

Minutes of the Madison Park Community Council
Monday, October 3, 2011
7 p.m.
Madison Park Bath House

More than forty people were in attendance at the Monday, October 3rd meeting of the Madison Park Community Council. President Gail Irving began the meeting with a motion for the approval of minutes, the motion was seconded, and the minutes were unanimously approved as read.

Treasurer Don Sorenson gave a report on the state of MPCC funds, summarizing his report with a present balance of \$891.07 with anticipated additional funding of \$450, plus one outstanding bill of less than \$100. This report prompted questions from the audience of how the MPCC collects and distributes funds. Irving explained that the council is organized as a non-profit 501 c 3, and that most funds are used most often for neighborhood improvements, a topic former MPCC member Linda Cody also explained to the group in some detail. Both Irving and Cody reported that the Council will soon be in receipt of \$90,000 to fix the sidewalks and transplant trees in front of the Bank of America building as the result of a successful grant application.

David Graves, a senior planner with Seattle Parks and Recreation, took the floor next to talk about the possible removal of the fence on the North Beach Park. The park is located at 2300 43rd Avenue East, at the intersection of East Lynn Street and 43rd Avenue East. He explained that no decisions have been made regarding the fence removal, and further, that there is no comprehensive plan for the future of the park at this point. The purpose of his visit that evening, he explained, was largely to encourage people to attend a presentation to the Seattle Board of Park Commissioners on Thursday, November 3, at 7 p.m. in the Kenneth R. Bonds Park Board Room at 100 Dexter Avenue North. Graves responded to a number of questions and statements from the audience on various points, including safety, available funding for improvements, and liability. He offered to make the briefing paper he is writing for the Board of Park Commissioners available to residents, and will forward this document to Irving for distribution on request. Residents who would like a copy of this paper should send an email to Irving by visiting the website madisonparkseattle.com and clicking on "contact."

Graves explained the need for community input to help the Park Commissioners make an informed decision that took the history of the park, as well as the interests of Madison Park residents, into account. After the hearing on November 3, the Park Commissioners will make a recommendation to the Superintendent of Seattle Parks and Recreation.

MPCC member Gene Brandzel suggested that the Council write a letter to the board expressing our concerns and desires about the fence removal and the need to involve the community if long-term plans are being considered. He made a motion

to initiate the formation of a committee to work with the Park Commissioners on this issue. The motion was seconded by Irving, and passed unanimously.

Cody took the floor again gave a report on the McNae Triangle. Currently, she is waiting for Seattle Public Utilities to put together a final bid on the water main replacement that waters the plants in the Triangle. After SPU dismantled the broken water main, a cadre of volunteers has been watering the plants by hand, she explained, with donations of water from Bings. The city will not contribute any funding toward the re-installation of a new meter, but the Council does have a \$7,500 grant earmarked for this project. Cody, Irving, and MPCC Second Vice President Dave Hutchins are meeting with the city Tuesday, October 4th to further discuss the project.

Irving next reported on events surrounding the rebuilding of the 520 bridge. Sustainable 520 has filed a lawsuit that purports to stop construction of the bridge as it is currently planned. She relayed that WSDOT has filed for permits without having plans as to what they will be building. WSDOT has failed to describe the project's unavoidable significant adverse impacts. On a related note, Alice Lanczos took the floor to tell the group she is serving on the Seattle Design Commission, a group of architects, engineers, and Alice. The Commission is in the process of designing the new bridge. While she has attended only one meeting so far, she said she looks forward to working with this genial, hardworking group.

A variety of topics came up under Other Business. Irving reported that the council has been granted \$90,000 to replace trees on the 4100 block of East Madison, and that this improvement should take place sometime in 2012.

Brandzel gave an update on the kiosk project. He explained that the goal of the kiosk is to better communicate within the community. Bank of America has decided not to issue permission for the building of the kiosk on the new plaza for liability reasons, so the MPCC is looking elsewhere. There is a fund of \$3,000 available for this project, and he hopes to be able to proceed in a different location.

Jan Maloney stood to report that the Christmas ship will come to Madison Park on December 15 at 4:50 p.m. Various community groups will come together to provide cookies and other festivities, she said. The mayor was invited to attend, but his office has declined the invitation.

Liz Brandzel reported on the efforts of the Snow Brigade. Last year she was able to gather more than forty families to help with snow emergency needs like rides, grocery delivery, and snow removal. She was pleased with the response, but believes that the project needs more publicity to be more effective. She suggested distributing "Post It" notes printed with the relevant information, and asked the board help with this effort. The notes will cost approximately \$250. Gene Brandzel

made a motion that 1) the board members agree to be responsible for seeing that these notes are put on the door of every one in the community (divided amongst 12 people) and 2) that there be \$250 allocated for printing expenses. Irving seconded the motion, and the motion carried. A resident volunteered to donate \$100 toward this project.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Julie Moberly