

Magnuson Park Advisory Committee Minutes
Meeting Place: WebEx Call
Wednesday, March 9, 2022, 6 – 7:30 PM
Hosted using WebEx

Members In Attendance: Lhorna Murray, Janice Bragg, Samantha De Abreu, Robin Melvin, Ruth Fruland, Karey Kessler, Bladimir Recinos, Mary Bicknell

SPR: Brian Judd, Morteza Behrooz

Guests: Ember Korver, Todd Renkema, Gabrielle Gerhard, Thomas Kelly, Neal Simpson

6:03

Call to order by Samantha De Abreu with Ruth Fruland as co-chair

Request for minute-taker – Karey Kessler

Introductions “around the table”

6:10

Announcements by members—Information sharing

Janice Bragg – Anna’s hummingbirds nesting in the park and swallows are reported back.

Bladimir Recinos – at the entrance of 65th and Sand Point Way there have been residents driving on the turf. The solution has been delayed but they purchased traffic barriers and there will be a new landscaping team. It will take time, but they’ll restore that area.

As of March 31, Mercy will not be managing the property anymore. Allied Residential will be taking over property management of SG.

6:15

Public Comment – Information Sharing

Thomas Kelly: emailed in his request to MPAC.

Mentioned that Sandpoint cottages will begin construction next week.

Tom would like MPAC to make a recommendation for a new survey monument to replace current monument that is in a restoration site. For whatever reason, recently, people have decided to cut through 15 years of growth to get to the monument. It was installed in 1982. Not going to get rid of it, but the tape measuring part should be movable. There was an agreement in 2005 between Park Department and Transportation Department, the burden went to Parks Department. It didn’t mention the tape calibration line.

Samantha suggested that Tom take some pictures.

6:20

Approval of December minutes

Robin Melvin moves

Janice Bragg seconds

7 approvals

Approval of January minutes

Janice Bragg moves

Robin Melvin seconds

Majority approved

6:28

Presentation from Army Corps of Engineers project manager Ember Korver, about Upcoming Site Inspection – Small Arms Ranges

Munition is the bullets that would have been discharged.

There is no hazard from munition in Magnuson Park.

Ember Korver mentioned that Todd Renkema from USACE is on the MPAC call as well.

Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS) Program Overview:

A) The Department of Defense (DoD) is responsible for environmental cleanup of properties that were formerly owned by, leased to or otherwise possessed by the United States and under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Defense prior to 17 Oct 1986. These properties are known as Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS).

B) The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is responsible for FUDS mission execution.

C) Environmental cleanup at FUDS properties is conducted in accordance with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act

The purpose of this meeting is CERCLA Process for MMRP Sites.

They are going to conduct a Site Inspection to see if environmental risk exists. They will work with the public. They are only at the inspection phase. They want to set priorities. They will gather all the info that will allow them to rank projects based on risk.

Ember showed MPAC a map with the boundaries and areas they are investigating. About 3 acres were used for former machine gun ranges. There are no identified explosive risks.

They are trying to evaluate the presence of lead and other contaminants. There hasn't been any sampling yet. They are sampling because of the historic activity.

They hired a contractor— they are going to collect ground samples from different areas.

Also using metal detectors. They will determine if there are any hazards present.

Once that information is gathered, they can determine how the land is used and if there is a pathway that people could be exposed to the contamination.

If warranted, they would remove contamination. They could complete evaluation, and nothing will be needed.

The onsite evaluation will take one week to one week and a half in Sept 2022. Not disruptive. A few people with metal detectors. People collecting soil samples.

They will give us the report in one year (Report to be completed by October 2023).

Contact Information:

Ember Korver, USACE Project Manager

(206) 484-3478

Ember.E.Korver@usace.army.mil

Janice asked— will there be signage? They do plan to put up small signs for people, so they know what's going on. But it won't be disruptive.

Janice appreciated that this is being done after bird nesting season.

Once they complete the field work Ember can continue to coordinate and she's happy to come back to MPAC.

Brian Judd said Park has communication plan and will give ample notice about when people will be in the park. We will receive further information.

7:00

Update on Building #12 Project — Morteza Behrooz

Building #12 has not been in use for over three decades. Want to preserve historic building and prevent further damage.

Budget will be used for things such as waterproofing, seismic reinforcements, murals, other things could be done but want to be strategic to get the most out of the budget until tenant is selected.

Jerry Osborn is the architect hired as consultant. Has worked on other buildings including building #18. Good understanding of the Magnuson Park site.

Will know more about schedules and dates progress is made with the proposal.

Morteza showed us images of building #12.

He talked about the need to prioritize and the need to address systematic issues like drainage. Comprehensive study being done. Façade needs stabilizing and some of the corners. Building stabilizing goals include rust removal, beams, painting, drainage issues. And removing some loose items in the interior.

Every item that they identify to fix will help keep building #12 alive until they have a tenant and use for it.

No tenants currently, but there are some safety concerns.

Project budget \$325,000 (?)

Janice asked – is it worth it to help this building service or better to remove it? Are we keeping it only because it's historic?

Morteza said the architect is looking at seismic safety. This building was not built with that in mind.

Janice asked — If we were to strengthen this building – what would the cost be? Morteza answered that would probably be more expensive and that will be built into their assessment. They will be having those discussions.

It is a contributing structure to the historic overlay. It is a historic landmark.

Some discussion of the berm around the building.

Ruth Fruland asked about the condition of the foundation – has that been compromised?

Morteza said that the structural engineer has not mentioned that it's compromised. It has been a mostly visual assessment so far.

Looking at root cause of everything, of water in and around the building.

Will report back with a planned list of things they will be doing with the building.

7:10

Magnuson Park Manager Report Brian Judd

Sent report out on Monday morning but wants to verbally highlight that Magnuson Park is a microcosm of the city, that city wide issues ~~that~~ show up at Magnuson Park and what his role is at the park.

When there's an encampment, something connected to a city-wide issue – there's not special line for the Parks Department. Encourage folks to use the Find It/Fix It app – it is the most efficient way to get in the queue for things to be addressed by the city.

The supply chain and price increases affecting the Park: simple work orders like doors being fixed —but “things are on order”, “staff unavailable”, etc. We are moving as quickly as we can. Looking forward to things changing in the future. We'll get there!

We're onboarding a new employee, Ben Burtzos, into Position that has been vacant for 3 years. He will be taking minutes for MPAC meetings, among other administrative support duties.

Samantha – we appreciate you, Brian!

Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners works with superintendent. Meet every two weeks. Brian tries to recruit one of them to MPAC.

Gabrielle – in 2019 there was funding for more security is that something that is considered?

Brian- That was one time funding. The value doesn't come from that money. All they could do was call 911. No longer continued/no longer in budget. We're not closed off but sensitive to what we get from that expense.

Janice – on the turf damage. Were you aware that there's no curb there? Is that an SDOT issue? SDOT may or may not be aware. We can advocate. We could send a letter to SDOT.

Ruth – would putting in a curb include drainage? That would also be an SDOT question.

7:17

Samantha would like to address the crime and safety question.

As a resident of Mercy Magnuson they've had a lot discussions about safety for those who visit and those who live in the park and she feels that in order to have a more nuanced approach we should have a safety sub-committee. Her plan for the sub-committee would be to also involve other residents in the park.

Ruth said she'd be on the sub-committee.

Bladimir would like to connect.

Lhorna is interested.

Plans to loop in Mercy Management.

7:22pm

Concern about off leash dogs

Janice wondered if we'd want a presentation from an animal shelter. She contacted someone to present. Do we need a presentation? He is free for May.

At least four people interested, so it was OK'd for May meeting. He will speak at 6:15pm. Janice should Cc' Brian when she contacts the Animal Shelter.

7:27

Discussion of things to tackle in May:

Ruth would like to talk about the art in the entranceway in May.

Also, goals, Samantha/Ruth

Idle-free zone, and addressing gas generators, crime

7:25pm

Follow-Up on Recycle Bins

Janice's one sentence: she made a map that shows all the garbage and recycle bins, recommended one recycle bin for each garbage can in picnic areas and parking lots. Brian's looking into it and will get back to us.

7:30

Selection of Chair, -Robin signed up to chair in May

Co-Chair, Janice agreed to co-chair if Robin chairing

Secretary – new employee

7:32

Move to adjourn- Janice

Second – Karey

Adjourn