

NORTHWEST DISTRICT COUNCIL Minutes - February 27, 2013
Greenwood Senior Center - 525 North 85th Street

DRAFT

Attendees:

Steve Deters, Aurora Avenue Merchants Association.
Eugene Wasserman, Broadview Community Council.
Marcia Norman, Friends of Green Lake.
Ellen Hewitt, Green Lake Community Council.
Rick Klingele, Greenwood Community Council.
Rob Fellows, Greenwood Community Council.
Velva Maye, Haller Lake Community Club.
Tom Meyer, Licton Springs Community Council.
Jan Brucker, Licton Springs Community Council.
Irene Wall, Phinney Ridge Community Council.
Ann Bowden, Phinney Neighborhood Association.
Jacqueline Sorgen, 36th District Democrats.
Peter House, 43rd District Democrats.
Joan Caldon, Greenwood/N Seattle Boys and Girls Club.
Gloria Butts, Broadview resident.
Susan Paine, SDOT.
Nolan Rundquist, SDOT.
Roger Iwata, Sound Transit.

Staff – Rob Mattson, DON

Introductions/Short Announcements

- Broadview CC planning a Mayoral candidates forum for May or June; looking for co-sponsors.
- Licton Springs P Patch open house/grand opening 3-23-2013, 10 am – 2 pm at 92nd and the freeway, includes a garden tool exchange.
- Dunn Gardens Member open Sunday – 3-24-2013.
- Broadview CC and Garden Club will have joint meeting 3-19-2013.
- Broadview Historical Society meets 3-21-2013.

Approval of January minutes – Gene Wasserman moved, Steve Deters seconded, passed unanimously.

Light Rail System Beyond Northgate, Roger Iwata, Sound Transit – Link Light Rail.

Discussed the extension from Northgate to Lynnwood. Downtown to U District sections should open in 2016; U District to Northgate section recently broke ground and should open 2021. Section to Lynwood will all be above ground, at grade and some elevated sections. Looked at both 99 and I-5 routes but I-5 seems best alternative; trying to keep it in the freeway right of way as much as possible. Still evaluating stops/stations. Newsletter to be sent out in April. Draft EIS coming out in June; public meetings to be held mid-late July 2013.

Proposed Seattle Street Tree Ordinance, Nolan Rundquist, City Arborist.

SDOT planning an update to Street Tree Ordinance to better protect street trees. Public comments have been taken and will be posted online on 3-31-2013 at

<http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/treeordinance.htm>

SDOT is planting about 400 trees in the Green Lake area, west of I-5, south of 85th Street. Over the past 6 years, SDOT has planted 4600 trees. SDOT's Urban Forest Department includes an arborist who

maintains a tree inventory and can help with determining best trees to plant; landscape architects who work on tree protection for construction projects; and gardeners/operations staff who install and maintain trees. Street trees are city planted, owned and maintained. Permits are required to prune, plant or remove a street tree. Trees on private property are the responsibility of property owner but no more than three trees can be removed per year. Questions, general information, permits, sidewalk issues should be directed to 206-684-TREE.

Staff Report, Rob Mattson.

- SDOT will be hosting an open house 3-20-2013 at 5 pm at Bitterlake Community Center to discuss sidewalk and pedestrian improvements related to Rapid Ride E line.
- DON has proposed changes to Neighborhood Matching Fund review process. Small and Simple grants would still be reviewed at staff level. Larger grants would still be at citywide and district level with districts only reviewing those in their district. District Council and Citywide Review meetings would be held jointly at five open houses. Citywide Review Team members would attend all five. Applicants would only attend one.
- Two (2) Park Green Space Levy Opportunity Fund proposals in the NW Sector (which includes the Ballard District) have moved forward: Baker Park Expansion and Threading the Needle Park at 24th Ave NW. These are both in the Ballard District. Green Lake Park Complex was covered by other funding.
- The NWDC will have approximately eight (8) NPSF (Neighborhood Parks & Streets Fund) (formerly NPF - Neighborhood Projects Fund) (formerly Neighborhood Street Fund - Small Projects Fund) applications to review in March, five (5) of which are curb issues near 55th Street.

Chairs Report, Rick Klingele.

- In January, the 36th District Democrats submitted an application for NWDC Certified membership. In January's meeting it was announced that this would be addressed in the February meeting. There was a significant amount of discussion regarding the possible impact, including the setting of a precedent by voting in a group affiliated with a political party. There was concern that since the NW District includes now portions of 4 legislative districts, an imbalance could occur. Some other DCs do include representatives from political parties. The vote was 7 for; 0 opposed; 2 abstentions to accept the application, which was sufficient for acceptance per the current bylaws, bringing the total number of Certified Member Organizations to 10.

City Neighborhood Council Report, Irene Wall.

- The CNC tries to balance the conflicting goals of nimble action and DC review before approval. It would be useful, if possible, to have a process for how the NWDC representative to the CNC would be able to make decisions quickly and yet also receive feedback from NWDC members. Email was suggested.
- Recently, on short notice, the CNC recently received a proposed CNC letter regarding DON's proposed changes to the Neighborhood Matching Funds (NPF) Large Project Fund (LPF) application review process. Irene sought clarification regarding the NWDC's position. After some discussion, it was clear that there was strong consensus that the NWDC wanted to continue to have the projects presented at NWDC meetings.
- DC members recently received a copy of a CNC letter regarding a proposed Comprehensive Plan amendment regarding "transit communities".
- Eugene asked that there be more transparency and information about the CNC.

Adjourn - 9 pm.

NOTE:

For more information or to share your ideas about District Council projects and issues, contact current Northwest District Council staff Rob Mattson, Rob.Mattson@seattle.gov, 206-684-4051 or current NWDC Chair Rick Klingele at NWDistrictCouncil@gmail.com.

The NWDC meets on the 4th Wednesday of each month; 7 PM at the Greenwood Senior Center, **except** in July, November & December (meets 1st Wednesday each December).

For more info visit www.NWDistrictCouncil.org

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

March

- 4 Deadline for applications to 2013 Neighborhood Matching Fund Small & Simple Fund (<http://www.seattle.gov/neighborhoods/nmf/smallandsimple.htm>) and Technology Matching Fund (<http://www.seattle.gov/tech/tmf>).
- 14 Neighborhood Traffic Safety Workshop sponsored by Seattle DOT, 6:30 PM, Broadview Public Library. (http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/ntcp_safetymeeting.htm)
- 14 City Council Public Hearing On Proposed Comprehensive Plan Amendments For The 2012 – 2013 Amendment Cycle at 5:30 p.m. in the Seattle City Council Chamber, 2nd floor, Seattle City Hall, 600 Fourth Avenue (<http://www.seattle.gov>).
- 20 SDOT open house at 5 pm at Bitterlake Community Center to discuss sidewalk and pedestrian improvements related to Rapid Ride E line (<http://www.seattle.gov>).