

Magnuson Park Advisory Committee

Meeting Notes

October 11, 2023

Attendance

MPAC Members: Mary Bicknell, Jan Bragg (co-chair), Samantha De Abreu (co-chair), Ruth Fruland, Gabrielle Gerhard

Absent: Lhorna Murray, Evan Briggs, Aaron Hoard, Bladimir Recinos, Lara Watson

SPR and Presenters: Joanne Orsucci, Klaus Goodrum, Kim LeMay, Ben Burtzos

Welcome and Introductions

De Abreu calls the meeting to order at 6:03 pm.

MPAC members and SPR staff introduce themselves around the table and share one thing they are grateful for today.

De Abreu introduces the consent agenda for tonight's meeting: MPAC meeting minutes from 9/13/23, and the meeting agenda for tonight. Bragg moves to approve both items without discussion; Fruland seconds. The vote is 5-0 in favor.

Adopted: 9/13/23 MPAC Meeting Minutes

Adopted: 10/11/23 MPAC Meeting Agenda

Announcements and Information Sharing

Gerhard announces that the closing reception for the Living Artist Collective's gallery exhibit "Support Artists While They Are Alive" will take place on Saturday, 10/14/23, from 2:00-5:00 pm. Refreshments will be provided. The SPACE gallery will be open as usual from 12:00-3:00 pm on Thursday and Friday.

Fruland provides a brief update on the stolen flag by Building 25. Friends of Magnuson Park will be meeting this week to discuss options for moving forward with the flag at this location. De Abreu asks if this flag has been replaced. Fruland is unsure, but FOMP is looking at preventing any ongoing issues.

Bragg notes that EarthCorps routinely uses some herbicides in the park and posts signs to alert visitors to this work; however, these signs are occasionally left up for longer than the required two weeks. Signs removed yesterday had been up for 5 months. Bragg would like these signs to be removed on a prompter schedule and has brought this to EarthCorps' attention. Fruland asks what herbicides are currently used; Bragg replies Garlon or triclopyr.

De Abreu asks if the SPACE reception is open to guests of all ages. Gerhard clarifies – yes, all ages are welcome. Wine will be served, but alternate refreshments will be available, and children are common at similar events hosted by SPACE.

Magnuson Park Contracts and Operations Update

Joanne Orsucci and Klaus Goodrum, Parks Concession Coordinators, give the presentation.

Welcome everyone and thank you for giving me and Klaus Goodrum the time and space this evening to share a little of what Magnuson Park tenants do in an average summer here in the park and outside the park in places that their missions take them.

Magnuson has approximately 60 tenants ranging from artists to Arena Sports, one of our largest tenants. Each tenant in Magnuson Park contributes to the activity and public benefit that keeps Magnuson a diverse exciting and vibrant park to visit, work and live in.

We're taking a little time tonight to showcase a photo essay of sorts of all the amazing and varied activities that provide public benefit that we have in the park here. This is a reminder to some folks in this meeting that have been around a while of all the varied tenants, and it may be new information for folks that haven't spent as much time in the park. Weather as it is in Seattle, summer is naturally the busiest time at Magnuson, so we're highlighting summer activities, but even in the Fall, Winter, and Spring, Magnuson is an exciting place to be with something always going on.

SPR acquired the space that has become Magnuson Park in 1997 from the United States Navy. SPR immediately began seeking public private partnerships that would help contribute to the improvement of the many buildings, and bring recreation and arts and culture activities to the park. Today, Magnuson Park has 60+ commercial and non-profit tenants, including 33 artists in the artist studios in Building 30 West.

Friends of Magnuson Park has been protecting and promoting the Sand Point Naval Air Station Historic District since its inception in 2002. Today, Friends produces educational/historical displays across the Historic District campus, offers annual scholarships to Sand Point resident youth, collects oral histories in their ongoing 'Sand Point Remembered' project, leads tours, and gives presentations on Sand Point history through advocacy and community art installations. Friends will be leading efforts to commemorate the First World Flight Centennial in 2024. Follow the celebration at www.friendsofmagnusonpark.org

Broadway Bound Children's Theatre has brought live theater back to Magnuson Park. They are our newest tenants, have already had three full run performances here in the park, and have done an extraordinary job cleaning out the theater. In addition to their regular productions, they are partnering with the Magnuson Community Center on a spooky Haunted House this Halloween.

Tennis Center Sand Point is a great recreation resource here in the park. In addition to their daily operation, they provide approximately \$100K in annual public benefit to the community. Their public benefit is provided in a variety of ways, one of the largest being public restrooms provided to Magnuson Park users. They also offer free senior court time, scholarships, and 40-48 weeks of wheelchair tennis clinics at a 56% discount, 47 weeks of subsidized court time for after school programs, 100% discount to the Seattle Tennis and Education Foundation after-school program.

The Mountaineers is an outdoor community teaching skills to explore the outdoors safely and responsibly. They are a long-time tenant here in Building 67. They are passionate about building a community of people who are knowledgeable and care about the outdoors. We work to protect the outdoor experience for generations to come. The Mountaineers offers summer camps for kids

and partners with the Magnuson Community Center for activities on their climbing wall and friction slabs.

[Orsucci shows pictures of Club NW's last Earth Day Run.] Here are some pictures from **Club Northwest** and information about some fun upcoming runs. During the Earth Day Run, they had an onsite planting option where native trees and plants were installed at Magnuson. They gave out hundreds of trees and native plants to participants and local non-profits; there was also a tree potting station. Club NW raised over \$1000 for Green Seattle and Earth Runs, two local non-profits. A "kids dash" was offered at each event as well, free races to those that qualify, and 20% off to youth, students, teachers, military, clubs and seniors making it one of the lowest cost running events in the state.

It rains in Seattle we all know that! Having indoor athletics is a big plus. **Arena Sports** in Building 27 is a key provider of recreation opportunities for residents of NE Seattle in both their fitness club and indoor sports fields. Each year they provide over \$400,000 in public benefit value to seniors, students, and Magnuson Park residents, as well as the greater King County community in scholarships for free lessons, classes & rentals, memberships, auction donations, etc.

Outdoors For All does amazing work, here in the park and all around WA State. Their work with differently abled people is inspiring. OFA annually provides in excess of \$40,000 in free or reduced-price public access and scholarships/financial aid to low-income and underserved individuals. The adaptive cycling program operated out of Magnuson Park serves over 400 users each season. During the summer months you see folks enjoying many varieties of adaptive bikes cycling about in the park.

YMCA of Greater Seattle operates year-round from Magnuson Building 406. They offer after-school care and full-time camps and care during the summer months. At peak they have approximately 70 kids onsite.

EarthCorps is here in Building 30. They provide community outreach, volunteer opportunities, and restoration projects in conjunction with SPR's horticulture and urban forestry teams. In 2023 they planned to collaborate with the Black Farmers Collective and teach tool maintenance, restoration skills and share information about sustainable agriculture and community farming. They have work parties to remove blackberry growth from native planting areas at Magnuson and used that effort as a training for volunteers and staff to identify native vs. non-native plants and removal and planting techniques around that. For 2022, EarthCorps reported \$29,973 in public benefit work provided.

Thistle Theatre right behind us here in Building 30 specializes in Tabletop Bunraku, a variation of an ancient Japanese style of puppetry. The puppeteers are dressed head-to-toe in black and operate the puppets from behind. Good storytelling, realistic movement and excellent manipulation are the hallmarks of Thistle Theatre productions. Thistle Theatre are offering a variety of workshops for a range of age levels. Great for schools, community centers, summer camps or any group that wants to play around with puppets.

Music of Remembrance, another Building 30 East tenant, creates awareness around the Holocaust and other oppression and injustice through healing music. Mayor Bruce Harrell just proclaimed May 21, 2023, "Music of Remembrance Day." Our own artist in residence Royal Alley-Barnes presented the proclamation to MOR. Last year was MOR's milestone 25th anniversary!

WA Native Plant Society, **PlantAmnesty** and **Bats NW** are all small non-profit tenants here in Building 30 East. WA Native Plant Society is pretty self-explanatory; their mission is to educate people about native plants in WA State. PlantAmnesty has a mission that advocates against malpruning. Bats NW educates people about bats and advocates for bats, who have such bad reputations but do such great things in our environment!

While they do not host programs at Magnuson Park, the **Goodtimes Project**, a Building 138 tenant, just finished two sessions of Camp Goodtimes, a weeklong resident camp for pediatric cancer patients, survivors, and their siblings. Camp Goodtimes is their signature program and is designed to provide campers with the chance to be kids again while connecting with peers going through similar issues.

Another Building 138 tenant for many years (since the late 1990's) **Mid-Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group** works with private and public landowners, community volunteers, construction contractors, engineers, tribes, nonprofits, and state and local funding organizations to design and construct a variety of projects that improve salmon and wildlife habitats. They connect and empower residents of all ages with hands-on experiences to help fish and other wildlife that share our communities. Through their educational programming they connect youth to service-learning opportunities at restoration sites, so they can learn about restoring habitat while getting their hands dirty. Their volunteer events bring together volunteer organizations and local businesses to restore public lands.

Meridian Geographics, also a tenant in Building 138, does navigational races, trail runs and street scrambles using a variety of mapping technology to figure out where you're headed. But it's more than just fun and games, and they're more than just a traditional LLC. They've organized pro bono egg hunts for Magnuson Park housing, discounted youth activities, and coordinated volunteer events. They often add a social justice twist to their events. On their website, you can read more about their mission of increasing activism through these fun activities.

The magnificent **Magnuson Community Garden and P-Patch** just celebrated its 50th anniversary! They received a grant last year from Orowheat to support donations to food banks. With help from local volunteers, including Cub Scout Pack 144, They built a group of 11 raised beds that are designated for growing produce for local food banks, lovingly tended by Magnuson P-Patch volunteers. Last year, Magnuson P-Patch donated over 4200 pounds of high-quality organic produce to three local food banks, including Mercy Magnuson Community Food Pantry. Of over 90 P-Patches in the city, this was the largest amount donated, accounting for over 10 percent of the total donations.

Sand Point Arts and Cultural Exchange (SPACE) is a non-profit organization that manages an art gallery and a low-power FM radio station, SPACE 101.1, within Magnuson Park. Throughout the year, SPACE hosts a recurring live music concert, Magnuson Park Live!, which brings together local musicians to perform in front of a live audience, and to be broadcast as part of the SPACE 101.1 FM programming. With the mission of building community through arts and cultural use, the Magnuson Park Live! Event this past weekend offered a wonderful evening of live music in Building 30. More opportunities are upcoming, and information can be found on SPACE's website: www.space101fm.org

Sail Sand Point provides sailing and paddling programs along the North Shore Recreation Area of the park, in Lake Washington. This summer, Sail Sand Point offered youth camps for ages 5-17 to introduce and develop basic skills for a strong sailing foundation. They even offer adult

classes for the first-time voyager or those that wish to return to the joys of sailing. Sail Sand Point provides scholarships to remove financial barriers, and works with other programs in Magnuson Park (such as Kids & Paper and Outdoors For All) to enrich those groups' programming.

Building 30 West has been developed by the City to offer space to support an artist community, with 33 art studios and an art gallery, while maintaining the large hangar space for larger events and rentals. The artists host two Open Studio events per year; the next one will take place on December 2nd. During these events, artists transform their studios into exhibition and working galleries. The most recent event was enjoyed by over 600 visitors!

In recent years, **Magnuson Children's Garden** requested to work with local children to remake two murals from existing sign kiosks. Designs were developed from meetings and drawing sessions with children from the neighborhood, residents of Magnuson Park, Girl Scout Troops, the YMCA, Birds Connect Seattle, and Red Ochre Art Studio. Funding came from the Seattle Department of Neighborhoods, and the theme was "All Are Welcome." One mural was created using ceramic tiles; the other was painted. More than 120 children took part and learned about the habitats and wildlife of the wetlands, coastland, mountain, and forest regions of the Pacific Northwest.

Friends of Magnuson Park requested murals on the outside of Building 41, the former gas station, to recognize the rich aviation history at Sand Point Naval Air Station. Designs for these murals depict some of the aircraft flown from the base.

Finally, several resident artists in Building 30 West offer art classes for youth and adult students.

De Abreu thanks Goodrum and Orsucci for the presentation and asks if Magnuson's partner organizations can be prominently displayed on the Magnuson Park website (or promoted better). Burtzos notes that this page does exist but could possibly be promoted more actively.

Bragg suggests sharing this presentation with the Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners. PBS and/or Crosscut might be another way to showcase that Magnuson Park has these tenants. Gerhard notes that KMGP features Magnuson Park partners during an "Exploring Magnuson Park" segment at 2:00 PM on Thursdays.

Bragg asks about the true monetary valuation of the Tennis Center's public restroom benefit. How are these values arrived at? What advertising shows that these restrooms are open to the public? Orsucci clarifies that these totals are largely self-reported, and she is unaware of any public advertising of these restrooms.

Magnuson Community Center Report

Kim LeMay, Magnuson Community Center Coordinator, delivers the report.

MCC recently wrapped up 9 weeks of summer camps. 40-50% of enrolled campers had free or reduced fees (through SPR's scholarship program); we conducted targeted outreach to kids who might be in need of scholarship assistance. Our busiest week served about 80 children. Camps ranged from theater camps (with Greenstage) to comic book writing to Legos to basketball.

We also hosted Rock the Park, which provided mobile recreation services and averaged 10 teens per week. This program was funded through the Summer of Safety program and the Rotary Club.

Throughout the summer, we partnered with Sail Sand Point, the Mountaineers, Tennis Center Sand Point, iFly, the Woodland Park Zoo, and other organizations to help organize field trips and excursions for our campers. This year, our camps were limited to half-days due to licensing; we're looking to add a lunch club for next year, so that we can offer full day options.

Beginning this fall, we will be partnering with BBCT to host a haunted house. We will provide complimentary tickets to Mercy and Solid Ground; admission will be \$6, and volunteers are still needed. We have two MCC volleyball teams now, and basketball will begin in December. Several Lifelong Recreation programs will begin in Building 47 this winter, as well.

LeMay notes that efforts are ongoing to recruit participants and employees from Magnuson Park neighbors.

De Abreu asks if MCC has recruiting blurbs for volunteers and part-time positions to share among MPAC members' networks. LeMay will send materials to Burtzos to distribute.

De Abreu asks for clarity regarding Community Center "zones." LeMay explains that the CC "zones" are administrative boundaries to demarcate supervisory responsibilities and are probably not terribly helpful for external discussions. For the record, Magnuson is in Zone 3, which primarily encompasses North Seattle.

Magnuson Park Manager's Report

Joanne Orsucci, OOC Magnuson Park Manager, delivers the report.

[See attached "Report from Seattle Parks and Recreation (SPR) - October 11, 2023"]

De Abreu suggests giving a monthly crime report to SPD to maintain a paper trail of relatively minor incidents that nonetheless help create the full security picture of Magnuson Park.

Meeting Wrap-Up; Old & New Business

Bragg reports that she spoke with employee from LIHI small cottage community. On September 12, 16 of the 22 cottages had been leased. Bragg shared information about MPAC membership with LIHI staff.

Bragg shares that selecting "Parks and Recreation Maintenance" when filing a Find It/Fix It report will expedite service, as this saves one step for the Customer Service Bureau. A way to follow up with an unresolved issue is to call the SPR Dispatch Line at (206) 684-7250. Goodrum notes that this number is also the SPR after-hours maintenance line.

De Abreu shares the current situation regarding her conversations with Seattle City Light. Little progress has been made. Gerhard suggests writing to the Seattle Times or otherwise making public media appeals.

Fruland motions to adjourn; Bragg seconds. The meeting is adjourned at 7:35 pm.

Magnuson Park Advisory Committee (MPAC)
Report from Seattle Parks and Recreation (SPR) – Joanne Orsucci
October 11, 2023

Topic	Updates/Notes
<p>MPAC Priority #1: Healthy People</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infrastructure and Lighting. • Improve safety and reduce crime. 	<p>Ongoing Building Security Concerns</p> <p>Phoenix Security continues to patrol Magnuson nightly when they lock up the “gate” to Lake Shore Drive. This seems to be helping as we’ve had no reports of building break-ins since this service began.</p> <p>The first item that Phoenix security reported was the garage door to Bldg 18 having been struck by a car resulting in damaging the door and detaching it from the building.</p>
<p>MPAC Priority #2: Healthy Environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Address event-related traffic. • Addressing garbage/litter + animal waste in the park. 	<p>Gay Bowl – seemed very well organized and a very successful event. We haven’t received any reports of traffic or other disruptions in the park. No photos yet or attendance details yet. Did anyone else come by and see the event?</p>
<p>MPAC Priority #3: Strong Communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve Communication within Magnuson Park + surrounding community. • Inclusive and communicative planning. 	
<p>MPAC Roster and Recruiting</p>	<p>Over the summer, Magnuson Admin. staff have attempted to recruit for the vacant tenant seats. We have not found folks who are interested in filling these seats regularly.</p> <p>I will be asking the membership to provide an update on the various seat terms coming up for expiration at the end of this year. These seats are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mercy Housing resident • Solid Ground resident • MESA • NE Seattle Community Councils

<p>Magnuson Park RFP Process Update</p>	<p>SPR issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) process seeking a consultant to propose alternative management options for Magnuson Park's next 25 years. SPR received one proposal and the review team has invited them to an interview the last week of September. Following this interview, the panel will submit a recommendation to the Superintendent on next steps in this process. Panel recommended the firm that submitted the proposal and we're moving forward to contract with the consultant. SPR staff received the approval to move forward today. We'll be contracting with the consultant over the next few weeks and once that happens, they'll begin working on the study to recommend management options for the next phase at Magnuson Park.</p>
<p>PickleBall Update</p>	<p>Staff had a PickleBall summit last week to discuss and sort out the many ideas regarding pickle ball courts that have been discussed in the last year.</p> <p>Next steps will be to assemble pickle ball advisory committees and hold public meetings. It's estimated that one will occur at MGSN before Thanksgiving.</p>
<p>Summer Activity Presentation</p>	<p>Joanne Orsucci and Klaus Goodrum providing a highlight reel of some of the activities provided by tenants over this summer. This presentation has been moved to October to provide them a bit more time to complete this good news presentation.</p>