

## City Neighborhood Council **DRAFT** Minutes

Feb. 27, 2007

Location: West Precinct, 810 Virginia

Attendees: Andy MacDonald (Ballard), Irene Wall (Northwest); Robin Sizemore (Northeast); Laine Ross (Downtown); 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 and Janice Maloney (East); Chris Leman, CNC Chair. Guests: Tara DeCoster (DON) and Run Vzel (Greater Duwamish).

### **Introductions**

After self-introductions, Professor Soichiro Maeyama, Hachinohe University, Hachinohe, Japan was introduced.. Now a visiting professor at UW-Tacoma, Maeyama published a book in Japanese about Seattle's neighborhood programs, and designed a district councils system that is now in operation in Hachinohe. He is writing another book about Seattle neighborhood programs, and welcomes suggestions. He can be reached at soichiro@u.washington.edu.

### **Announcements**

Andrew Taylor of the East District Council has offered to develop a web log ("blog") for the CNC which would enable quick updates, and on-line discussion. Andrew will work with Chris Leman and DON staff on setting up a demonstration site.

Chris put forth the possibility of "webcasting" CNC meetings. There was discussion of the pluses and minuses, and no objection to trying this at a future meeting. .Robin Sizemore, who has had a career in broadcasting, offered to coordinate if a video camera can be found.

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

Irene Wall introduced DPD's Diane Sugimura. There was a wide-ranging discussion of land use issues facing the City. Diane explained the annual process for amendments to the Comprehensive Plan Amendments. Chris expressed concern about DPD's proposal to raise the thresholds of development (and raise them more in urban villages and centers) which trigger requirements for SEPA review (posting, public comment period, appeals, etc.).

Diane also discussed DPD's proposals for amending the Multi-family zoning code, which had its most recent major revision in 1986. DPD is considering combining Low Rise zones 1 and 2, and combining Low Rise 3 and 4. She encouraged attendance at the Housing for the Future Speaker series presented by the City of Seattle and ULI Seattle.

### **Nightlife Premises Ordinance.**

Julien Loh (an advisor to the Mayor), and Assistant Police Chief Linda Pierce spoke about the Mayor's proposed nightlife premises ordinance, which would apply to businesses with density of one person for each seven square feet, and alcohol sales between 10 p.m. and 2 p.m. The Downtown District Council submitted for possible CNC approval a letter supporting the proposed legislation. Chris will send it out to the districts for their input, prior to possible action at the March 26 CNC meeting. .

**State Legislative Issues.** . Kip Tokuda, who is employed by Seattle's Human Services Department, is a former state legislator and is assisting the City's lobby efforts this year. He distributed a handout of the City's priorities, and discussed a number of bills that the City is lobbying for or against.

#### **CNC work plan for 2007.**

The draft work plan was circulated prior to and discussed at the Jan. 29 CNC meeting, and was again circulated prior to the Feb. 26 CNC meeting along with eight possible changes from commenters. With the changes, the work plan was adopted by unanimous vote.

#### **Budget Committee Report**

Ron Boddie, Committee Chair, said that the 2007-12 Capitol Improvement Program that the City Council approved on Nov. 20 is now on the City's web site but is not yet published; and that the City budget itself is not yet available either on the web site or in published form. The budget committee is closely examining the budget, with a first emphasis on the Seattle Police Department.

#### **Neighborhood Fund Committee**

Robin Sizemore reported that the committee was unable to meet in February because of a booking problem. She reminded district councils to designate their Citywide Review Team members by April 4. There was discussion concerning "Open House" presentations by applicants 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 and discussed the draft work plan for the committee, which is exploring how best to engage the 37 neighborhood plan stewardship groups in a discussion of next steps in strengthening implementation and the updating of plans where needed. .

#### **Transportation Committee**

Chair Patrick Donnelly was not in attendance. The transportation committee had recommended a letter regarding transportation connections at Seattle Center; Chris will circulate it for district council comment and possible action at the March 26 CNC. The CNC Transportation Committee had also recommended to CNC

four persons for the Bridging the Gap oversight committee: Suzanne Anderson, John Coney, Ref Lindmark, and Chris Leman. The City Neighborhood Council voted unanimously to nominate those four, along with Run Vzel.