

## **CITY NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

### **Draft Minutes for the February 23, 2009 meeting**

District Council representatives in attendance: Ron Boddie (Central Area Neighborhoods District Council, CNC Budget Committee Chair); Chris Leman (Lake Union District Council); Laine Ross, (Downtown District Council and CNC Vice Chair); Kathy Nyland (Greater Duwamish District Council and CNC Chair); Pete Spalding (Delridge District Council); Steve Sindiong, (Southwest District Council, CNC Secretary) Ref Lindmark, (CNC Transportation Chair); Irene Wall (Northwest District Council)

Guests in attendance: Stella Chao, DON, Sally Clark, Seattle City Council, Grace Crunican, Alex Wiggins, SDOT

#### **Agenda and Minutes**

Agenda was approved with no changes. January minutes were approved with no changes.

#### **Stella Chao, Director Department of Neighborhoods**

- Distributed 2008 DON Accomplishments
- Funded 22 Youth Initiative projects
- Celebrated Neighborhood Matching Fund 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
- Received funds to purchase land for P-Patches in 2009
- Working with communities on Alcohol Impact Areas
- Completed Historic Survey Database; 14 new landmarks added

#### **Q&A**

**Neighborhood Leadership Training question:** Variety of groups are participating. Some are new and others more experienced groups. Other training being offered for district councils and district coordinators to assist in diversifying councils.

**District Council Web sites and use for training:** Having conversations around this currently.

#### **Are there current Neighborhood Stewards lists? How is the contact list managed?**

There are several lists in DON. Some are better maintained than others. Lists are constantly changing. Updates are requested from District Coordinators on a regular basis. DON is trying to bring the lists together. DON does not have a database manager, but rather uses a part time administrative assistant to do this work.

#### **Suggestion to fund and involve Junior League**

#### **If DON receives stimulus funds, such as for energy efficiency, have they thought about how to use, and get people out to neighborhoods?**

City Light and Seattle Public Utilities are looking at opportunities to implement more energy efficiency programs, similar to the "Got Green" program.

#### **Sally Clark, Seattle City Council**

- Shared Neighborhoods and Land Use Committee Workplan and issues for 2009
- Several zoning issues will be considered, including MF Code, South Downtown
- Interest in public finance campaigns, but unlikely that anything will go to the public this year.
- Complimented CNC on its work on budget input, workshops, information sharing
- Interest in how the CNC can partner with Planning & land use
- Need people to serve on Parks Levy Oversight Committee

## Q&A

**There needs to be a better understanding of what the primary issues are, if the CNC's role is to provide information to the communities in a timely manner. Feel that previous advice by the CNC has been ignored.**

**The economy is likely to worsen. Will the Council have different budget options or scenarios based on potential changes to the economy?**

Council will start looking at adopting the budget in Spring 2009. There is an estimated gap of \$17m for 2009, but could be as high as \$30m. The mayor is asking that each department look at potential cuts. A collaborative council process will be used to work with the mayor on policies and priorities.

**Grace Crunican, Director, SDOT**

**Major projects that SDOT is working on include:**

- Light Rail Connections as part of ST2
- Streetcar additions / expansion
- Bridging the Gap - Will have meetings with neighborhoods to show how dollars spent
- Implementation of Bike Plan - Bike Lanes/Sharrows – 35 miles being built in 09
- Viaduct – Legislature to make decision this year.
- Pedestrian issues / Pedestrian Master Plan to be completed Spring 2009
- Mercer and Spokane Street projects to move forward – out to bid in 2009

## Q&A

**Appreciate SDOT representatives attending district council meetings**

**How will projects be impacted by economy?**

Various funding sources. Have \$100m in the budget, including general fund. Bridging the Gap funding will not be as severely impacted. May need to cut back a bit on projects. Working with governor on funding for viaduct, other projects.

**Will transit MVET funds still go forward with the Deep Bore Viaduct tunnel?**

The mayor continues to push for transit improvements as part of the viaduct project.

**What are departments doing to better coordinate amongst each other? Where can information be found on projects?**

Website contains lots of information on projects and links to other agencies. Alex Wiggins will serve as point person for information for CNC.

**Concern that not enough funds go to Small projects and this could be cut further.**

CNC Transportation and Budget Committees will keep track of this. The mayor added \$1.5 m to the NSF program for this year, and the City is evaluating the process for the upcoming year. CNC should watch through the Transportation Committee and Budget Committee.

**Anne Takekawa, Neighborhood Matching Fund**

- Distributed list of Letters of Intent received.
- 64 letters received
- Project managers currently conducting site tours
- City wide Review Team (CRT) will be reviewing large number of applications
- Distributed Time-line for process
- Currently recruiting representatives for CRT – need this information ASAP

- CRT members will attend open houses and tour of projects, as well as scoring projects
- District Councils will also score – can be a subcommittee or entire council can score
- CRT recommendations go to Mayor, CNC and City Council for approval
- Laurie Ames has been collecting names of CRT reps

**Question regarding NMF Evaluation – May make sense to do interviews w/ applicants rather than open house format.**

Not yet completed. No information on any budget cuts related to this. Should contact SuJ'n Chon or Patricia Lopez with questions. No decisions have been made. Will share information with CNC when it is complete.

**Workplan – Candidate's Forums**

Work plan to be similar to last year's work plan, with some minor date changes.

Possibility of two candidate's forums. Looking at June for Council and Mayor's candidate forum in September.

Several available dates for Bertha Landes Room.

- Recommendation to combine events.
- Recommendation to hold on a Saturday.
- Recommendation to hold away from downtown.
- Easier to videotape if in Bertha Landes Room
- Combined event would be after primaries
- Holding after primaries would be easier to organize
- Would like a chance to ask all candidate's neighborhood-related questions
- Kathy will e-mail out workplan; send comments to Kathy before next CNC Executive Committee meeting
- Kathy has been in touch with Council staff who are forwarding information on upcoming issues

Motion was passed to hold Council forum on June 18, 2009.

The Mayor's forum will be held after the primaries, potentially September 17 or 28. Kathy will follow up to find out cost of room for Mayor's forum.

**Request that information for CNC meetings be sent electronically, rather than everyone bringing extra copies.**

**CNC Committee Reports**

**Budget- Ron Boddie**

Budget news continues to worsen. Will continue to report on. Suggest inviting Dwight Dively to meeting.

**NMF Committee – Laine Ross**

Did not meet in February. Trying to get CRT fully staffed.

**Neighborhood Plan Implementation Committee – Irene Wall**

NPAC very time-consuming, scheduled on NPI committee meeting night. Several members also on NPAC.

Average of 25 attendees at NPAC meetings. Irene serving as co-chair. Mainly looking at outreach and scope. Currently, status reports being created. Station areas getting a different report. Three forums scheduled, as well as charettes. Some confusion over station area vs. other planning areas. Suggestion to have more time to report on this at March meeting. Information available on City website.

**Transportation Committee – Ref Lindmark**

On-street bike parking-SDOT testing at three sites where bikes are heavily used. Might consider duplicating in other neighborhood business districts.

Pedestrian Master Plan – want to ensure outreach is adequate

Bridging the Gap – following progress as economy declines  
Asking for a new process for Large Projects next year; clarifying role of district councils