

Minutes
Skateboard Park Advisory Committee
Steering Subcommittee
April 9, 2007

Members Present: John Carr, Ryan Barth, Matthew Lee Johnston, Dan Hughes, Scott Shinn
Guests: Tony Davies, Craig Martin,

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

Miscellaneous:

Mark Johnson provided an update on River City Skatepark via e-mail. The organization recently applied for a \$100,000 Department of Neighborhoods grant that would finish the park. Emma Moreno from Department of Neighborhoods reported that there is no issue with site ownership through a private nonprofit. The organization has received design funding from DON before. Mark Hubbard from Grindline is providing a clear path to completion, work on permitting continues, along with plans to start moving fill dirt in June. If DON awards the grant in September, construction would begin in October with estimated completion in November.

Craig provided copies of Stoked and Lords of Dogtown purchased at a video store clearance sale for use in a future fundraising event.

Tony provided an update on the new Duvall skatepark.

Upcoming Meetings:

Scott and John to meet with City Councilmember David Della at 4:30 on April 12 regarding Citywide Skatepark Plan and current topics in Seattle skateboarding advocacy.

Tony and Craig to provide testimony to the PEL&L Committee meeting on April 18th.

Ryan and Kate Martin to attend neighborhood-level meetings of the Century 21 Committee regarding SeaSk8.

John to schedule meeting with Space Needle Director regarding SeaSk8.

Matt to schedule meeting with EMP Director regarding SeaSk8.

Ryan to schedule follow-up meeting with John Merner regarding SeaSk8 and the new site at 2nd and Thomas proposed by the Century 21 Committee.

West Seattle:

Matt is organizing a regional West Seattle steering committee that will include various community actors and groups, and will hold meetings to orient participants about the skatepark process and progress made to date. Focus will be on development of skateparks and integrated skateable features identified in the Skatepark Plan, square footage of proposed sites, conceptual designs for these projects, and estimated budgets. The overall goal for West Seattle is a more distributed network of smaller terrain as opposed to one or two larger district skateparks, with the Delridge and Roxhill skatespots as the main focus of city-funded efforts in conjunction with the Skatepark Plan.

seattleskateparks.org

The web site is coming along well, with graphic design and navigation-related features in progress. Discussion ensued regarding user interface and content management.

Outreach to Department of Neighborhoods

Ryan noted that the skate community should organize a “road show” following passage of the Citywide Skatepark Plan that would allow skate advocates to attend neighborhood-level meetings and provide information about skateboarding and skateparks to the public.

Matt noted that this kind of content would be a good feature for seattleskateparks.org.

Scott reported on the Bridge the Gap grant program from Department of Neighborhoods, Parks and the Seattle Department of Transportation and noted that there are many opportunities to build integrated skateable features as part of this initiative. Matt noted that Joe Bell would be a good person to follow-up with on the SDOT side. Scott is to provide feedback to DON regarding the lack of accessible, legal places to skate in this city on Parks and SDOT land.

Next Steps for the Cause

Private Donations - Matt noted that financial contributions to election campaigns are most likely the next logical step in this process, and that an organized fundraising campaign should continue to supplement what individual skate advocates have already contributed personally. Dan noted that Paul Allen and his various corporations could perhaps be the biggest single source of private funds for skateboarding terrain in Seattle at this time. Discussion ensued regarding the links between work currently in progress by EMP/Vulcan and the pop culture and community-building aspects of skateboarding.

Media Blitz – John to contact Angela Galloway at the Seattle PI regarding a story on the forthcoming passage (all communication to date indicates the City Council will pass the master plan during the next PEL&L meeting on Wednesday the 18th) of the Skatepark Plan, which politicians have supported it, and the history of skateparks in Seattle.

2007-08 Parks Funding – Ryan to work with Susan Golub on requesting Parks funding for the coming budget. Discussion ensued regarding the 2006-07 CIS process and how funding requests for skateparks by Matt and John were lost. John noted that there should be alignment with funding allocated by the City Council and funding requested by Seattle Parks.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 9:15.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the full SPAC will occur on Monday, May 14 at 100 Dexter Ave. Full SPAC meetings meet on the second Monday of odd-numbered months. SPAC Steering Subcommittee meetings meet on the second Monday of even-numbered months at locations to be announced by the Chair.