

NORTHWEST DISTRICT COUNCIL
December 3, 2014 7:00 PM
Greenwood Senior Center - 525 North 85th Street
Meeting Minutes

Attendance:

Voting members:

Jacqueline Sorgen, 36th District Democrats **(absent)**
Eugene Wasserman, Aurora Avenue Merchants Association, Chair
Jim Jensen, Broadview Community Council **(absent)**
Marcia Norman, Friends of Green Lake
Ellen Hewitt, Green Lake Community Council
Rick Klingele, Greenwood Community Council
Kris Lethin, Haller Lake Community Club
Tom Meyer, Licton Springs Community Council
Amy Besunder, Phinney Ridge Neighborhood Association **(absent)**
Alice Poggi, Phinney Ridge Community Council

Other members:

Gloria Butts, Bitter Lake Pea Patch **(absent)**
Peter House, 43rd District Democrats, Secretary

Staff:

Thomas Whittemore, City of Seattle Department of Neighborhoods.

Guests:

Sara Zora, SDOT Planner, Multimodal Program
Christine Alar, SDOT Senior Transportation Planner
Shannon Kelleher from SPU
Paul Kostek, President Green Lake Community Council
Dick Burkhart, SE District Council
Catherine Weatbrook (from Ballard DC)
Alex Zimmerman

Community:

Ron Hornung, Green Lake neighborhood
Faye Garneau, Aurora Avenue Merchants Association

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm by Chair Eugene Wasserman.
2. Introductions/Short Announcements

3. Review and approve NWDC minutes from October 22, 2014 – Klingele moved to approve with spelling corrections: Hewitt seconded; motion passed unanimously. Eugene noted that there has been a change in plans such that the Bike Master Plan folks will be with us in January not at this meeting as stated in the minutes.

4. Seattle Department of Transportation Multimodal Program Briefing – Sara Zora, and Christine Alar

Sara gave an update on the Multimodal Corridor Program. (See handout.) This is the first update that they have given as they tour the district councils. They talked about the data collection, community engagement, and planning processes for the project.

Some of the concerns of the NWDC:

How is the project going to be funded?: Mayor's capital improvements budget. The amount for the planning phase is \$1.7 million. After planning, we can apply for funding from a number of sources.

Drainage issues along the corridors...will be included in the process.

How will this interface with the bicycle master plan? It will be part of this project.

Public input process: Will be extensive.

When will the website be in place? Not a clear answer.

What is the status of our approved project at 1st Ave NW and NW 80th?

Shannon Kelleher (of SPU) reported that SPU will coordinate with this project and she addressed some of the drainage issues of the Corridor projects.

5. Concerns with the Neighborhood Matching Funds process:

Rick distributed a proposed letter (from the NWDC to the Seattle Department of Neighborhoods) outlining the concerns of the NWDC concerning activities of the Neighborhood Matching funds process. See attached letter.

Action taken: The NWDC Council agreed to support the letter (draft dated December 1, 2014.) The vote was six FOR with one OPPOSED.

6. City Neighborhood Council Update and Review – Rick Klingele, CNC Alternated Representative from the NW District Council.

Rick distributed a document outlining the history of the CNC in Seattle. Rick also distributed a document outlining Rick's concerns about how the CNC works and how it is supported by the City. (Attachment #3) Attachment #3 contains a draft letter proposing that the NWDC withdraws its support for the CNC. We would relinquish our voting membership.

Rick reported that when he shared his concerns with the CNC, the CNC leadership disrespected him and his concerns were dismissed.

Catherine Weatbrook (from the Ballard District Council) and Dick Burkhart (from the SW District Council) also participated in this discussion.

There was debate on the proposed action.

A straw poll on supporting the letter indicated that the NWDC does not support Rick's proposal. Kris Lethin offered to represent us on the CNC going forward, and was accepted.

7. Staff Report –Thomas Whittemore, Neighborhood District Coordinator, Department of Neighborhoods – No updates.

8. Chair’s Report - Eugene Wasserman

We will invite the candidates for City Council (under the new district elections system for the two districts that are part of the NWDC area) to talk with us about their campaigns. Alice reported that the Phinney Ridge Community Council will organize a candidates’ forum.

9. Next NWDC meeting – Our next meeting will be January 28, 2015.

10. Meeting adjourned at 8:57 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Peter House, Secretary