

City Neighborhood Council Minutes  
Feb. 27, 2006

Attendees: Irene Wall, Northwest; Robin Sizemore, Northeast; Laine Ross, Delridge; Dennis Ross, Southwest; Judith Edwards, Greater Duwamish; Ron Boddie, Central; George W Counts, Magnolia/Queen Anne; Malaika Lafferty, Lake Union; Cheryl Klinker, North; Andrew Taylor, East; Janis Maloney, East; Chris Leman, CNC Chair; Andy MacDonald, Ballard; Run Vzel, Greater Duwamish, Tara DeCoster, DON

### **Introductions**

After each member present introduced his or her self, visiting Professor Soichiro Maeyama, Hachinohe University, Hachinohe, Japan was introduced by Chair Chris Leman. Professor Maeyama is an activist in his community, and the recipient of numerous awards for his work in community building. He is very impressed with our system of districts councils and the CNC.

### **Announcements**

Andrew Taylor of the East District Council has agreed to develop web log for the CNC which will allow for rapid transfer of information, including the potential to vote on issues that can't await a CNC meeting.

Chris Leman put forth the possibility of taping CNC meetings and having them aired on the Seattle Public network. Ron Boddie questioned the idea, suggesting that it would be possible to speak in error, and have that recorded. It was noted that we already tape record each meeting, so a public record already exists. Robin Sizemore will provide a video camera for the March meeting.

### **Diane Sugimura, Department of Planning and Development**

Diane encouraged attendance at the Housing for the Future Speaker series presented by the City of Seattle and ULI Seattle. The series is aimed at strategies which have been developed to gain more mid-level housing in Seattle and other cities.

### **Proposed Comprehensive Plan Amendments:**

Diane explained the process for Comprehensive Plan Amendments which can be amended once per year. Multi-family code adopted in 1986. DPD wants to make the code more readable, more closely representing the City Design Standards. The Chair asked the CNC be listened to, views weighed.

The DPD is considering combining Low Rise zones 1 and 2, combining low rise 3 and 4 in order to encourage affordable housing. She acknowledged the trend of developers building townhouses, which results in only 50% of the City's goal of density. She acknowledged that changes to the multi-family zoning are designed

to make the code work better, and does not see this as inconsistent with neighborhood development plans. A basic premise of the Comprehensive Plan is to minimize the use of cars.

Sugimura spoke to trying to help small businesses with SEPA package changes. Also, that state growth management is the basis for the City Comprehensive Plan.

The Downtown District Council submitted a letter for the Council's approval, supporting the proposed legislation on nightlife.

**Julien Loh, City Attorney, and Assistant Police Chief Linda Pierce** spoke to the legislation, which they view as reasonable.

Chief Pierce outlined the history behind the legislation: becoming a 24/7 city; not enough police officers; important to enhance viability of the city. The goal of the legislation – for businesses to succeed and to work in partnership with the City to accomplish a common goal, the safety of residents and visitors. The legislation addresses these standards: density (1 person per 7 square feet), time of alcohol sales (10:00 AM – 2:00 PM).

**Kip Takuda, City Lobbyist** (on loan for this session of the Legislature) Kip's primary concerns are human services. He distributed a handout of the City's priorities.

When asked how much money had been allocated to health care, Takuda responded that health care in general is under funded and under prioritized. By 2010 every child in Washington should have health care coverage, Takuda said.

#### **Draft Work Plan.**

The draft work plan was approved by unanimous vote of the Council.

#### **Budget Committee Report**

Ron Boddie, Committee Chair, said that the committee still does not have a budget from the city. Chair Leman stated that the Capitol Improvement program is on the web, and Ron will get a copy next week.

#### **Neighborhood Fund Committee**

Robin reported that the committee was unable to meet because of a booking problem. The committee will meet Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>, and plans to have CRT members selected by April 4. There was discussion concerning "Open House" presentations to CRT versus the older method of one-on-one meetings between CRT and applicants. Some applicants apparently feel the new method leaves them at a disadvantage to others with bigger, fancier displays.

**Neighborhood Planning Committee**

Chair Irene Wall distributed a draft work plan for the committee. It will meet on March 20.

**Transportation Committee**

Chair Patrick Donnelly not in attendance. Letter re Seattle Center will be distributed via e-mail. Bridging the Gap oversight committee being formed. CNC Transportation Committee nominated four persons: Ref Lindmark, Chris Leman, Susan Anderson and John Coney.