

# North Beacon Hill Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 6, 2015

7:00 pm, Beacon Hill Library Community Room

## Introductions and Department of Neighborhoods Update

Chair Melissa Jonas introduced the meeting. Board members in attendance included: Stephen Daspits, Miguel Maestas, Amy Kaminishi, Mira Latoszek, Linda Jensen, Kathy Colombo, Yunen Castorena, Roseanne Lorenzana, Judith Edwards, Melissa Jonas, and Lee Nathan.

Melissa Jonas presented about the GDDC. The new GDDC leadership start their terms in January.

## Pronto Cycle Share

### *Dean Wong*

Dean Wong was invited to be part of the Pronto advisory panel, representing South Seattle. Pronto is bicycle sharing system, with an \$80 annual fee providing unlimited access to bicycles at Pronto stations. Dean discussed potential improvements to the system, including child-carrying capacity, motorized bikes, access to underserved Pronto areas, using ORCA-type payment cards, and others. Dean recommended inviting Pronto to an NBHC and gave the name of Holly Houser, Pronto's executive director.

## Civics for All Initiative

### *Web Hutchins*

Web Hutchins was inspired to educate more of Seattle's youth in the area of civics, and launched an initiative to educate a total of 52,000 youth. The initiative consists of 6 items, some of which include: teaching kids how to vote using mock elections, classroom-based civics assessments, and media literacy. Much of Mr. Hutchins' presentation focused on the importance of advocating about the program, and he encouraged attendees to write letters and make phone calls to advance the initiative.

## Plaza Roberto Maestas

### *Kate Gill de la Garza*

The project is on track to break ground starting on March 15<sup>th</sup>, and will be pulling a building permit in February. The entire investment team has been identified, with US Bank serving as the investor and construction lender. The West building is projected to be finished in 15 months, around June 2016, and the East Building is projected to be finished in July 16.

The traffic and parking study has been completed and posted on El Centro's website. Some traffic spillover is predicted during peak times.

Phase 2 of the project involves an enhanced parking garage with 150 stalls, 70 of which are dedicated to housing. This phase is scheduled to start in September 2016 and finish in December 2016 or January 2017. The project team is working with King County Intelligent Parking to optimize these parking stalls, so empty spaces are kept to a minimum throughout the day. Letters of intent are now being accepted for restaurant or retail spaces, consisting of 5 business spaces and 2 live/work spaces. A Groundbreaking party will be held on Friday, March 6, from 11am-1pm.

The project's capital campaign continues to seek out private funds. 1.6 out of 3.5mm has been raised. The campaign to raise the difference will soon be made public. A local hire job fair will be held on Saturday, January 31, with the goal of hiring as many low-income workers as possible from the

immediate and surrounding census tracts. The project will also be hosting an event to meet the General Contractor, Walsh Construction on Tuesday, February 3 at 6:15pm at the Library. Everyone is welcome to meet the project managers and learn about project details, including truck routes, sidewalk closures, assigned parking areas, and others.

### **Seattle Office of Emergency Management**

#### ***Debbie Goetz***

Debbie Goetz discussed several different programs including SNAP (Seattle Neighborhoods Actively Prepare), which fosters development of shared neighborhood emergency action plans, and Hubs, which are neighborhood-supported emergency gathering places. Seattle has 47 established Hub locations, and is working to expand the network to include culture- and faith-centric hubs. The 'Hubathon,' and event to bring together Hubs, SNAP, and Block Watches, is under development.

### **Beacon Food Forest/Community Emergency Hub**

#### ***Glenn Herlihy***

Located in the SW corner of Jefferson Parks, Beacon Food Forest registered as a Hub, intended to serve as a gathering spot for residents to create a network of support. Its proximity to the parks department affords opportunities for post-disaster partnerships. Its assets include a large job box with communication equipment and first aid. One notable item of need is 2 instant water filters.

### **Jefferson Community Center/Community Emergency Hub**

#### ***Patti Patesch***

Patti Patesch is the Seattle Parks Emergency Coordinator. Parks has two priorities for post-disaster efforts: cleaning debris and preventing landslides, and providing mass care and sheltering. Parks has several different plans depending on the scope of the disaster, from providing local relief at community centers with generators like Jefferson and Rainier, to partnering with the Red Cross and larger facilities to provide large-scale relief. She presented details about much of Parks' planning, including locations of supplies, partnership with SPU for water distribution, and pet housing.

### **New Business**

Tammy Morales introduced herself as a candidate running for Seattle City Council from the New District 2. She lives in Rainier Valley and her website is [MoralesforSeattle.com](http://MoralesforSeattle.com).

### **Happening on the Hill**

Betty Jean Williamson presented about the latest events organized by Beacon Arts.

Amanda and Alex Chen, with Ron Chu, presented their proposal for a crosswalk at 15<sup>th</sup> and Massachusetts. The intersection serves as a major thoroughfare for schoolchildren, residents, and visitors to the adjacent P-patch. The street handles much traffic, including several bus routes. The presenters asked for support in the form of a letter from NBHC. Melissa Jonas suggested that a letter might not be the best support at this time, and suggested the presenters talk to Yun Petri about the Neighborhood Parks and Streets Fund, Safe Routes to School, and Ryan Harrison and Dee Dunbar about their successful street improvements nearby.

## **North Beacon Hill Council**

Tuesday, January 6, 2015

8:30 pm, Beacon Hill Library Community Room

Board Members in attendance included: Stephen Daspits, Miguel Maestas, Amy Kaminishi, Mira Latoszek, Linda Jensen, Kathy Colombo, Yunen Castorena, Roseanne Lorenzana, Judith Edwards, Melissa Jonas, Warren Yee, and Lee Nathan.

### **Ticiang Update**

Ticiang is in hospice care, and her outlook is not good. Judith offered to coordinate assistance to her family and to keep the board updated about her condition.

### **Festival Street Permitting Update**

Miguel reported that the Board can skip a year and apply for repermitting on the next year. The NBHC is permitted until June 30, 2015. Miguel suggested that we don't repermit until 2016, starting July 1. Collecting payment from Beacon Arts for their Beacon Rocks events was discussed. The NBHC will need to work with Beacon Arts' fiscal agent to arrange for Payment.

### **Recording of Meetings**

The issue of recording NBHC meetings was discussed, including the recently-received opinion from the Washington Attorney General's office referencing the Open Public Meeting Act. Melissa proposed putting the issue of recording meetings to a vote at the February general meeting. Several board members indicated hesitation about this proposed vote.

Further discussion was held about how to move the discussion forward. Various board members questioned about how detailed the definition of recording needed to be before voting. Other questions included how other similar groups handled the issue, the board's authority to suspend recording, and why the board was even questioning the issue of media access rights. Roseanne offered to explore how similar groups addressed recording. Mira agreed to develop a fine-grained recording announcement statement to be posted at meetings, including details about the filming method, editing, and archiving location. The board agreed to discuss the issue at the next agenda planning meeting, with the possibility of bringing it to a vote in February.

### **Agenda Planning Meeting**

Stephen discussed the Agenda planning meeting, with the intent of gathering board input about the meeting's format and progress. The board was in general agreement that the format and output of the meeting was productive. The board was also in agreement about keeping 'office hours' during the meeting and there was some discussion about a window sign advertising NBHC at the library.

### **El Centro Open House**

Amy discussed the El Centro open house and suggested offering extra time at the next general meeting to accommodate it. Amy will be posting an announcement about the event on the website.

Lee motioned to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded. The board adjourned.