

## **CITY NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

### **Minutes for the May 18, 2009 meeting**

District Council representatives in attendance: Chris Leman (Lake Union District Council); Laine Ross, (Downtown District Council and CNC Vice Chair); Kathy Nyland (Greater Duwamish District Council and CNC Chair); Steve Sindiong (Southwest District Council and CNC Secretary); Ref Lindmark, (CNC Transportation Chair); Mike Warren (Youth and Education Committee Chair); Vlad Oustimovitch (Southwest District Council); Janis Maloney (East District Council); Nicole Franklin (Magnolia/Queen Anne District Council); Robert Drucker (Ballard District Council); Pete Spalding, (Delridge District Council)

Guests in attendance: Veronica Sherman King, Stella Chao, DON; Therese Casper, Krista Bunch, SDOT; Jan Drago, Seattle City Council; Norman Sigler, City Council Candidate; Benjamin Smith, Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board

#### **Agenda and Minutes**

Agenda was approved (1 abstention). April minutes were approved.

#### **Introduction of Veronica Sherman King**

Stella Chao introduced Veronica Sherman King. Veronica is the new District Coordinator Manager. She is from Portland. She has lots of experience working with diverse communities and neighborhood planning. She earned her Master's Degree at the University of Pittsburgh and worked with the Housing Authority there, before returning to the Pacific Northwest. She has been busy going out to tour the districts with the District Coordinators.

Q. Any similarities between Seattle's neighborhood involvement program and Portland's?

A. There is similarity in that there is a diversity of community groups and environmental groups. Portland does not have anything like Seattle's matching fund with district council input. Seattle's format is much more geared toward a true grass roots model.

#### **Krista Bunch, SDOT/Bridging the Gap Large Project Selection Process**

Therese Casper will be main contact. Learned a lot of lessons from 2007 process. Will involve input from District Councils, but Oversight Committee will make the final decisions. There are still 133 projects on the list from previous selection process, that are still viable projects. District Councils will prioritize their top three projects. They will also be allowed to bring in additional projects. Projects in the Pedestrian Master plan will also be added, reflecting needs of underserved community. There was concern voiced that process would not be opened up for nominations this year. However, District Councils have option to add or move Small Projects into the large list. Therese and Krista will be meeting with District Councils in October.

#### **Jennifer Wieland and Barbara Gray /SDOT/Pedestrian Master Plan**

The project began in 2007, and was based on the Mayor's 10 point plan for pedestrian safety (developed in 2006). Pedestrian Master Plan looks at pedestrian issues city-wide. Pedestrian Advisory group formed to oversee pedestrian issues and met monthly for 18 months. In addition, a Special Committee was formed in 2007 to address pedestrian safety. Partners included King County Public Health, Seattle Police, Feet First, as well as national groups. Barbara distributed a draft summary of the master plan. More is available on-line. The Plan is long range, but also focuses on implementation. It had a data driven process that looked at sidewalks, transit, trees, signals, crash information, curb ramps, etc. It also looked at walking demand. Overall strategies: five Es: edge sharing, education, enforcement, evaluation, and encouragement. Objectives: Complete and maintain pedestrian system, improve walkability on all streets, increase pedestrian safety, plan, design and build complete streets, create vibrant public spaces that include walking, get more people walking for transportation, recreation and health. Report has lots of data related to where people walk, transit patterns, and land use. Equity was important, and the plan considered underserved communities - Low income, low auto ownership communities, physical disabilities. Report also studied intersections, including signals, speed of traffic, etc.

Looked at improving access to parks via walking or transit. The comment period for the plan is through June 15, 2009. A City Council public hearing will be held on July 21. Based on comment, revisions will be presented to the Council in August 2009.

- Q. Concern that SDOT did not consult adequately with community or business councils, especially related to an island installed in Madison Park.
- A. Generally, communities request these. Don't know anything specific about that project. Hearing on July 21, could bring comments to that meeting. Can request presentation at District Council meetings.

### **Councilmember Jan Drago**

Councilmember Drago is considering running for Mayor. She wants to restore the relationship between city government and neighborhoods. She worked on creating the Downtown District Council. City Neighborhood Council was very controversial at that time. She volunteered to chair and was representative from Downtown to the CNC for many years. Worked with Jim Diers to put together Neighborhood Matching Fund.

- Q. Recommendation that part of revenue from pay stations in neighborhoods be allocated directly to neighborhoods, rather than general fund.
- A. This has been discussed. Most of parking revenue is currently from Downtown.
- Q. Distance between current Mayor and Council has been a concern.
- A. This is an issue of style; her style is much more inclusive. Would like a good relationship between Mayor's Office and Council.

### **Roundtable Discussion**

**Candidate's Forum:** Kathy distributed flyers. Sally Clark has agreed to co-sponsor, so room will be free. Fourteen out of sixteen candidates have confirmed they will be able to attend. Flyer will be e-mailed out. We are requesting that the CNC representatives make sure to forward the flyer on to their neighborhood groups. Seattle Channel will be covering. Forum is an hour and ½, so questions will need to be submitted prior to event, or put on note cards.

**CNC Bylaw Change Proposal:** Executive Committee will look at various issues. One example: New chair doesn't take over until after Jan meeting. Should take over at first meeting. Nothing is being proposed at this meeting. Discussion over the fact that District Councils hold elections at varying times throughout the year. Structure of District Councils varies widely. District Council audit will be out in June; may suggest some changes.

### **Comments**

- Q. Suggest changing so that the president doesn't have to represent a district, but can allow someone else from their district to represent that district. Also, ensure there are consistencies in district councils and meeting dates; i.e., should all district councils hold elections at the same time?
- Q. The District Councils have more power than the CNC, so the CNC can't dictate the process. It was an organic process that began with the community councils.
- Q. Not all district councils are the same. Some are more structured toward bylaws than others.

### **CNC Committee Reports**

#### **Budget- Ron Boddie**

In light of upcoming cuts in 2010, CNC and District Councils should consider sending letters with budget priorities. If the mayor receives a letter by early July, he can consider the issues prior to the discussion with the Council.

#### **NMF Committee – Laine Ross**

Review of Large Projects is underway. Open houses being held.

#### **Neighborhood Plan Implementation Committee – Irene Wall**

Meeting June 4 in West Precinct Conference Room to discuss MF zoning. A public hearing is scheduled for June 24 (date may change). NPAC concerned over the June 24 date – there needs to be time for public and community meetings to occur before the public hearing. Will be a second set of meetings in the fall. Irene will not be attending the June CNC meeting.

#### **Transportation Committee – Ref Lindmark**

Barbara Gray attended and briefed on Pedestrian Master Plan. The tools and maps in the Plan are good resources for neighborhoods. Information on trails was addressed well in the plan. Barbara will try to address them in the final version. Time to get comments in before final version. Discussed Metro service reduction impacts. County Council has jurisdiction over. There is general concern that the cut back policy should not necessarily follow the service allocation policy (20/20/40). Should consider CNC letter to Council. Next meeting June 19. Comment: Three advisory committees formed around Viaduct Tunnel. Get involved if you are interested – information available on-line.

Motion to open up Street Fund to further nominations – was not seconded.

#### **Youth, Schools and Education Committee – Mike Warren**

Thomas C. Wales Foundation representative presented at meeting. June 2 – Gang Violence prevention workshop sponsored by City Council. Please help to get the word out.

#### **CNC Executive Committee**

SE District Council/Southeast Neighborhood Council issue – on hold until audit report comes out.

Will meet after Memorial Day weekend to discuss bylaw changes.

Next regular meeting Monday, June 1 – 5:30 to 6:30 – will e-mail phone number as soon as received.

Introduction of Norman Sigler, candidate for City Council – seeks to bring diverse voices to the table, those with passion for the City. Education, Transportation and Economy – foundations of campaign.

Siglerforseattle.com website.

A motion was made requesting that the CNC request SDOT to allow and publicize the opportunity for the public to nominate projects for the 2009 Neighborhood Street Fund's Large Projects Fund, and that it include in the Large Projects pool any nominations for the Small Projects Fund that could not qualify because their estimated cost would exceed \$100,000.

The motion was not seconded or approved.