

Minutes #24

(Adopted TBD)

Swedish Medical Center Cherry Hill Standing Advisory Committee (SAC)

Wednesday, January 8, 2020

6:00 – 8:00 PM

Swedish Medical Center – Cherry Hill Campus

500 17th Ave – James Tower SECC Room B

Seattle WA 98122

Members and Alternates Present:

Lisa Fitzhugh

Claire Lane

Justin Kliewer

Greg Swinton

Catherine Koehn

Amanda Twiss

Staff and Others Present:

Mike Denney – Swedish Cherry Hill

Maureen Sheehan – Seattle Department of Neighborhoods

Tina Tufts – Sabey Property Manager

1. Opening and Introductions

Justin Kliewer welcomed people to the meeting. Individual Committee introductions followed.

2. Housekeeping

Review and adoption of the November 13, 2019 Minutes will be added to the February 12, 2020 meeting agenda.

3. Project Status Updates

Campus Updates were provided by Ms. Tufts, Sabey Property Manager. The maintenance and repair of Bell Tower and James Tower is ongoing; the exterior maintenance of Jefferson Tower is complete. A transportation calendar will be put together within the next week or two. The transportation information update will be on February's meeting agenda.

Mr. Kliewer provided two updates. The 18th Avenue Medical Office Building decision was published with no appeals. For the drainage correction, City reviewers are asking for additional information in addition to test wells as the new proposed footing is lower by about 18 feet. These tests will verify the correct pressure and flow for the temporary and permanent de-watering.

4. Transportation Management Plan (TMP) Update

Mr. Denney mentioned that Karen Westling, the parking services manager, has announced her retirement date of May 1. Mr. Denney will be able to provide more information on the Commute Trip Reduction (CTR) survey and the Integrated Transportation Board (ITB) report at the next meeting.

Additional Agenda Item

Ms. Lane said it would be helpful if the Committee received notifications before the review and appeal process is finished. A request was made to discuss the notification process for the 18th Avenue Medical Office Building at today's meeting.

5. 2019 Reflection/2020 Looking Forward

Mr. Kliewer said the 2019 Reflection and 2020 Looking Forward subject is on how we will conduct business and our interactions.

Ms. Fitzhugh explained the agenda item is to share and be transparent about the process on the Committee's norms and agreements. The Committee is to discuss an agreement that others could abide by that helps to build trust, connection and cohesion to better solve problems together.

The reflection is not intended to avoid conflict; it is intended to support healthy conflict. It is also about how the Committee is going to respect each other's humanity and model that as a group.

Ms. Fitzhugh had led members through a conversation with a series of sample collaborative practices. The group chose four items of importance.

The group came up with four items:

1. We commit to remain open to many perspectives when solving problems and making decisions.
2. We listen to understand.
3. We seek to clear up conflicts with others quickly.
4. We share information with vested parties in a timely way.

Mr. Denney suggested as a next step to review the by-laws. This will provide an opportunity to make sure it addresses expectations, quorums, accountability, better communication and how the Committee treats each other.

Ms. Sheehan asked how the group wanted to impart this philosophy to new members. Mr. Denney asked the Committee about onboarding processes. Ms. Sheehan responded that the City provides a general orientation. Mr. Kliewer suggested that the review of the Master Plan be on the agenda for the few meetings to provide information. He also recommended that SDOT present the Traffic Management Study at a future meeting.

Ms. Lane said that there needs to be a conversation to better understand our roles and responsibilities. Mr. Denney agreed and talked about the responsibilities mentioned in the SAC guidelines. He said, however, the value add you can bring to the community is to have a relationship with Swedish where you can influence what happens. Ms. Lane believes involving more community members will help with that. Mr. Denney said they usually have a Saturday afternoon community event when a new project is started. He thought that the coming year will be a great time to work on the community outreach process.

Ms. Sheehan suggested spending time at the next meeting looking at what code applies to the Committee and what the basic responsibilities are throughout the process. Mr. Denney offered to put something together that talks about the various steps of the permitting process that involves the Committee.

Ms. Fitzhugh was hesitant in expanding the Committee's role due to the lack of input from a variety of stakeholders in the community and how deep the Committee goes beyond their mandate. Mr. Denney said the Hospital hears from other groups but not in an organized way. There is a distinct difference in the Committee's role and their role in the community. versus a community role. He suggested different group community meetings could be organized in 2020 where citizens sit down and talk about issues or hold open community meetings.

6. Master Plan & 2018 Annual Report Review

To the extent possible, Mr. Denney is more than happy to answer any questions on the annual plan. It would be very productive if we could get feedback on it within the guidelines the hospital has to follow and format in ways that would be more valuable so we could answer these questions.

Ms. Sheehan stated that there are conditions written about the master plan and then response to the conditions. The responses may or may not hit the mark. She suggested the Committee review the 2018 responses and the 2019 responses. Ms. Sheehan has noted some responses are the same year after year. She also suggested having information separate by building or project as it may not be the same next year. Also having responses such as current year – this is what we have done, and this is what we are working on so you could review for the next year and update information instead of the stock answer "We're working on it."

Mr. Denney will do whatever he can to make sure the annual report is accurate and truthful and meets the requirements of the Committee and provides more meaningful information.

With additional members coming on board, it would be beneficial to have a more cumulative report. There is a lag time where the 2018 report is being reviewed and now the talk is of 2020. The Annual Report should tell the story of the Hospital.

It would be helpful if the report provided a reference of how decisions are made, who is responsible and how it ties in with the Report. This would provide more understanding for the Committee and the community.

Because there is a need for evolution, Ms. Sheehan would like to see it documented.

Mr. Kliewer asked the committee if there were any specific items in the 2018 Annual Report that were not clear in how a decision was made. He stressed that the committee has committed to reviewing the 2018 Annual Report. Questions about the Annual Report in general can be another topic for future discussion. Ms. Koehn referred to an e-mail on the subject that was sent a couple of weeks prior. It will be discussed after the meeting.

7. SAC Member Recruitment Update

The City will send postcards to addresses within 600 feet of the institution asking for volunteers. The city will also be notifying various community contact lists and working with Sherry Williams for groups that work with Swedish. The press release will be shared with the Committee to share with their networks. The submission period is 30 days. The goal is to appoint new members to round out the current Committee as well as alternates.

New members will be ready to meet in mid-April. According to Code, the Seattle Department of Neighborhoods' Director, Andrés Mantilla, has the authority to appoint Committee members.

Ms. Sheehan recommended that group talk about how the group is defining the different backgrounds needed to round out the Committee and how the definitions have changed. We are not looking at a 'mirror' or 'demographics but a person's skills and background. Mr. Denney suggested that the committee reach out to new members to introduce themselves and to answer questions.

A recommendation was made to consider an applicant's history with the institution – someone who has a long ongoing history of the neighborhood. This may be as important as architecture or neighborhood planning, so you don't lose the link of what's been happening over time.

8. Public Comment

Mr. Kliewer opened the discussion for public comment.

(Editor's Note: The comment(s) shown below are summaries of statements provided. They are not transcriptions and have been shortened and edited to include the major points raised. Full comments are retained in the files in voice recording (.mp3) form)

Comments from Mary Pat DiLeva: Ms. DiLeva had talked to a lot of the people who used to come to the Committee meetings. She stated that after extended periods of time, they were put-off by feeling ignored. There still is a lot of bad blood, and the current labor issue is not in the Hospital's favor either. Ms. DiLeva notices that new people appear not to be engaged, and the economically advantaged population shows no interest. The neighborhood has changed in the last seven years or so.

Comments from Mr. Bob Cooper: Mr. Cooper agreed that it would be nice to have a general community meeting every other month as opposed to the official SAC meetings. He would like the City to use their contact list to get the word out even though it is a different kind of meeting. Mr. Cooper mentioned it felt as if the Annual Report hides the football every year and a half. He voiced concern that the Committee apparently did not have a chance to comment on the 18th Avenue Medical Office Building even though it is close to approval. He would have liked to suggest the Committee write a letter asking if they could apply the current single-occupancy vehicle code instead of "50 percent" that has some leeway. A lot of trust building must happen.

In the Annual Report, Mr. Cooper said that no one has been able to explain to him why SDOT could waive an ordinance passed by the City Council that requires a traffic signal at 16th and Cherry. He doesn't understand how a bureaucrat can override the electorate and asked if Ms. Sheehan might find someone who could explain that to him.

Another issue to be fleshed out regarding the actions that have not been taken over the last six years about the bus stops. Also, Council Condition No. 24 is not accurately reflected in the Annual Report; it should be corrected to show everything in the Condition. Mr. Cooper suggested having the Master Plan Annual Report documents have their own sections on the website.

Comments from Vickie Schiantarelli: The first comment is that when looking at the Annual Report, it talks about some of the old information, the percentage of subsidy that each of the tenants has identified of what they cover per cost. On Page 18, the City Council's document that was passed into ordinance, shows that Condition No. 84 says that the Director recommended that Swedish and Sabey agree that all of the tenants will be offering

100 percent subsidy for bus passes. Does the new report show that this original requirement has been done? Ms. Schantarelli believes Sabey has agreed to do that, but it appears that several tenants have not complied with that requirement.

The second item concerns SDCI notification. Ms. Schantarelli is one of the named individuals who were supposed to have been notified of the MIMP. That did not happen. Instead, she found out about that tonight. Ms. Schantarelli would like it explained why the notification requirements that they are supposed to comply with, for that, they didn't do. Because this is with a major institution, they had extra considered conditions to comply with for public notification. They did not do that. She did read the 14-page document. One of the things that she is looking for is one of the conditions from City Council in addition to the Seattle Municipal Code and the policy and directives for the City. That is, that on 18th Avenue when the bio retention cells are installed, there will be a requirement of a maintenance plan because when you put in a bio retention cell, it means you are digging a hole, you are going to cover it with a layer of plastic or concrete, and put a bunch of plants on it. There needs to be maintenance plan on every one of these because of the way the ground pitches. If there is a crack in the concrete or a tear in the plastic, and water goes to the bottom of the ground it means that there will be flooding on the hill. There is nothing in the EIS that talks about that even though this condition was repeated several times in the document. The City failed to acknowledge its existence. There is a problem.

Ms. Schantarelli appreciates the fact that you are talking about having open meetings for that so there is no time restraint to discuss things that are important – instead of other stuff getting in the way.

Committee Reflection on Comments

Mr. Kliewer recommended a future agenda item concerning Council positions and SDOT. He also commented that apparently nobody received a public notice of the MIMP. And he knows that several people are on the street right next to it who should have received something in the mail. He will reach out and ask questions about which City reviewer is assigned to the current phase. Mr. Kliewer mentioned the legal requirement to be notified is something that should be addressed immediately. It was suggested that he report back his findings.

9. Meeting #25 Agenda & Adjournment

It was suggested that the meeting in February would be an opportunity for the Committee to get additional information. Items would include what the Committee's technical role, the permitting process, in addition to planning the March community meeting.

Mr. Denney is available for a community meeting in March, deferring to the Committee. He asked the Committee to come up with 8-10 topics that the community would be interested in hearing about.

The SAC meeting in April will be to welcome new members.

There being no further business to address, Mr. Kliewer adjourned the meeting.