

Meadowbrook Community Council meeting minutes, July 12, 2022

Approved 9.13.2022

There were many comments and questions from members before the official meeting started. Ingrida Gray has moved out of the area and will likely be giving up her emergency hub responsibilities. The question about Neighbors Night Out was raised. It will be City sponsored this year.

The official meeting started at 7:05 pm with President Pam Bowe presiding. Introductions: new people – invited to speak up. Pam Bowe, Dan Keefe, Wilma Boyd, Walt Bubelis, Colleen Weinstein, and Terry Vogel introduced themselves. Mike Reinhardt is on vacation (secretary) was introduced in absentia. Ingrida Gray, Madeleine Smith, TJ Williamson, Valarie Bunn, Maya (?) – muted so did not introduce herself.

Treasurer's report: \$2,340.78 in our accounts.

Minutes from prior meeting of May 10, 2022: dues will be collected (\$10 per year) will be more officially collected in 2023. Per Johnson talked about access to the Burke Gilman Trail and gave us information about his proposals. Ned Gignoux will present his proposal about renaming John Rogers Elementary School at a future time (could not make his presentation this evening). Dan Keefe moved, and Wilma Boyd seconded the motion to approve the minutes as published. Motion passed.

Bylaws revisions: Pam presented the background of bylaws revisions. A group of directors have agreed to review the bylaws and present changes before September. More information will be forthcoming about the proposed bylaws changes.

John Rogers School – there is a State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) open to public comment ONLY THROUGH JULY 13. Colleen and Walt are involved in this effort. Info will be added to the MCC website. Please consult it. City of Seattle has specific requirements – heights, electronic signage, number of bike or vehicle parking spaces, etc. are required for new construction. John Rogers has exceptions: John Rogers wants 20-30' taller than generally allowed; asking to not reduce number of bike parking spots but modify the numbers that would be covered to protect from the rain; electronic sign request; would significantly fewer parking spaces that the City requires. They are supposed to have over 130 parking spaces, and John Rogers is requesting about 50. The departure document includes that the variance requests are and allows a formatted email to a city employee outlining your concerns.

The contact person is Nelson Pesigan nelson.pesigan@seattle.gov.

Tree Survey: MCC is documenting the trees in this neighborhood. Walt indicated that he and Colleen worked Sunday 7/10 and Walt & Wilma will work on Thursday 7/14 to supplement the Plant Amnesty tabulation started several years ago to record trees 30" in diameter. We are including unusual trees, significant trees, those which might have historical significance. We will record the diameter, height, and provide information to the MCC and possibly City of Seattle to avoid having developers clear a property with only a "slap on the wrist" when they do. We will try to do this in pairs to make the process effective and safe. Walt asked for additional volunteer help in this effort. Walt and Colleen did 5-7 properties in 2 hours; we have some 300 trees to document. We have been using Walt's equipment; he has purchased a range finder that uses laser technology (that has its problems when obstructed by brush etc.). Walt and Colleen found a Lombardy poplar that was within 5' of a measurement made 2 years ago by a drone. What can we expect when this process is repeated in the future?!

Nishitani family proposal: Walt Bubelis put forward a proposal to recognize and honor the Nishitani family, who were active in this area from 1912 (?) to 1979. They formed a nursery at 98th and Ravenna. They contributed to Maple Leaf School (contributed free plants), and participated in the Salmon bake for several years. There is a Mural in the (flooring business on LCW). Deborah Juarez was involved in the Hyashi family renaming effort for the sub-sign that now exists. This proposal is to rename Ravenna between 98th and 95th along Ravenna to honor the Nishitani family. Pam asked for comments. Dan asked if Walt and Valarie would collaborate on a proposal to Debora Juarez. Walt would like to see this as a community effort. Pam would be comfortable presenting this proposal to Debora Juarez in a way that could result in this desired outcome.

Neighbors Night Out is August 2. Pam invited everyone to attend their block party. This year the theme will be safety and communication.

Terry Vogel was called on to talk about the **emergency hub** located in the parking lot at Maple Leaf Lutheran Church. The likelihood of tsunami in the event of an earthquake was mentioned and the reaction it elicited. The emergency communication hub was supported – and all the ham radio operators had an event about 2 weeks ago to support this effort.

Dan Keefe mentioned the **Community Garden and Orchard**. Blueberries are coming on strong. Seattle Parks sent news about all the community gardens all over Seattle. Meadowbrook was 1st among many – over 1500 pounds contributed over the past year. A neighbor is putting in a wattle fence entry. Netting to control weeds is going into Round 2. E coli counts are still being sampled. Matthews Beach and above is showing very high counts. Sampling should provide evidence about how much is human vs. animal. King County grants are being pursued for Little Brook (site visit next Tuesday indicates that this grant is probably being short listed for approval). 8th Ave NE and NE 105th, just above the beaver pond natural area is being targeted for increasing the size of this natural area. They pulled out of this effort, as it was too difficult to coordinate within 3 City departments; they will try for another grant proposal in September in a new funding round. The Jane Adams swale project moves forward with the request to

put in wheel stops to protect the banks and prevent cars from going into it. It requires a permit. Both Jane Adams and Nathan Hale schools will be invited to participate in September when school is back in session in joint efforts. Community Garden work and potluck is still ongoing on Sundays from 3-5 pm. As the weather warms, it may be changed from work from 4-6 with a potluck following.

The **tool library** was mentioned as a wonderful resource of this area, as well as some of the strong neighborhood businesses in this area. Pam encouraged everyone to get to know your neighbors better and chat, as well as being prepared for any disaster. Victory Heights is having an ice cream social/potluck on Monday, 7/18. TCA will have a booth there. Time is 5-7:30.

The meeting was concluded at 8:15.

Respectfully submitted,

Wilma Boyd,

Secretary Pro Tem in Mike Reinhardt's absence

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