

Minutes
Laurelhurst Community Club
March 16, 2015
Laurelhurst Community Center

Attending: Robin Chalmers, Emily Dexter, Kay Kelly, Linda Luiten, Colleen McAleer, Brian McMullen, Connie Sidles, Stan Sorscher, Don Torrie, Maggie Weissman

Excused: Liz Ogden, Stan Sorscher, Leslie Wright

Guests: Gina and David Pankowski, Cell Phone Repair Seattle

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m. and was followed by introductions.

Cell Phone Repair Proposed Signage: Under the Settlement Agreement between LCC and the Spiger Building owners, LCC must approve all signage at the Spiger Building. Gina and David Pankowski briefed the board on proposed signage for their new Cell Phone Repair business. They proposed a double sided blade type sign, the same size as the State Farm sign—24 inches by five feet. The sign would be internally illuminated and attached to the awning.

Karen Skadum Design previously occupied the site and Seattle Film Works prior to that. Services provided to the new Laurelhurst business include replacement of the glass on cell phones. MOTION by McAleer, seconded by McMullen, to approve the proposed signage. *Motion passed unanimously.*

ADMINISTRATION

Appointment of Constance Sidles to the LCC Board: MOTION by Weissman, seconded by Torrie, to appoint Sidles to the LCC board. *Motion passed unanimously.* Background information about Sidles and her appointment to the board will be featured in the next *Laurelhurst News* in accordance with LCC bylaws.

Calls and Concerns from Neighbors:

1. Shoreland bird protection: Sidles excellent and lengthy response to a neighbor regarding the SR520 mitigation plan for the Union Bay Natural Area was distributed. Sidles outlined the many issues including the mix of microhabitats, shorebird migration and flaws in the WSDOT plan.
2. New police beats: On February 5, the Blog inquired to see if the North Precinct “U3” boundaries have changed. In early February, SPD had notified communities that the boundaries of 51 police beats would be changed. Both McMullen and Luiten responded that there would be no changes in Laurelhurst. The only changes were to the east, west and south precincts.
3. Hit and run: On February 12, a white truck with a wide flat-bed hit a gray BMW parked on the southwest corner of NE 45th Street and 46th Avenue NE near the stop sign. Yesterday morning about 9:30am, a white truck with a wide flat-bed, hit a grey BMW parked on the southwest corner of NE 45th Street and 46th Avenue NE near the stop sign. The driver apparently left a note with an incomplete phone number seen by a passer-by. But when the owner of the damaged vehicle went to retrieve it,

the note had disappeared. A security patrol student was able to get the first three letters of the license plate "C15" as it turned westbound onto NE 45th Street. Anyone with information about the incident should contact the Laurelhurst Blog.

4. Car break-in: The Laurelhurst Blog notified the community of a car break-in on February 13 on the 4700 block of NE 45th near 48th Avenue NE. Neighbor's locked car was broken into sometime between 11 p.m.-6 a.m., while parked in the driveway. Culprits pried open the back of the car to get in, and disconnected the battery to prevent the alarm from sounding. There were no valuables in the car, so nothing was taken.
5. Shoreland birds: A neighbor emailed on February 17 in response to LCC request to neighbors to sign the Audubon petition asking WSDOT to undertake mitigation measures, other than those proposed, to protect the bird population in the Union Bay Natural Area. LCC responded providing additional information. Two neighbors emailed thanking LCC for its efforts to protect our shoreland birds. An excellent letter written by Connie Sidles about the issue was distributed.
6. Advertising question: On February 24, a neighbor emailed to inquire about a listing in the Blog, the newsletter or other neighborhood blogs or newsletter about accommodations for a visiting scholar during the summer. LCC and the Blog responded.
7. No parking issue: On February 24, a neighbor emailed about the problem of neighbors and others ignoring the "no parking" signs on the northwest corner of NE45th and 47th Avenue NE. She stated when traveling south on 47th Avenue NE, it's impossible to see to the right (downhill) to pull out into NE 45th Street. The Blog did a post on related issues. LCC is reviewing the problem.
8. Noise from Children's: A humming noise from Children's was reported on Sundays through Thursdays from various neighbors south and east of the hospital. The hospital rectified it within a few days and found the source to be a fan that had an over tightened belt that was then adjusted. Recently, there has been a high-pitched noise coming from the hospital. The hospital started and stopped about 10-15 fans on the roof and was not able to find the source over a few days. Noise still persists and is heard by several neighbors. The hospital says that they are continuing to search for the source and a resolution.
9. Security project: Several neighbors emailed in February about the private security project. Neighbors were appreciative that LCC now includes highlights of the patrols in the monthly newsletter. LCC responded to other inquiries and questions. A few neighbors paid for the security project twice. Refund checks were mailed to them.
10. Proposed new portables at Laurelhurst School: LCC continues to receive emails and phone calls about the proposal to add up to four new portables at the school. The school district is seeking a departure from the land use code that would increase lot coverage from 35% to 45% and would eliminate playground space.
11. Solicitors are out: Neighbors have informed the Blog that solicitors are out trying to sell magazines. The Blog printed excellent tips from the police department indicating that most of these solicitors are not legitimate adding that most are

scammers and give little of the money they collect to the charitable organization they represent.

12. Home business issue: A neighbor on NE 41st inquired about rules relating to home businesses as her neighbor's business often has ten cars parked in front, sometimes blocking her driveway. LCC is following up as the Code governs this.

Minutes: The board reviewed the minutes of the February 2015 meeting. MOTION by Sidles, seconded by Kelly to approve the February minutes as presented. *Motion passed unanimously*. It was noted that 60-80 people attended the last trustee meeting.

Treasurer's Report: The board reviewed the February financial report. Dexter responded to questions from trustees. MOTION by Torrie, seconded by McAleer, to approve four more hours for legal work associated with the portables issue as well as the one hour that exceeded the amount already approved. *Motion passed unanimously*. Dexter noted that private security subscriptions have doubled from last year.

Announcements:

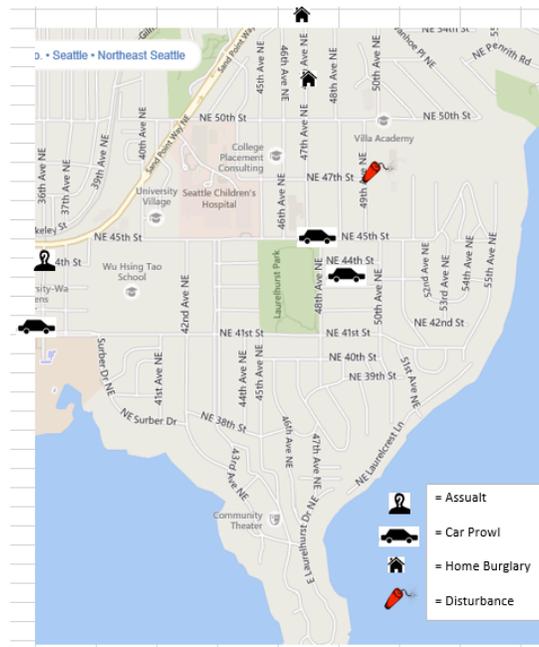
1. Development Standards Departure Advisory Committee Meeting: Tuesday, March 17, 6:30 p.m., Laurelhurst Elementary School Auditorium. The meeting will include a brief presentation on the requested addition of up to four more portables on the playground at the school. Following the presentation, the committee will consider its recommendations. Additional meetings may be held if the committee concludes that more information is needed. The public is invited to make comments.
2. First Look Forum—Who's Running in Seattle City Council District 4? Wednesday, March 18, 7:00-8:30 p.m., Sand Point Community Church's Perry Hall, 4710 NE 70th Street. LCC is a cosponsor of this event.
3. Spring Clean Starts April 1: It's time for Spring Clean, Seattle's premier community cleanup event. Seattle Public Utilities invites you and your neighbors to participate April 1 – May 31. Help pick up litter, stencil storm drains, or paint out graffiti. All Spring Clean projects are on public property. Volunteers receive free litter cleanup bags, gloves, safety vests, and waste disposal permits.
4. Spring Egg Hunt! Saturday, April 4, at Laurelhurst Park. Hunt begins at 10 a.m. sharp. Volunteers should plan to arrive by 9:45 a.m. This event, for ages 12 and under, is free and will occur rain or shine.
5. Children's Standing Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting: Monday, March 23, 6-8 p.m., Children's Hospital, Ocean Café, 7th Floor. The agenda includes a campus tour and update on Children's Annual Report.
6. Landmarks Preservation Board Meeting: Wednesday, March 18, 3:30 p.m., Seattle Municipal Tower, 700 5th Avenue, 40th Floor, Room 4060. The agenda includes another request for a continuance from Talaris.

REPORTS/ACTION

Crime Prevention: McMullen reported on activities of the private security officers and crime in the neighborhood as follows:

Date	Description of Patrol Activities
2/3	Conducted a walkthru of the Laurelhurst Elementary as requested for the school dance
2/7	Cleared some youths from the Laurelhurst Park playground late at night
2/12	Cleared one vehicle from the park
2/19	Observed a vehicle acting suspicious, going thru alleys etc. Followed vehicle until it left Laurelhurst without incident

Date	Crimes Reported
2/12	Threat / harassment 43xx Block of 36 Ave NE
2/13	Car Prowl 4700 Block of NE 45th Street 11pm
2/14	Residential Burglary 50xx Block of 47th ave NE 1:44 pm, silent alarm in the same area went off the day before
2/16	Multiple burglar alarms went off in the afternoon around Laurelhurst Park. Seems like a pattern of people coming in from the north entrance into the neighborhood
2/20	Disturbance - possible gun shots 47xx block of 49th Ave Ne
2/23	Car Prowl 48xx Block of NE 43 st
3/12	Car Prowl Near Horticultural center
3/13	Commercial Burglary at 54xx Block of Sand Point Way



Brian noted that it was possible that something happened at the jewelry store as it looked like a bullet hole in the window. The woman who was hit by a car at the Princeton Bridge is recovering and will be okay. The past month, there has been more crime in the Ravenna-Bryant area.

Luiten reported on the North Precinct Advisory Council meeting. There was no speaker at the meeting. Captain David Emerick reported on the crime stats for the first two months of 2015. Auto thefts, car prowls and domestic violence are down. Residential burglaries are down 8% and non residential burglaries are down 28%. Vehicle thefts are down 28%. Street robberies and assaults are up.

North Precinct is conducting increased patrols in the University District and North Aurora for the next two-three months. They will be handing out tickets for everything including jaywalking. The police have to work with other social service agencies to deal with homeless, but it is a social service problem. They are trying to jointly come up with solutions. Luiten was very complimentary about the new Police Chief.

Luiten updated the board on the sock drive. Socks and other donated items were given to Solid Ground, Lake City Mennonite Church and the Pioneer Square Foot Clinic.

Proposal to add more Portables at Laurelhurst School: The first community meeting of the advisory committee on the portables issue is tomorrow night. Several trustees plan to attend and speak at the meeting in opposition to the proposal.

Traffic Safety: Chalmers stated that he had contacted SDOT twice via email and once by phone concerning the continuing complaints from neighbors about lack of vision for drivers looking down "Suicide Hill" when heading south across the top of it on 43rd Avenue NE. He again put forward a suggestion that a mirror be installed and paid for by LCC. SDOT liability concerns continue on this option. Chalmers again suggested a four-way stop at the top of the hill, something SDOT continues to reject. Chalmers and LCC have concluded that after over fifteen months of pushing on this one item that SDOT don't intend to do anything with regards to safety here.

Chalmers stated that it is now getting towards the end of the first quarter of 2015 and SDOT promised the Laurelhurst neighborhood would be getting its worn out street signs replaced. He hasn't seen any signs of it happening yet. He suggested that the "BLOG" put out the word to let LCC know if anyone sees any movement on this item.

On the subject of the yellow reflector buttons located along 42nd Avenue NE and 43 Avenue NE, by Waterway #1, he checked this out and noted that they appeared to be ripped off the road surface by a chisel or screwdriver and not lost to wear and tear from traffic. There was only one button left out of the original twelve. Again he sent an email to SDOT five days ago on this and has had no response.

Chalmers concluded that in thinking about all of LCC's requests to SDOT over the past fifteen months regarding road safety in our area, SDOT has done nothing.

SR 520 Update: LCC decided not to pursue a shoreline protection legal suit against WSDOT in large part due to the short timeline to file. Rather, Sidles will continue to work with the Audubon Society and the University of Washington to achieve a more appropriate habitat for the Western Shorebirds.

Regarding construction issues, McAleer reported that the last of the pontoons will be floated through the Montlake Cut in early April to finish the base for the floating portion of the bridge. LCC sent a letter of concern about the additional traffic backups to NE Seattle if the City of Seattle and WSDOT add stoplights with "no free right turns" at access points to the new SR520 configuration. LCC believes that an activated red light for pedestrians and bikers will achieve adequate safety without causing unnecessary delays from long lights on the on and off ramps to SR520.

Talaris Update: The Talaris people have requested yet another continuance before the Landmarks Board. LCC has heard nothing from Talaris on the "controls and incentives" process. LCC is continuing to reach out to the owner group and the architects, Susan Jones and Bill Bain to have a neighborhood input to any development on the site. (A good rapport is building on both sides for a better outcome.) The Seattle Landmark Board has not decided if any buildings that are landmarked will be removed, and how much infill to the site will be allowed. The Friends of Battelle expressed strong concerns at the Landmark's Board March meeting, and LCC will meet with the owners and architects after that decision has been made.

Link Connection Alternatives: McAleer briefed the board on King County Metro bus service options 1 or 2 developed by the Sounding Board, consisting of the City of Seattle, King County Metro, and federally funded Sound Transit. Option 1 would be more frequent service, in northeast Seattle and no bus for Laurelhurst, removing the #25 route. Option 2 would retain service for Laurelhurst with the bus running along Montlake Boulevard to the Light Rail Station, more frequently, but unfortunately not after 6:00 p.m. during weekdays, and no service on weekends. Trustees unanimously supported Option 2. McAleer will prepare a comment letter to the Transit Sounding Board with recommendations on behalf of LCC.

Neighborhood Street Fund Results: This year's Street Fund process before Northeast District Council was highly competitive. There were 16 applications and the top six were referred to SDOT for engineering analysis and feasibility. The six top projects are highlighted in yellow on the handout in your packet as follows:

Northeast District Council NSPF Projects - 2015 Ballot Ranking

Prsnt #	Proj #	Project Location	Project Description	Lead Applicant	Comm Org	POINT S AWARDED
1	013	NE 45 th Street/51 st Av NE	Install speed humps	William Leedon	Laurelhurst Comm Club, Villa Academy	82
2	049	2100 block NE 61 st	Improve accessibility/ abate erosion	John Vallier	RBCA	26
3	056	8 th NE/NE 57, NE 58, NE 60	Curb ramps/ped safety	Katherine Dodsley	Roosevelt Neighbors Alliance	75
4	063	NE 70 th /8 th NE intersection	Curb bulb construction	Scott Cooper	Roosevelt Neighborhood Association	93

5	078	15 th Ave NE/NE 50 th St intersection	Upgrade crosswalk /add "stop for peds" sign	Mark Foltz	Seattle Greenways	125
6	098	Weedin Place	Construction of improvements to vacated street	Katie Wood & Kmbri Bond	Roosevelt Neighborhood Association	97
7	101	Brooklyn Av NE/NE 50/NE 52	Sidewalk repair	Maureen Ewing	University Heights Center	107
8	106	NE 90/25 Av NE - NE 94/32 nd Av NE	Create a Home Zone	Brianna McDonald	Wedgwood Comm Council	85
9	114	15 th NE/NE Pacific - Lake City Way	Road diet	Andres Salomon	Sea Neighborhood Greenways	48
10	115	NE 43 rd /U Way - Brooklyn NE	Construction of Parklet	Cory Crocker	U District Comm Cncl/adjacent merchants	131
11	120	NE 55 th /35 th Av NE	Sidewalk repair	Joe Clare	RBCA	71
12	135	Sand Point Way/NE 74 th - NE 77 th	Sidewalk construction	Diana Kincaid	View Ridge/ Magnuson Park	120
13	139	NE 65 th /32 nd Av NE	Ped safety improvements	Robert Elleman	NE Sea Greenways	84
14	149	2401 NE Blakeley St	Ped safety crossing	Nancy Bouldin	RBCA	80
15	152	Banner Triangle	Ped safety improvements	Michael Greever	Roosevelt Neighborhood Association	73
16	006	Walkway under University Bridge	Sidewalk repair	Erika Bigelow	Wallingford Community Council	63

The Laurelhurst project for speed humps on 51st Avenue NE outside the Villa's back entrance came in 9th. Neighbor Gretchen Swapp did an excellent job presenting the Laurelhurst project. She told NEDC reps that her neighbors had hired an independent transportation company to do a one-time speed study. The study indicated cars exiting the Villa at 45 mph. Villa's principal, John Milroy, has had an ongoing dialogue with neighbors and submitted a letter in support of the project. The group is now working with SDOT.

Children's Hospital External Review Committee: Due to the sad passing of David Dunning, there is a vacancy on Children's helicopter landings review committee. LCC wrote a letter supporting neighbor Robert Waldman to replace Dunning. Waldman is a retired accountant, interested in using his skills to help processes achieve good analyses of data. He is thoughtful, constructive and good with numbers. LCC's letter is included in your agenda packets. LCC encourages neighbors to apply for the openings

through the Department of Neighborhoods, and supports continuation of the committee as dictated by the Hearing Examiner.

In the meantime, Lothar Pinkers, a physician who serves on the committee, has resigned for health reasons. The Department of Neighborhoods will select a replacement for Dunning and/or Pinkers.

The committee's next meeting is Tuesday, March 24 from 8-9 a.m.

Newsletter Ads: Wright provided flyers for trustees to assist in generating new advertisers for the newsletter. She has asked for the board for assistance as monthly revenue is down \$450 to \$600 per month. Flyers were distributed.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 8:50 p.m.