

CNC June Meeting Minutes

June 25, 2012

District Council representatives in attendance: Chas Redmond, (Southwest District Council and CNC Chair); Phil Shack, (North District and CNC Vice-chair); Chris Leman, (Lake Union District and CNC Budget Committee Chair); Tony Provine, (Northeast District); Irene Wall, (Northwest District and Neighborhood Planning Committee Chair); Janis Maloney, (East District); Ref Lindmark, CNC Transportation Committee Co-chair; Joe Wert, (Ballard District); Bridgette Maryman, (Southeast District); Sharon Sobers, (Central District)

Agenda and Meeting Minutes Approval

Agenda and meeting minutes approved. CNC member asked to have Yesler Terrace presentation by SHA and opposition groups at the next meeting. CRT members will also need to be approved at the July meeting. Community Nights in Schools program was also suggested as a topic.

Committee Reports

Neighborhood Planning Committee—Irene Wall

Committee met last week. Comp plan amendments were discussed. There is a hearing on amendments coming up on July 11 at 5:30. Would like to encourage CNC members to show up at hearing to testify in support of CNC amendment. Changes to industrial lands is an issue in the Ballard District. Irene will forward links to Chas to share with CNC with further information as well as talking points in support of CNC amendment. Concern raised over changes to growth targets by resolution, which does not allow for community input. Amendment suggested that a policy be included for neighborhoods to be allowed to do neighborhood planning if they wish and funds are available. Currently groups can do neighborhood planning with Neighborhood Matching Fund support. CNC member expressed dissatisfaction with current city process related to planning citing insufficient outreach and outcomes. Irene stated she has been contacting Nora Liu in DPD to try to determine next neighborhoods slated for city's neighborhood planning process. She has not yet received an answer.

Living Building Pilot Program was also discussed. Public hearing will be held July 9 at 5:30. Irene received a copy of the ordinance being proposed. Irene contacted a staff person at the Living Futures Institute to discuss. That person was not happy with the legislation as it currently exists. The staff person has been working with CM Conlin to improve the legislation. Living Futures Institute sought to have ability to determine if buildings had met criteria. Irene has created a bullet list of talking points.

There has been a second appeal of SEPA review of SKANSKA building. Lot coverage will be limited to 66% above base zoning. Does not address the role of design review in the process. Issues with building at 8th and Seneca; design review board was not familiar with all code changes. Would like DPD to educate review board to be familiar with all code changes. Suggested Irene get in touch with Sharon Sutton related to this issue.

Committee also discussed Regulatory Reform Ordinance. It has been changed somewhat due to concerns of community. Wording changed related to single family in neighborhood commercial zones and pedestrian overlays. CNC member suggested drafting a letter in regard to the ordinance. Could also resend the original letter with additional comments. Suggestion that Council be asked to delay vote on ordinance to allow more time for community input/comment. Motion was moved and CNC voted to draft another letter on this issue.

Transportation Committee – Ref Lindmark

Committee met last week and discussed Transit Master Plan. Discussion with guest from SDOT over connections downtown of streetcars/other transit. Consultant is being hired to look at issues. No money at this point to do any of proposed connections, but want to have plans ready.

CNC member asked about lack of transit along the waterfront. Ref stated use of transit along waterfront is seasonal.

Committee also discussed the Bike Master Plan update. Expect the update to include information on Greenways. Councilmembers have studied bike systems in various cities and around the world and would like to see some of those ideas implemented in Seattle. Neighborhood connections will be included. Bicycle Advisory Board has been meeting to provide direction to departments around the update. Have more data than when the original plan was created. Maintenance planning is included. Final plan should be complete by next spring.

Chas asked about capital investment related to West Seattle and Ballard Bridge approaches and signage. Ref stated those should be identified as high need gaps.

CNC member asked if the committee had discussed issues around the stadium proposal. Ref stated they did not spend much time discussing. One issue is the lack of a freight plan. This will have to be addressed.

CNC member asked about the status of the waterfront streetcars. Ref stated he hasn't heard a lot of discussion at Metro about this. Depends on city decisions and funding.

Budget Letter Discussion

Additional edits were discussed. CNC member suggested adding Greenways to the letter with other transportation items for city funding. Chris stated definition of Greenways is still in flux and inclusion would be premature. CNC discussed pros and cons of adding to the letter. Decision made to add both Green Streets and Greenways. Motion moved, seconded and voted to accept letter.

Survey on relationships with schools

Looking for feedback. Relates to other schools in addition to the Seattle Public School system. Purpose is to identify possible connections/projects for the CNC Schools and Youth Committee. Chris suggested this might be an agenda item for July. Responses to survey can be sent to CNC reps or Chas. Summer youth employment is a big issue; situation is dismal. Public safety issues also exist. Chas will revise the survey to include additional items and resend.

Chris brought up the issue of the cancellation of the Community Nights in Schools program. The program is being renegotiated, but District is proposing only allowing access to school libraries. This would severely limit availability for community groups. Would encourage CNC to advocate for better access. Suggestion to draft a letter. CNC voted to approve drafting of letter.

CNC Roles/Responsibilities

Reminder to take a look at resolution with an eye to what you would like to see added. Rick Klingele mentioned there is no accountability language in the resolution. Should not worry about the fiscal situation, but just identify what you would like to see CNC do. CNC member expressed concerns about sparseness of revised resolution. CNC member stated it was stripped down in order to begin process of building it back up. Chris stated the revised resolution should be circulated, not the original version.

Reminder: Send District Council review team and CRT member names to Laine Ross or Patricia Lopez by July 6.