

CITY NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Ballard, Central, Delridge, Downtown, East, Greater Duwamish, Lake Union, Magnolia Queen Anne, North, North East, North West, South East, South West

Minutes - January 28, 2002 - Arctic Building, 10th Floor

Present:

Kate Joncas*, Chair (DT); Irene Wall*, Vice Chair (NW); Stephen Lundgren*, Acting Secretary and Budget Committee Chair (B); Ron Burke* (SW); Janice Maloney* (E); Chris Leman* (LU); Charlie Cunniff* (GD); Victor Barry* (MAQ); Joan Jevnikar* (SE); Mike Thompson* (N); Jeannie Hale* (NE); Doug Lorentzen, Chair NMFC/CRT. (*Voting representative)

Alternatives and Guests:

Kay Ogren (Chair, BDC); Mike Warren (MAQ); Fran Calhoun (MAQ); Paul Stoms (Chair, EDC); Ref Lindmark (Chair, NWDC); Dennis Ross (SW); Brent Crooks, Acting Director, Department of Neighborhoods.

Call to Order, Quorum Declared, Approval of Agenda, Interim Secretary

Joncas called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with a quorum of voting members present. Representatives of the Central and Delridge districts and the chair of the Neighborhood Planning Committee (Cindi Barker) were unable to attend. The agenda was approved, introductions made, and a list of District Council contacts was routed for review and update. As nobody had been identified as the CNC Secretary, Lundgren agreed to continue as interim and take and transcribe minutes.

I. Chair's Introduction and Priorities

Joncas reviewed her leadership agenda for the CNC. This will include re-establishing relations with City Hall, including the City Council. She will speak for neighborhoods citywide, promoting inclusiveness. Her top priorities will be to increase the clout and impact of the CNC, maintain an effective board, and know the various district councils' priorities. Next will be providing advice to the Executive and Council on tough city budget issues (via the Budget Committee and Budget Priority Conference). Finally, she will seek to clarify and improve the relationship of the CNC's Neighborhood Planning Committee vis a vis the Neighborhood Planning Implementation Advisory Committee (NPIAC), including what each does and where they overlap and coordinate. Cindi Barker has agreed to co-chair the NPC but further work is necessary to reestablish this committee. Joncas promised to maintain a business-like setting for the CNC meetings (citing the highly organized example of the Ballard District Council meetings) and recommends that 6:30-9:00 p.m., 10 months of the year, is sufficient to conduct our business. She seeks a balance of sufficient input and discussion with the necessity to come to closure and more on to the next agenda items. All members' cooperation is solicited to meet these objectives and priorities.

II. Top Priorities of the District Councils

Downtown (Joncas): 4 goals were set for CY2002:

Lots of capital development – guidelines are not yet passed, top of the list – finish these projects!

All five neighborhoods have parks with terrible maintenance and neglect, another big capital investment. All have been rated & ranked and the district wants to treat all downtown parks as one system and get a budget for this to the city. An open space plan for the entire downtown areas was done by the city, including Westlake closures, boulevards, etc. Urban center concept with quarterly meetings of adjacent neighborhoods to promote common agendas.

South West (Dennis Ross & Ron Burke)

Lots of new parks, open space issues to deal with. Preparedness, public safety, libraries, parking (always).

Transportation (dealing with only two outlets), including SeaTac 3rd runway and other airport noise issues (both SeaTac and King County International).

East (Maloney) No list – too many meetings, all review and comment but no action taken. CNC's role should be to act as a unified voice to influence citywide departments to listen to neighborhoods. Extremely concerned about Neighborhood Matching Fund ignoring their street right of way/park project when this was at the top of the East District's priority list (but not funded by Citywide Review Team). Where can East go next with this project and what response will they receive from the Council, Departments, or Mayor?

District Council Priorities

Northeast (Hale). No set of priorities but main issues are: Starting up again on the issue of noise, enforcement via ordinance. University Village master planning: this is necessary, but while the Council ordered this, DDCLU said

they did not have the time. Transportation: TransLake Washington corridor, U District Plan, Sound Transit. Parks: Sand Point and overall accountability of Parks and Recreation Department

North West (Wall)

Sidewalks and better drainage. Transportation: Aurora Avenue issues

Neighborhood Commercial zoning. Neighborhood Plan Implementation, big projects, need for opportunity funding to do a plan for the Greenwood Shopping Center, major rehabilitation for Phinney Neighborhood Association facility (via Neighborhood Matching Fund). Library: Greenwood siting and design, Broadview repair – trying to have these done to “green” standards. Parks: Carkeek is booming, has needs and plans. Linden Orchards got ProParks funding for early planning.

Greater Duwamish (Cunniff)

Neighborhood transportation safety – important to get the Neighborhood Street Fund restored and keep it going to do this. Their first project is in South Park. There is a similar need for the Cumulative Reserve Fund – these funds need advocacy as they give many district councils a reason for being.

Reinvigorate and refund the next level of neighborhood planning where we will go back, review and reconsider what’s left to be done and get it done.

Parks: lots of work to be done, both in South Park and in Beacon Hill (Jefferson Park)

Libraries: Beacon Hill and South Park to get new libraries in 2005/2006. What to do until then?

Drainage is always a never-ending problem in the Duwamish River basin.

Magnolia & Queen Anne (Barry)

Transportation: new Magnolia bridge, study, location, impacts. Alaska Way Viaduct - same issues.

Land Use: Queen Anne talks about concurrently and upzoning, but how are these defined? What structure is best to monitor and maintain density? Magnolia has concerns about underground wiring.

Parks: Big issues with lighting of playfields which is being proposed by Parks in Joint Athletic Field Development Plan, it’s a real “eye opener” on issues including increased use of fields 7 days a week to 11pm, use of AstroTurf, 100 foot light poles. These are real impacts on neighborhood but Parks and the Council thinks that the Sports Community comes before neighborhoods. Parks and Recreation is a very frustrating bureaucracy, should respect neighborhoods more (esp. as they are its tax base).

South East (Jevnikar)

Transit on ML King Way – there will be impacts on community via land acquisition, safety issues.

Affordable housing: not just at Rainer Vista but overall there are increases in real estate costs.

Participation: new people are not getting involved, concern that all organization should be helping

Libraries: still planning, dealing with limitations of space and historic status (Columbia City) mostly going well

Revitalization: Columbia City Committee is steward of this plan, will review and see what else needs to be done and organize it

Ballard (Ogren)

Neighborhood plan implementation, major projects like the Civic Center. District Council’s planning committee is the plan steward. Port of Seattle: Redevelopment and maintenance at both Fishermen’s Terminal and Shilshole Bay Marina are ongoing challenges. Transportation: Burke-Gilman Trail, lower E-W corridor study and follow through work, the Monorail, and South Transit are still in the works

III. Budget Committee Report (Lundgren)

The Neighborhood Street Fund funding for 2002 was restored by Mayor Nickels, and effective immediately the half million in funding will be used to fulfil the promised projects designated by DON and Seattle Transportation last fall. Thompson asked that the NSF restoration should address control of the funding by districts. Ogren noted Ballard sent two letters last fall to Seattle Transportation and DON requesting clarifications on a single project and the overall 2002 awards which have not received any response. Wall noted that NW has a lot of work and even with only \$30,000 available in the past, completion of projects tended to stretch out. She also wondered how the new Sidewalk Fund will be done? **ACTION: A draft letter on the NSF process will be prepared by Joncas and Lundgren and circulated at the next full meeting in February.**

Budget Committee (continued)

Leman noted that two resolutions were sent by the CNC to Council and the Executive last September (approved at July meeting) on transportation funding priority recommendations for the Viaduct and for non-arterial streets

maintenance and no acknowledgements were received on either of these. **ACTION: Joncas and Lundgren will review these transportation funding resolutions and resubmit as necessary for Council and Executive advice.**

Libraries for All Oversight (Citizen's Implementation Review Panel): After a call for nominations at the November meeting, Dennis Ross submitted his name for appointment to the open CNC position on CIRP. **It was moved (Lundgren) seconded (Burke) and approved to forward this nomination to the Library Board and then to the City Council for formal appointment (unanimous, no abstentions).**

Ross will be attending the next CIRP meetings while his confirmation is pending, to help out Vivian McLean on the four SW/West Seattle library projects. Hale requested that the minutes of the CIRP meetings be made available via the Libraries for All website (and eventually the CNC website). **ACTION: Lundgren will follow up with the Library on this request.** CIRP minutes and agendas are also available on request from the Library (contact Ingrid.Jones@spl.org).

III. Neighborhood Matching Fund Committee (Lorentzen)

There will be no meetings of the NMF in March or April as the Citywide Review Team is reviewing Phase II applications for the Large Fund instead. The committee met and will continue to review the DON responses to the Statement of Legislative Intent on the NMF which must be completed in the coming months. Lorentzen clarified, with regards to the East District right of way project discussed earlier, that the CRT has never "ignored" a project. Burke asked if the NMF was still funded – Lorentzen stated that it is, that the balance of the 2001/2 \$4.5 million is still available for obligation.

V. Neighborhood Planning Committee (Joncas)

In Cindy's absence, Joncas reported that the Executive Committee had met with Cindi Barker and Tom Veith to review the committee's history and relationship with the NPIAC. Barker proposed to move forward as a co-chair (but unfortunately neither Tom Veith nor Rene Tanner are available). Wall reported further that the NPIAC will sunset, and we need to avoid duplication with the NPC. In reality they are interwoven in membership. The CNC chair is a member of NPIAC, with a third of it comprised of city staff. Lundgren noted that NPIAC has also overlapped with the Budget Committee's discussions of funding priorities, and both are tasked with advising council of these – roles need to be clarified. NPC has been a great way of getting briefings from city staff on comprehensive planning issues, etc. Councilmember Licata is the new chair of the Council Neighborhoods Committee, but his plans for NPIAC are not known at present – he had actually extended it to continue through 2002. He has announced the first of several Neighborhood Summits (March 2, Saturday). Brooks observed that city staff are members of NPIAC while at CNC/district councils they attend or (DON) help staff the activities. Leman observed that bylaws concerning committee chairs and recommendations going through the full CNC need to be observed, and that **Cindi Barker and Rene Tanner should be formally approved as co-chairs, which was moved (Leman) seconded (Lundgren) and approved (unanimously, no abstentions).** Lundgren suggested we obtain clarification on when NPIAC sunsets, what CNC's participation should be there, and how much work the CNC should be putting into that effort versus reviving the NPC.

IV. Report on Mayor's Address on New Role for Department of Neighborhoods

Mayor Nickels has announced that DON will be given a new role in bringing the community and races together, to promote inclusion of communities. Other issues and proposals announced in his State of the City address included a pilot program for later hours at three undesignated Neighborhood Service Centers, improving access to city services for the public, giving buses priorities at arterial signals, answering city phones promptly and personally; forming an Economic Opportunities Task Force (full assistance to employers and displaced workers); decentralizing DCLU and promoting rapid permitting. Concerns on watching the latter (DCLU rapid permitting) were expressed, as were concerns on who the Mayor is consulting with, what new groups and task forces are being formed while existing groups (like the CNC) are available to work with and listen to. Wall noted a focus should include emergency preparedness and public safety on the part of citizens, not just public safety staff.

New Directions for Department of Neighborhoods

Leman noted concern about CNC not being consulted in the selection of the new DON Director. Letters have been sent to the Mayor on this process which were not responded to. He expressed regrets that Brent took his name out of the running. Leman felt that there had not been a broad consultation as had been done with the Fire and Police Chief selections. Thompson noted, speaking as a member of the Mayor's transition team, that the process was

different than that being used for Seattle Transportation, DCLU, but could not discuss the actual process in detail. Crook said that the Mayor will address the new DON role at the upcoming Neighborhood Leadership Training Program meeting, and solicited input as the DON gets this additional assignment but without additional funding. Other departments will be asked to assist in bringing communities to the table.

V. Budget Priorities Conference (Joncas)

A discussion ensued on what needs to be done to prepare informed recommendations to the Council on the next biennial budget, while needs to be done before this upcoming fall. Prior conferences and timelines were reviewed.

ACTION: The plan will be developed at the February 11 Budget Committee meeting and brought back to the CNC as a draft at the February meeting. The target date will be in late April. The focus will not be necessarily on Neighborhoods but overall budget priorities, with specific financial and budget information, and to involve all relevant agencies (Seattle Transportation, Public Utilities, Library, City Light, Parks and Recreation), including not only agency heads but also knowledgeable staff.

VI. Old Business

The CNC website remains in development, along with the rest of the DON website. **ACTION: Lundgren and Thompson will work with Sandy Brooks and the DON website developer to complete our draft and get it online.**

Seattle TV Coverage of CNC Activities: ACTION: The February meeting with the Mayor in Council Chambers will be televised live and rebroadcast. Other activities (such as the Budget Priorities Conference) will also be considered for broadcast.

VII. Announcements

All District Councils are invited to have their representatives attend the February 25 meeting with the Mayor and have specific questions ready. Barry suggested bringing their top priorities. Cunniff asked that we keep strictly on time and that City department staff be on hand to take notes, follow up with requests.

Leman suggested we ensure that neighborhood business interests also be encouraged to attend to represent their interests. Wall suggested that this should be a congenial meeting, not a hearing, with an open mike and round table.

VIII. Approval of Minutes

It was moved (Hale), seconded (Joncas) and approved to approve the November CNC minutes, with corrections as requested by Lorentzen (that in the last CRT NMF round *all* applicants were asked about their contingency plans). Hale and Leman asked if all CNC votes could be recorded as to what the vote tally was, whether there were any abstentions, and who these were. **ACTION: Lundgren responded that he would capture this information as much as possible in the minutes.**

IX. Adjournment and Next Meetings

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m. **(moved Joncas, seconded Lundgren – approved unanimously, no abstentions).** The next full CNC meeting will be Monday, February 25 in City Council Chambers.

Respectfully and Comprehensively Submitted,

Stephen Lundgren, Acting Secretary