APPROVED
MINUTES OF THE MEETING

February 17, 2011
Convened 9:30am
Adjourned 3:00pm

Projects Reviewed
Midvale Stormwater Facility
Venema Stormwater Facility
Chihuly Exhibit at Seattle Center Fun Forest

Commissioners Present
Mary Johnston, Chair
Julie Bassuk
Malika Kirkling
Laurel Kunkler
Tom Nelson
Julie Parrett
Norie Sato
Donald Vehige

Commissioners Excused
Graham Black

Staff Present
Valerie Kinast
Tom Iurino
Tera Hatfield
ACTION

The Commission thanked the design team for their clear presentation of Venema Stormwater Facility. The commission applauded the small steps toward advancing natural drainage as a solution more widely in Seattle. This facility is one of a growing number that have a large effect on our city.

By a vote of 8-0, the commission unanimously approved the concept design with the following comments:

- Work with SDOT upfront to negotiate signage. Use facility signs for education.
- Seek out and apply specific lessons learned from the swales in Ballard.
- Look at other ways to give back to the community to compensate for the sidewalk removal, possibly coordinating with SDOT for lighting. Explore the possibility of informal paths to make up for the lack of a sidewalk.
- Allow homeowners to have a choice in what’s planted, but remember the block as a whole needs to have continuity in design.
- Continue to gather lessons learned, and better data, to be applied on future projects.
- Make the benefits of this and the many other natural drainage projects better known to the public. Provide readable data for the general public and consider a website.
- Provide signage identifying that people are entering a special watershed/drainage basin.