

FINAL

October 10, 2017 MEADOBROOK COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

At 7:05 pm the President, Dan Keefe, called the meeting to order. There were 15 attendees, including 12 voting members in attendance.

Minutes The minutes of the July 11, 2017 meeting were approved.

Ms. Pam Bowe handed out a list of upcoming public meetings and events. Since the North District Council has been dissolved by the City, a new group named D5 has been formed to represent community interests in North Seattle .

**Seattle City Councilmember Juarez has obtained \$5,000,000 to help develop a new community center** which is estimated to cost \$20,000,000 or more. She said her priorities are the Homestead Park renovation and a new community center to replace the old community center, a new North District police precinct station, more affordable housing, and law enforcement diversion programs for criminal offenders.

**Mr. Scott Lindsay, candidate for Seattle City Attorney**, spoke about his background and the need for change. He said 88% of misdemeanor crimes such as car prowls, drug possession, etc. are committed by repeat offenders who are addicts, most with heroin or crack cocaine addiction. The City Attorney's office declined to file 65% of criminal cases referred by the Police- the highest in many decades. He claimed the incumbent has not addressed the heroin epidemic in Seattle despite the fact the majority of criminal defendants are heroin addicts. The second function of the City Attorney's office is handling civil litigation. The present Attorney has spend record amounts on outside counsel during his term and the candidate wants to reduce this amount. There are the same number of domestic violence reports filed each year, but record low prosecution rates by the current City Attorney. The incumbent City Attorney has filed one half as many criminal cases as were filed 10 years ago and has the same number of attorneys as 10 years ago. Mr. Lindsay said he intends to disrupt the status quo.

**Thomas Whittemore, the City's Department of Neighborhoods representative** for North Seattle, introduced himself and encouraged members to contact him with their neighborhood concerns. His work number is (206) 684-4096 and his email is thomas.whittemore@seattle.gov

**Crime** Ms. Aundie Collison spoke about the stairway on NE 105<sup>th</sup> Street at Lake City Way NE (by Don Willis Furniture). Residents who use that pedestrian corridor to access Metro bus stops to go to/from work have complained about drug use, drug sales, loitering, aggressive behavior towards pedestrians, etc. She has contacted the community police officer about the situation to obtain some action. Ms. Collison also passed out brochures about the police sock drive to obtain socks to distribute to those in need. She will accept socks donated at the next meeting.

**Accessory Dwelling Units on Single Family Lots** The Secretary discussed the City's proposal for Accessory Dwelling Units to be allowed on single family zoned property and distributed several pages of City summaries of the proposal. Among its many liberalizations of what is currently permitted in single family lots, it would allow up to 12 unrelated persons to live in two structures on one single family lot, with no vehicular parking provided on the property. Deejah Sherman-Peterson expressed concern that under the new proposal, there is no requirement that an owner occupy the house. She suggested we state we recognize the need for additional housing, but we object to any of alternative #2.

Upon motion made and seconded, members voted unanimously (with one abstention) authorizing the Secretary to draft a letter opposing the ADU proposal. The President and a Vice President will review it and the President will send the letter to the City.

**Pedestrian Improvements** The President distributed a Seattle Department of Transportation handout showing the status of 15 approved City projects in Meadowbrook for sidewalks, school zone beacons, crosswalks, etc. He noted the proposed sidewalk between 35<sup>th</sup> and 36<sup>th</sup> Avenues NE on the south side of NE 110<sup>th</sup> Street has been delayed by the City. Since King County will replace the bridge at that location within 10 years so, the City is not going to install new sidewalk, curb and a pedestrian bridge at this time because it would be replaced by the King County project. There was an extensive discussion of the status of various pedestrian projects advocated by MCC.

**The community garden** has donated over 1000 pounds of food to the food bank in 2017 and is still producing food.

**The Thornton creek confluence project** has been completed and SPU wants to come back and take public comment.

**The annual luminary walk** is scheduled for December 2<sup>nd</sup>. It will be the 7<sup>th</sup> annual luminary walk and have 800 lights in Meadowbrook Pond Park. Volunteers will be solicited on Next Door Meadowbrook.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

By: Michael Reinhardt, Secretary