and her husband's contact with Seattle Public Utilities about this. DNR told Thornton to work with LCC in getting the basketball court fixed. Thornton emailed SDOT, DNR and others about this on the same day indicating that SPU had placed a barrier over the crack in the basketball court. The damage to the basketball court has been there many years. LCC continues to work with the City and DNR on the waterway. In the meantime, LCC has preliminary plans to resurface the basketball court.
7. Car prowls: At 5:50 a.m. last week on Ivanhoe, a car window was broken and a gym bag stolen (not much in it except stinky sneakers but they have to deal with the broken window). On June 22, the Laurelhurst Blog reported that two cars were broken into probably on the evening of June 19 on the 5000 block of Nicklas Place NE. Both cars were locked, and neither car alarm went off. Car owners heard some noise that night outside, but thought it was teenagers out late and didn't think much of it. The glove box was open on one car, but nothing taken. In the other car, the center console had been rummaged through and the coin drawer was missing. Neighbors reported the incidents to the police.
8. Speed humps on the Boulevard: On June 22, Nick Glant emailed about the interest of neighbors to get speed humps on 43rd Avenue to slow speeds. He's enrolled in a class at SDOT and has already taken speed readings with the radar guns supplied by SDOT. He is awaiting a response from SDOT to learn what the next steps will be. LCC has followed up with him to provide information about the speed humps on Surber and 49th Avenue NE.
9. Yesler Swamp: On Sunday, June 24, Friends of Yesler Swamp held a community meeting to brief neighbors on the final plan for the swamp trail. The landscape architects briefed the group on the plan, progress made, environmental and permit issues and answered questions. LCC had a representative at the meeting.
10. Disposal of fluorescent bulbs: On June 25, SPU responded to LCC's inquiry about how to dispose of long, tubular florescent bulbs. SPU provided this link with places to take bulbs <http://your.kingcounty.gov/solidwaste/takeitback/fluorescent/index.asp>. SPU said that bulbs can also be taken to a Household Hazardous Waste Site. Up to 10 tubes are accepted. The bulbs must be transported carefully because they contain mercury.

11. Flooring Company property: On June 26, Heather Newman emailed and sent photos of the parking strip behind the flooring company. The parking strip needs major work. LCC will follow up to see who is responsible for maintenance of this strip.
12. Absentee landlord: On July 1, Heather Newman emailed and sent photos of a rental home on NE 44th Street that is in dire need of work. The grass is tall and growing over the sidewalk. LCC has been in touch with the landlord many times in the past and will contact him again about Code violations.
13. Five Corners development: On July 3, Heather Newman emailed to inquire what is going on at Five Corners at the UW field. LCC updated Newman about the UW plans to install artificial turf and field lighting.

ADMINISTRATION

Minutes: Review of the June minutes was deferred to the August meeting.

Treasurer's Report: The board reviewed the monthly treasurer's report. Dexter reported that it was an uneventful month. There were no questions.

Announcements: The June NEDC announcement handout is in the packets.

1. Night Out: Trustees were reminded that August 7 is the city's Night Out Event and neighbors are encouraged to get together for potlucks, ice cream socials, etc. to promote crime prevention.
2. Livable Streets Workshop: Cary Lassen attended the recent Livable Streets workshop. She reports that a few of the improvements in the Livable Streets plan will be implemented as mitigation for the massive expansion. The big one for the neighborhood is curb bulbs on the NE 45th hill. SDOT said we likely will not have painted crosswalks yet at that location. SDOT added that they may count crossings to determine if painted walks are needed. One other improvement is a sidewalk along the Ronald MacDonald house. This is another pedestrian link that needs completion. Children's is still securing funding for the crossing at Sand Point Way and NE 52nd (that is the one at the bottom of Windermere Circle and links over to the Sandpoint Park and the housing). This one would serve many people. It would allow people getting off the bus stops a safe crossing, create a safe walking/riding connection for the school and neighbors to the trail and Met Market, and hopefully calm traffic on Sand Point Way through that corridor. The updates are mapped out on the SDOT site. Today, LCC learned that Children's would like to bump LCC's first ranked project in the street fund process. They would prefer to have the \$90,000 for their project which was ranked third and they would then contribute around \$200,000 to the project.

REPORTS/ACTION

Crime Prevention: There was no NPAC meeting in July as it was scheduled on July 4. Next month is the NPAC picnic so there will be no meeting next month. McMullen reported on recent crime in the neighborhood. On June 28, neighbors on the 4100 block of 42nd Avenue NE saw a suspicious man with long hair and a backpack on their

property. The man moved onto to another neighbor's property. There were recent car break-ins on Nicklaus Place and Ivanhoe. Two locked cars from one family on Ivanhoe were broken into and the alarms did not go off. Another car on that street that was unlocked was rifled through and small items stolen. On June 14 on 42nd Avenue NE just south of Children's another car was broken into and a wallet stolen.

U Heights Large Fund Neighborhood Matching Fund (NMF) Grant: University Heights has applied for a \$50,000 NMF grant that will be matched by \$50,000 in cash and in-kind volunteer services. The grant will pay for P-Patch restoration, playground renewal and restoration of the historic east entrance. Currently, they have commitments for 300 volunteer hours, excluding professional service time. U Heights has set aside \$35,000 towards the project, leaving \$8,000 to be raised for the match.

Since acquiring the building in July 2009 U Heights has been busy restoring the building. Originally 40 repair items were identified through an architectural review of the property. Of these, 28 items have been addressed without public subsidy. For example the building has been fully weatherized, the windows have been restored per National Park standards and the heating and electrical systems have been upgraded.

Motion by Weissman, seconded by McAleer, to write a letter supporting the U Heights project. *Motion passed unanimously.*

Executive Session with LCC attorneys and land use consultant.

Meeting resumed. Motion by Ogden, seconded by McAleer, to authorize expenses for additional work on Talaris matters, six hours for Peter Eglick and six hours for Carol Eychaner. *Motion passed unanimously.*

MEETING ADJOURNED: 9:15 p.m.