

LCC Trustees Meeting
Wu Hsing Tao School, Seattle WA
September 13, 2010

Attending: Don Torrie, Marian Joh, Kirsten Curry, Kathryn Kelly, Seth Lassen, Cary, Lassen, Stan Sorscher, Leslie Wright, Len Nelson, Brian McMullen, Emily Dexter, Maggie Weissman, Jeannie Hale, Colleen McAleer

Excused: Mark Trumbauer (leave of absence), Adrian Whorton (leave of absence)

Guests: Dori Gillam, Project Supervisor, Senior Services, Aging Your Way, Alan Hovland, William Gore, Judy, Jerry Gettel, Jake Jacobs, Judy Thornton, Susan Marten, Kate Lloyd, Noel Lloyd, Dan Evans

Jeannie Hale called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM.

Aging Your Way: Dori Gillam, Senior Services Project Superior for Aging Your Way, briefed the board on a new initiative to bring baby boomers and their local communities together to plan for their future. Senior Services is an independent non-profit organization. They handle meals on wheels and other programs.

The program will bring together neighbors, service providers and businesses to share their strengths, passion, knowledge and relationships to create a supportive community for all.

Baby Boomers are reaching the point where they need senior services. Dori is looking for big turnout at the meeting in October.

Jim Diers will facilitate the meeting. Two regional meetings have already been held with good results. Dori talked about some activities and ideas developed in earlier meetings.

City Budget. Al Hovland said the City budget will be out soon, and everyone expects a big funding shortfall. Al is worried that Laurelhurst playfield and Community Center will be at risk of big budget cuts. All neighborhoods in the area will be scrambling for funding.

Sound Transit Station. Dan Evans spoke about the Sound Transit station at Husky Stadium and the stadium.

The stadium bid was structured so that the contractor is responsible for any cost overruns. The contractor has successfully completed architecturally impressive projects. The proposal was the best and the least expensive. The total will be about \$250 million. Construction will start at the end of the 2011 season. The 2012 will be played at Qwest Field. Games in 2013 will come back at Husky stadium. The playing field will be lowered, and the southern stands will be replaced. Parking for 200 cars will be below grade, with the stands on top. Premium seating will be added, which will help pay for the project.

The University has not approved the project, yet. The south wall will be a "living" or green structure. The new structure should qualify to LEED silver certification. Financing will come from personal donations, seat revenue, and other sources.

Sound Transit station. The Light Rail station design was a 2-story structure with a pedestrian bridge to the Burke Gilman Trail. Another idea is to lower Pacific Place, with a bridge at grade level connecting to Rainier Vista. Pedestrians and bicycles could get to the university without crossing traffic. Sound Transit almost agreed to pay for the connection. Traffic and grade crossing issues got in the way of that arrangement. State DOT can provide some money for a short bridge from the station to the triangle. The bridge would be 24 feet above Montlake. A tunnel under Montlake could hook into the station. Dan thinks a bridge would be unsightly, and would conflict with the architectural design of the stadium. Dan prefers a cut and cover tunnel under Montlake Avenue.

Waterway #1. Kate Lloyd reminded the Board that Friends of Waterway #1 have maintained the public space for many years. Hedges overlap the public space. Kate is concerned about the balance between the public and private uses of the space. The basketball court was built with a permit many years ago. The Department of Natural Resources oversees the operation of the waterway. For Kate, the issue is encroachment by hedges into the public space.

Kate has been to 200 homes, talking to neighbors in the area. She would like this question to be on the agenda for next month.

William Gore said he would like the Club to consider Kate's proposal. Jeannie Hale said the Board has been working on this issue for a long time. Jeannie wants to gather research on this subject.

Judy Thornton said LCC built the park in 1948. Neighbors got permission to build the basketball court and playfield. Judy said LCC eliminated encroachments in the past. Judy would like to see a compromise that addresses encroachment in the waterway. Kate's proposal is the result of over 50 families in the neighborhood.

The proposal would appeal to DNR to increase the amount public space and reduce the encroachment into the waterway. Friends of Waterway #1 presented the proposal to DNR. Judy would like LCC to support the proposal from Friends of Waterway #1 or a similar proposal.

Noel Lloyd regards Waterway #1 as a "cause." He is concerned about encroachment into the public space. A land-swap was attempted, recently, which would have reduced public space. A web site at waterway1.org has more information about the issue.

Susan Marten asked how the Board will proceed in taking a position on Waterway #1? Jeannie explained the process used to prepare agendas.

ADMINISTRATION

Treasurer's Report: Emily Dexter reported on the Club's financial status. The security fund is positive. Great Harvest had misunderstood their arrangement for stopping advertising in the Newsletter. We may have reached an agreement to recover a portion of the expenses.

Minutes: Mariah Joh was excused from the August meeting, so the minutes should be corrected in that regard. **Motion** by Colleen McAleer, seconded by Emily Dexter, to accept the August minutes as corrected. **Motion passed**, with Stan Sorscher and Marian Joh abstaining. Special thanks to McAleer and S. Lassen for assistance in preparing the minutes.

CALLS AND CONCERNS:

1. Waterway No. 1: Dexter and Hale met with Judith Thornton, her husband and Kate Lloyd on 8/12 to discuss issues they had raised regarding maintenance and other matters. Thornton had emailed on 8/11 about her concern that DNR was not looking out for the best interests of the neighborhood in her view and to ask for support for her compromise regarding removal of the areas under permit with the City for private use of public property. LCC responded that it is interested in fulfilling its responsibilities under the Right of Entry Agreement it has with DNR regarding maintenance and enhancement of the waterway. LCC went on to say that several years ago, LCC developed policies over a two-year period regarding private use of public property along the lines of the City's policies for shoreline street ends and DNR regulations governing waterways. LCC pointed out that DNR manages 5.6 million acres of state-owned land to benefit public schools and institutions. The waterway is small in comparison with the many other state-owned lands managed by DNR, but it is important to our community. That's why LCC has worked so very hard with DNR on a plan to move forward.

LCC pointed out its policies call for providing incentives for the removal of encroachments. The encroachments have been there for decades, long before the current adjacent property owners moved here, although there was a small expansion on the south side from a prior owner a few years ago. LCC has been successful in working with the City and DNR in having the metal poles near the dock removed from the water and the boat lift on that side of the waterway moved to the other side of the dock to provide easier ability to launch non-motorized boats.

Thornton emailed again about this on the same day that LCC responded asking that her proposal be added to the September agenda. Because the agenda was already full, it was suggested that Thornton and Lloyd address the board during the "calls and concerns" portion of the meeting.

On 8/19, Thornton emailed DNR stating that the boat launching area at the waterway was blocked by two dead-head logs and that the municipal sewer outlet was block. LCC reps did not notice these blockages at its 8/12 meeting and notified DNR.

On 8/24, Bill Scott emailed to address concerns that he had heard from Thornton. On 8/30, Thornton sent LCC her draft history of the waterway. The LCC committee has not had an opportunity to review the report.

On 8/29, Thornton emailed DNR again about blockages at the waterway. LCC moved a log slightly over and sent photos to DNR. A small, slender log was blocking the area where non-motorized boats and was shoved to the side.

On 9/1, Thornton emailed to say that DNR had invited her to submit a proposal regarding encroachments at the waterway and to again ask that this be put on the LCC agenda. In following up with DNR, they indicated that their message to Thornton was not intended to have a community discussion about her position, rather just to provide an opportunity for comment. On the same day, Luanne Mills and Anne Johnson emailed asking that the proposal be put on the LCC agenda. LCC responded. Neighbors were assured that LCC would soon have accurate information about the waterway on its website.

On 9/3, Thornton emailed stating that LCC is required to remove Class A and Class B noxious weeds. LCC responded with advice provided by its consultant Arthur Lee Jacobson.

On 9/4, Thornton emailed the board about her proposal for removal of the encroachments at the waterway. Her correspondence as well as handouts she has distributed in the neighborhood are in the trustee packets.

Note the above is only a partial listing of the calls and emails received from Thornton.

2. History book: Geri Smith emailed on 8/18 to find out where to get copies of the Laurelhurst history book. She was put in touch with Barb Ragee who coordinates distribution of the book.
3. Graffiti: Joe Bennett emailed on 8/19 about graffiti at the Playfield on the Little League equipment boxes. It looked as if the graffiti was from "United Latinos of 33rd Street." Requests were made to get this taken care of.
4. Curious behavior: On the morning of 8/19, David Burgstahler reported that he and his son saw a white van driving north on 43rd Avenue between NE 38th and NE 41st at a high rate of speed. The van stopped at the corner of NE 43rd and NE 41^s where someone jumped in and then the vehicle sped off. Burgstahler reported the license number to LCC Crime Prevention.
5. Minutes: Susan Marten emailed on 8/24 because a couple of the links to LCC minutes on its website were not working. That has now been fixed and Marten was notified.
6. Street end blockage request: Heather Newman was in touch with the UW on 8/30 to ask about installation of something to block foot traffic at the NE 44th dead-end that

leads over to the UW's student housing and day care. The dead-ends on NE 42nd and NE 43rd are already block by fencing and/or shrubbery.

7. Crosswalks: Neighbor Sheila Farr sent LCC the response she received from SDOT re installation of a crosswalk at 36th Avenue NE and NE 41st Street, at the entrance to the Center for Urban Horticulture. SDOT said the location does not meeting the department's "warrant" requirements and would give pedestrians a false sense of security. SDOT also said there are not enough pedestrians in that area. LCC will continue to work on this and other pedestrian safety issues.
8. Dog poop: On 9/08, a neighbor emailed to ask LCC to remind dog owners to scoop their do-do and deposit it in their own trash cans. The neighbor said inconsiderate dog owners had been putting do-do in both their garbage and recycling bins. LCC will alert neighbors about this.
9. Car vandalism: John Temple who lives in the vicinity of Villa called on 9/10 to report that someone knocked their woodpile into their car causing damage to the car. He will report this to the police.
10. Neglected cans: Bill Elmer emailed today after reading the article in the newsletter about people leaving garbage and yard waste cans out. He is hoping that neighbors can help each other out so cans don't remain on the curbs as that lets burglars know that people are not at home.
11. Hard copy newsletters: A neighbor emailed today to see about discontinuing receiving the hard copy newsletter as she receives the e-newsletters from LCC. It was explained that LCC mails its newsletters according to postal mail carrier routes and to save money, LCC can't remove neighbors from the list. The neighbor was fine with the explanation.
12. September LCC meeting: The Jacobs/Redding family emailed about tonight's trustee meeting. An agenda and the meeting location were sent to them. They mentioned that LCC had helped them with a noise issue in the past. Susan Marten emailed about the meeting location and that information was provided.
13. Compliments: Heather Newman emailed today to compliment LCC on the format and substance of today's e-newsletter.
14. Boats. Seth Lassen explained the situation regarding parking boats on city streets. The threshold is either 72 or 80 inches in width, including the trailer. Boats attached to a car may be parked to up to 72 hours. Discussion of parking boats and cars in yards and driveways.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Please see NEDC announcement handout.

1. Meeting with new North Seattle Community College President: Community leaders are invited to join the new president of North Seattle Community College, Mark

Mitsui, and representatives of the other neighborhood associations for a continental breakfast on Monday, October 4 at 8 a.m. in the North Star Room on the campus.

2. Yesler Swamp Grant: On September 8th, Friends of Yesler Swamp Trail Foundation was notified that it had received its Small and Simple Neighborhood Matching Fund grant. LCC, the NEDC and other groups had written letters supporting the project.
3. Thank you: Thanks to Don Torrie for coordinating distribution of the trustee agenda packets this month.
4. U-Pass: The UW has been in touch about meeting to discuss the U-Pass program as funding is now in jeopardy. The program has been highly successful for the last 20 years in enabling the UW to manage traffic and parking demand. The future of this successful program is now under threat due to a set of compounding factors that are jeopardizing the financial viability of U-PASS. In an effort to protect this program, which benefits the entire university area community as well as students, faculty, and staff, U-Pass officials are meeting with CUCAC and community leaders to discuss the value of the U-PASS program and to ask for support in seeking solutions to the financial crisis. Chang, C. Lassen, McAleer and Hale are working on a date to meet with UW officials.

REPORTS/ACTION:

Crime Prevention: Brian McMullen passed out a graphic showing crime reports for the neighborhood. Activity is up slightly.

Talaris Median Update: Dexter has followed up with Talaris on maintenance issues of the planted medians abutting their property and the pedestrian refuge island. After Paul O'Brien, the former groundskeeper at Talaris left his position, Talaris no longer undertook the maintenance as called for the the 2nd Amended Settlement Agreement with Talaris (formerly with Battelle). It wasn't until recently that LCC learned that neighbors had occasionally been undertaking the maintenance as they didn't know it was a Talaris responsibility.

Emily spoke with Eduardo Alejandro the head of maintenance who had been there about a year and had never been told that maintenance of the NE 41st Street medians was a Talaris responsibility. He spoke with his boss Ivor Park at Pistol Creek, and Emily has followed up with him. Emily is now working with Ivor to address the maintenance issue.

Based upon the wording of the Settlement Agreement, Talaris raised a question as to whether they were responsible for the median at the bottom of Suicide Hill. At the time of the settlement negotiations, LCC had reached an agreement with the UW regarding their maintenance of the first couple of medians beginning at Mary Gates/NE 41st. The UW basically drew the lines that the UW, LCC and Talaris would each share responsibility for 1/3 of the maintenance. LCC renegotiated its agreement with Heath Landscaping for its segment and that agreement did not include the median at the base of the hill. For a few years, Talaris maintained the median at the bottom of the hill.

As a compromise, it was suggested that LCC agree to maintain the irrigation system on the medians abutting Talaris and plant and tree replacement in exchange for Talaris taking on maintenance of the median at the bottom of Suicide Hill. Dexter will continue to work on this to come to a solution that is acceptable to all.

One outstanding issue relating to the median is replacement of the two Raywood ash trees that were destroyed by an intoxicated driver. Jean Colley got a bid to replace the two trees at \$160 each with a \$150 delivery fee. The trees would come from Harnden's Tree Nursery in Snohomish, the same nursery that LCC purchased the existing trees on that set of medians. Colley's gardener is willing to plant the trees with help from neighbors. Colley would also like to order 200 daffodil bulbs in two varieties (Ice Follies and yellow trumpet) from Roozengaarde in Mount Vernon at a cost of \$105 plus shipping. The prices listed do not include sales tax.

Motion by Stan Sorscher, seconded by Marian Joh to authorize up to \$600 plus tax to apply toward replacement of the trees and daffodils in the 41st St. median east of Surber Way. **Motion passed** unanimously.

LCC is still looking for a source for *Genista pilosa* (the ground cover in the pedestrian refuge island).

SR 520. Colleen McAleer has attended planning meetings to settle details about the SR 520 bridge design. Colleen sees support eroding for the second bascule bridge. Discussion of political interests surrounding the supporters and opposition to a second bridge over Montlake cut.

Union Bay Milfoil Eradication Update: Eradication of milfoil is always difficult, especially if it is done in patches, rather than getting it all removed. Colleen has some information about approaches being considered.

Seattle Children's Update: Cary Lassen went to the helicopter meeting in place of Mark Trumbauer. Cary was appointed to the SAC.

LCC is planning a special meeting for neighbors to discuss Childrens' Hospital with Carol Eychaner. The meeting will be Wednesday this week. Jeannie asked for volunteers. Cary, Colleen, Emily will be there to help.

Susan Marten would like to see someone from Childrens at the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 PM.
Minutes by Stan Sorscher