

Minutes for Magnuson Park Advisory Committee
May 11, 2016
Lower Conference Room, Building 30

Members Present: Loren Hill (Chair), Tom Kelly (Vice Chair), Adrienne Karls (Secretary), Lynn Ferguson, Carol Valdrighi, Arden Forrey, Gabrielle Gerhard, Mary Anne Ward, Ken Sparks, Herb Curl, Chandra Hampson, Julianna Ross

Absent: Humberto Alvarez, Tracy Bennett, , Aaron Hoard, Nino Johnson, Pete Zimmermann, Emily Dexter, Scott Marshall

Magnuson Park Staff: Brian Judd

Guests: Diana Kincaid, Alisa Luber, Tom Ansart, Kevin Volkmann, Chelsea Johnson

Call to Order: Loren Hill calls meeting to order at 6:00 pm

Public Comment: Huge Thank you to Carol Valdrighi for all of the hard work and time she invested in making our April meeting at the Community Center a huge success.

Park Events Update – Chelsea Johnson: There are many events taking place this summer. All events are listed on the Magnuson Park Calendar <http://www.seattle.gov/parks/calendar/magnuson.htm>

Director’s Report – Brian Judd: Applications are still under review regarding the #62 bus re-route around building 30. There are discussions about a potential bus route and bus stops down 62nd AVE; no decisions yet but there have been conversations and we are still very early in this project. SDOT would take the lead financially as well as work with Metro and parks for planning. We need to prepare for graduation week in June as well as 4th of July. Increase in patrols to help prevent fires and parks crew has cleaned up areas creating a clear line of sight for security patrols. Building 11 has also hired security. The white van that has been parked along the tree line of Sand Point Way behind building 9 has been suspect to selling drugs and/or other illegal activities. SPD is very aware of the situation regarding the van. They have discussed setting up a stake out. Neighbors and residents of the park have been diligent in watching and reporting what they see. Thank you. There will be increased patrols by the swim beach, parking area, and behind kite hill in order to lower the amount vandalism. September will be the start of ADA improvements at the Brig. There will be ADA restrooms and some ceiling replacements. The ceiling will be off so we looked at replacing the HVAC unit (not entirely sure yet). All bathrooms will be ADA. Secondary contract will be for skylights, solar panels, and a gender neutral restroom in the lobby. Porta potties have been suggested for the 65th entrance for work parties or park projects. By placing signage it can add to bathroom locations and hand washing stations (especially in the dog park area). Mailers inside the city paper support tenants and advertising space for them. Unsure at this time what the deadline for submissions are. It’s a great way to sell ads which get good coverage in the city. Some things to think about for Septemberupcoming expired terms, holding elections, and groups will nominate their representative.

Community Center update – Carol Valdrighi: There is a real sense of community and diversity surrounding the desire to see the center get more hours, more staff, and more funding. Many city council members have toured the “empty space” since our April 13th meeting. Mrs. Brettler has also had a tour and wishes to be involved once we get a better idea of where funding will come from, and what we will

need in matching donations. Chelsea, with Solid Ground, has been doing interviews with residents and will have more specific ideas as to what is desired in the way of programs at the Community Center. July we will discover where and from whom we will get funding support. Letters of support are still coming in from city officials. The Community Center has risen to the surface and is now being seen by more than just the park's residents and tenants; it's on a far greater scale now. Political support is coming in and people know about and see Magnuson Community Center like they haven't seen it before.

State of the Arts – Julianna Ross: The issue is that there is an enormous imbalance of culture and arts compared to sports fields and “pay-to-play” structures within Magnuson Park. There are ways to create more opportunities for residents of the park and surrounding neighborhoods so that more art and culture are present; start making programs available. Both children and adults should have a place to express their artistic and multi-cultural voice through creating art, and being exposed to art. There are temporary areas that could be rotated in order to allow for such an experience to happen; the gymnasium at the Community Center, and studios that are closed unless there's an opening or gallery. There's ways to bring other artists into the park as well so they can expand on the artistic and cultural entities within. Encourage the creation of sculptures for display in the park (these would have to be large, nailed down and difficult to move in order to avoid theft). We need to share our desire and importance. If more artistic programs are available to children and adults, with space to hold them in, we could do amazing work to shine a bright light on the Arts and Culture within Magnuson Park.

Next Steps Forward Priorities for the Strategic Development Plan – Loren Hill: Loren Hill: As MPAC members are familiar with; we have been working on a report that is based on and updating the Magnuson Park Strategic Development Plan Progress Report that Seattle Parks gave the committee last September. After many rewrites and help from the committee through working group meetings and email, we are ready to send it to the Superintendent. Loren hopes this document can be a living document so that on an annual basis, MPAC can review and update it, as hopefully, projects are crossed off the list and new priorities arise. A lot of public effort and Park effort was put into coming up with the Strategic Development plan for Magnuson Park, so we need to build on that yet keep it current with Park needs. Ken asks, what are key criteria to measure the success of projects and/or failure? Having measures in terms of speed and engaging projects, what are public benefits, and what does the public want are also necessary. There's currently a guideline based on specific reports and it has been taken apart, and rebuilt. Ken moves to make an amendment which reflects further public benefit and the needs of the park; Lynn Ferguson seconds the motion, all members present vote yes unanimously. Ken will write a short statement and email it to Loren for changes. Gabrielle Gerhard so moves that MPAC's recommendations for the Next Steps Forward Priorities of the Magnuson Park Strategic Development Plan with measure of public benefit amendment is sent to the Superintendent and Julianna Ross seconds to move forward with this plan; present members vote yes unanimously.

Way Finding Signage in the park – Working Group update: Instead of maps for trails we could form a “loop walk” which would include identifying where there's bicycle access or not. Identify that there's no high speed bicycle areas to create a feeling of safety for walkers in the park. Another way to create less confusion when it comes to wayfinding in the park would be to highlight different paths both separately and where they intertwine with each other. Finding the best public benefit and working from that to identify the most convenient way to navigate in the park. This resonates that this park is a special

place; the people living here and the surrounding neighborhoods make this a very unique environment that stands out. Loren will add suggestions sent via email.

Review concept plans for NW Aviation and Discovery Center – Ken Sparks: This presentation has the purpose of identifying unmet needs at the park (especially the representation of the parks Naval and Native American history) and withdrawal from the building 2 proposal by archery and lacrosse. The withdrawal followed extensive discussions with established Seattle area entities and their directors. Unfortunately potential lead partners, especially The Museum of Flight, are fully committed to major projects. Both were sympathetic and supportive of our endeavor. Clearly, Friends of Sand Point Magnuson Park Historic District is an oversight to the park group and to implement these programs requires an established partnership with parks. The board met last Saturday, May 7th and our next likely gathering will be a short meeting and “pot luck” at Ken and Beth’s perhaps on August 6th. We expect to continue to meet quarterly. Special thanks to Lynn Ferguson who on a daily basis is “hounding” park management to fulfill their fiduciary responsibility. We are also proceeding with discussions with local Native American entities as a potential partner thanks to Joe Diehl. Finally, in the next month George Cargill and Ken Sparks will be meeting with a key member of the Paul Allen Organization.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:40pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by Adrienne Karls - Secretary