

**Minutes for Magnuson Park Advisory Committee
December 11, 2019
Building 30, Officers' Club**

Members Present: Gabrielle Gerhard (Chair), Lhorna Murray (Vice-Chair), Jan Bragg, Sandy Miller, Jon Carver, Humberto Alvarez, Dianne Hofbeck, Tom Kelly

Members Absent: Aaron Hoard, Atsuko Tamura, Chauncy Gibbs, Diana Kincaid, Megan Castellano, Julie Horan

SPR/Magnuson Park Staff: Brian Judd, Oliver Bazinet

Guests: Lynn Ferguson; Thomas Whittemore, Seattle Department of Neighborhoods; and Glen Stellmacher, Miller Hull

Call to Order: Gabrielle Gerhard called the meeting to order at 6:10pm, followed by introductions.

Approval of November 2019 minutes: Gabrielle asked to make an addition to the November minutes involving letter of support process, i.e., that we agreed not to be hemmed in by the type of letter requested. Sandy agreed to update the minutes. Tom moved to approve the minutes and Jan seconded. All present voted in favor and the November minutes were approved.

Public Comment/Member Announcements

Thomas from the Seattle Dept. of Neighborhoods announced the following:

1. A free Seattle/King County dental, vision, and other medical clinic will take place February 13-16, 2020 at the Seattle Center. All are welcome and patients do not need ID or proof of immigration status.
2. The U.S. Census is happening on April 1, 2020. Visit www.seattlecensus.org for more information on how our region is preparing for the 2020 census. This will be the first U.S. census taken completely on-line. Organizers are facing challenges this year, including fears about privacy and how the information will be used. Coordinators are working to ensure that the region's homeless population is counted.

Sandy Miller mentioned that the Open Studios event will take place Sunday, December 15, from 1-5pm. 27 artists are participating. The Open Studios event affords an opportunity to visit with artists inside their studio space.

Jan Bragg announced that the Seattle Audubon Society updated the kiosk by the boat launch with a description and pictures of the winter birds that are migrating south. She also mentioned a public hearing on December 19 to solicit input on a Puget Sound Clean Air Agency plan for clean energy. See: <https://wecprotects.org/events/public-hearing-for-clean-transportation/>. There are dueling proposals with some entities, including the Port of Seattle, advocating for leadership at the state level to create a cap & trade program to reduce carbon emissions more broadly.

Tom Kelly and Magnuson Environmental Stewardship Alliance are working with a UW Restoration Ecology Network team again this year to tackle and improve vegetation on the west base of Kite Hill. The Seattle Green Partnership has again contracted EarthCorp to do

maintenance and planting restoration this winter in a difficult area south of the cross-park trail and north of baseball field #8. The contract includes planting over 6,000 native plants.

Finally, Gabrielle announced that this is her last meeting as the chair of MPAC. She will continue to serve MPAC as a community representative.

Executive Report: Robert Stowers did not attend the meeting and no executive report was provided.

Park Manager's Report / Brian Judd

SPR Superintendent Jesus Aguirre approved the MPAC slate for 2020, including:

- Diana Kincade will be the new MPAC Chair
- Julie Horan will be the new MPAC Vice-Chair
- Aaron Hoard will continue as UW representative.
- Sandy Miller will be replaced by Kerry Kessler to represent Building 30 artists
- Jon Carver is stepping off MPAC and a new Fields representative has not yet been identified.
- Lhorna Murray is also stepping off MPAC as she will be working for newly elected Seattle City Councilmember Alex Pedersen (District 4)

Brian thanked Gabrielle for her exceptional 3-year stint as MPAC Chair. He noted that the MPAC Chair typically serves a 2-year term, but Gabrielle agreed to serve an extra year to help ensure that MPAC was on solid ground moving into the new decade. Brian also thanked the other departing members for their service to MPAC.

Mural Project Building 41

The Friends of Sand Point Magnuson Park Historic District received a generous donation from Ken Sparks to create a mural to cover the windows at the gas station. The mural is intended to reflect the history of flight at Magnuson and engage young people in creating art. Sandy is leading the effort to develop the mural concept, which may also include a nod to native bird flight, and she is uniquely positioned to execute the project given her background in youth art education. The goal is to engage both the kids of Mercy Housing and Solid Ground as well as her own students to make the mural. In terms of the timeline, Sandy is working to develop a proposal for the design by February and develop the drawings this spring. The mural will be painted during a two-week period sometime this summer. The expectation is that the panels will be preserved.

Long-Term Parking

Tom raised several questions about parking at Magnuson Park, including whether Seattle Parks or Seattle Police have jurisdiction to enforce parking rules. He mentioned some concerns raised by neighbors regarding recreational vehicles (RVs) parking for extended periods of time along NE 62nd street. There are also campers who regularly overnight in their cars in the park. Most of these campers park, sleep, and then move-on the next day.

According to Brian, all the roads in the park are owned by the city and the Seattle Police Department is responsible for parking enforcement. The 72 hour parking rule (vehicles can park

no more than 72 hours in the same spot) applies to all roads in Magnuson Park. To complicate things, however, certain parking is not on Park property, but owned by other entities in the park (e.g., Solid Ground parking lot is private). Brian has asked for increased police patrols in the park. Typically, SPD will ask any parking violators to move along—they generally do not make arrests for parking violations. If you notice an abandoned vehicle, Brian asked that you let SPR staff know about it. He also emphasized that it is legal to sleep in your car in the same parking spot for up to 72 hours. Humberto commented that visitors to the park for athletic games are some of the worst violators of parking rules, frequently parking where no parking is allowed near the sports fields (e.g., along Sportsfield Dr.) He observed that there is a double standard when it comes to parking in the park. Finally, Children’s Hospital pays \$235,000 per year for access to the E-5 parking lot along NE 65th Street in the park.

Building 31 (Boathouse) Update

Glen Stellmacher and Oliver Bazinet discussed the ongoing Building 31 feasibility study. The goal of the project is to explore options for rehabilitation, renovation, or replacement of the Sail Sand Point covered moorage and boathouse. The existing structure was built by the Navy in 1938 and has served as a storage facility for boats. The feasibility study is exploring options for retaining and expanding the value of the facility in a way that is environmentally sensitive, historically accurate, and safe and accessible to users. Generally, the feasibility study is exploring 3 options for redeveloping the boathouse:

- 1) Replace superstructure of existing covered moorage with a new steel structure. This option involves drilling new steel piles, but would not functionally change the design of the interior space. This is the baseline option.
- 2) Replace superstructure with a redesign of the interior space to include a larger interior room and a separate room for the sailing instructors. This is the middle option in terms of cost.
- 3) Replace superstructure, redesign the interior, and add a northern addition, as well as windows to the lake to support larger events in the space. This is the most expensive option.

From the Parks perspective, the purpose of the feasibility study is to look at all options that restore the facility to its historical design, while making it more accessible and programmatically useful for Sail Sand Point.

Lynn Ferguson commented that Building 31 is an important “contributing” structure to the historical district. She does not want to see a faux structure replacing the current structure.

Structurally, the building is not up to the seismic code—in fact the building currently has no seismic support system to prevent a catastrophic failure in the event of an earthquake, according to structural engineers who have assessed the property. A steel structure is preferred to bring the building up to code in the least visually obtrusive manner. Seattle Parks would like to restore the boathouse to what it looked like in 1938, instead of what it looks like now. Oliver Bazinet noted that asphalt shingles and plywood were added to the boathouse relatively recently, and these elements are not consistent with its original design.

In terms of the new pilings, the feasibility study is considering marine grade steel piles that are resistant to corrosion. These piles have increased thickness and have been used in marine

projects in Coos Bay, Oregon. The piles would likely be bored 90 feet down to reach bedrock at the deep end of the moorage.

The study is also considering glass in Building 31 to prevent bird strikes. A simple solution—baked porcelain lines (frits) that appear to birds as a surface instead of a hollow passage way—would prevent birds from striking the windows. Another option would be UV film on the glass; Glen described in detail the spectrum of light that birds see. To humans, the use of the UV film appears as glass, but to birds it would appear solid, thus preventing the strikes.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35pm.