

**Madison Park Community Council
Minutes of the Meeting on March 15, 2010
Madison Park Bath House**

Community Members present: Maurice Cooper, Lola McKee, Zach Hansen, Karl Schmidt, Don Horowitz, Ed Washington, Jan Maloney, Solveig Thomson, Lindy Wishard, Louis Hoffer, and Kathleen Stearns.

Board Members present: Don Sorensen, Jim Quigg, Kathleen O'Connor, Ken Myrabo, Linda Cody, Gail Irving, Alice Lanczos, Melanie O'Dell, and Hoby Douglass.

Meeting Agenda:

- LOLA Committee
- 520 Committee
- 501c3
- Nominations Committee
- Bank of America benches
- Madison Park boundaries
- Fundraising
- Vendor in the park
- General Business

MPCC President Ken Myrabo began the meeting by welcoming two new meeting attendees, Karl Schmidt and Zach Hansen.

LOLA Committee: Chair Kathleen Stearns reported on the committee's progress in restoring the end of Madison Street to better public use. The goal is to convert the paved road into a grassy area for more contemplative activities and passive recreation. Murase is the company that was chosen to be the design architect for this project. Murase is presenting the project to the public in three community meetings. The first meeting will be on Thursday, March 18th at Park Shore. Parking is probably going to be a major concern of meeting attendees, based on feedback received during earlier focus groups. Terry Short informed the LOLA committee that Madison Park's Business Association does not currently have a parking policy for employees of our local businesses.

Kathleen announced plans for pilot project that would allow employees to use the driveways of nearby residents. This would free up spaces along Madison Street for use by customers. Kathleen is our first "parking partner" and she donated her parking space to Bert's. City representative Catherine Snyder will be walking through Madison Park soon in order to evaluate the neighborhoods current parking situation. She will assess how many hours the parking signs should allow for in order to encourage shopping and eating in Madison Park's businesses. Linda Cody will be part of this walking tour with the city representative, and Linda invited meeting attendees to join in.

520 Bridge Committee: Co-chair Kathleen O'Connor announced that there will be an informational public meeting on March 22nd at Park Shore. Fran Conley from the Sustainable 520 Coalition will be the featured presenter. Other presenters will include Ethan Rath from the City Mayor's Office and Stephanie Rown from SDOT. Kathleen said that we need a united voice from our city's representatives. Kathleen has posted many flyers in businesses throughout Madison Park, and she is having flyers printed at the cost of a penny per page.

Lindy Wishard is developing an email distribution system that will allow updates and attachments to be quickly distributed to interested community members. April 15th is the end of the public comment period for the Environmental Impact Statement, so action must be taken soon to improve the design of the proposed bridge.

Co-chair Maurice Cooper explained that the cars on the new 520 freeway will have nowhere to go when they hit I-5. He explained the design improvements proposed by the Coalition received support from 69% of west side survey respondents and 71% of respondents from the east side. The coalition is opposed to WSDOT's current 8-lane design. Maurice also described how the A+ option is not actually cheaper than the earlier option. It was encouraging that the Mayor hired an outside firm to study WSDOT's proposal. Louis Hoffer applauded Seattle Times reporter Mike Bloomberg for questioning Microsoft's push to quickly start construction as soon as possible. Louis Hoffer also pointed out that the company that WSDOT hired to manage the new 520 bridge is the same company that mismanaged the infamous Boston Dig.

501c3: Don Sorensen announced that the paperwork was filed by the attorney, and we are pending approval by the IRS of our new bylaws. The decision will be made this year.

Nominations Committee: Ken Myrabo, Don Sorensen, and Linda Cody will search for people who might serve on the board and in executive positions. Their finding should be ready by June 30th. They are also working on proposed changes to the board.

Bank of America benches: Ken said that the manager at the Bank of America agree to work with MPCC to design a replacement for the benches across from Bert's that were ran over by a drunk driver. The land is owned by the city Parks department. Kathleen Stearns suggested that MPCC could help pay for the new equipment by securing a small and simple grant through Ted Divina. Don Horowitz said that MPCC should receive the insurance proceeds to help pay for the new equipment. Jim Quigg will call the city attorney's office and ask if MPCC could use the insurance proceeds to fund the new park equipment. Lindy Wishard will look into the small and simple grant.

Madison Park boundaries: Ken said that Ted Divina supports the change of Madison Park's boundaries in accordance with the letter that was drafted by Bryan Tagas. Bryan would like the city's website to more accurately reflect the true boundaries of Madison Park, and Ken mailed a letter to the city to request the change.

Fundraising: Kathleen O'Connor would like for MPCC to host another used book sale to raise more money for council activities. She would like to use the ideas offered by Ken after he visited a very well organized sale in Phoenix last year. The sale included shopping carts, express lanes, and other tricks to help sell more books.

Vendor in the park: Linda Cody said that Charles Eng canceled his meeting with her. Mr. Eng handles the concessions in the park for the city. The city gave a permit to a vendor who operated at the beachfront park and took customers from our local businesses. Linda did some investigating and estimated that Scoop Du Jour lost \$7,000 per month to the outside vendor during the summer. The vendor blocked people's views and received numerous parking tickets. The city plans to give this vendor another permit this year, so Linda called Ted Divina to request help with opposing the permit issuance. Jan Maloney suggested that new city Councilmember Bagshaw could help. Ed Washington owns Scoop Du Jour, and he attended the meeting to support MPCC's efforts to prevent the outside vendor from returning this year.

General Discussion

- Bylaws: Alice Lanczos requested that revisions be made to the bylaws to correct typos and other drafting mistakes.
- Beaver lodge: Ken met with Gene Brandzell and discussed the city's decision to issue a permit that limits Broadmoor's dredging in a manner that protects the beavers who live next to the Broadmoor's underwater pump intake. Ken mailed a letter to the city that requested consideration of the local wildlife.
- Subdivision: Ken plans to oppose recent efforts to subdivide a parcel of land near the intersection of 42nd and Lynn. Ken said that the owners are trying to create another "skinny lot" on the property. Alice noted that the city has been pushing developments that encourage density.
- Litter: Terry Short emailed the local bars and requested that they discourage their customers from tossing cigarette butts into the bushes in front of Tina's fabric store. Jim Hagan said that he has raked countless used cigarettes out of the bushes along Madison Street.
- Street painting: Don Sorensen thanked Alice Lanczos for her work with the city to properly stripe the streets to improve the parking and driving environment in our neighborhood.