Green Lake Community Council

Meeting Notes

Date: May 9, 2007, 7-9 pm
Location: The Hearthstone, 6720 East Green Lake Way N.

1. Meeting was opened with welcome and introductions by Chair, Monica Hinckley.

2. **Bob Ferguson, King Co Councilmember**. Councilmember Ferguson explained that he and Larry Gossett each represent areas of Green Lake after a recent redistricting. Mr. Ferguson's area is North of 75th. He is the chair of the budget committee. His main areas of interest/concern are:

   - The swap of Boeing field for the Renton/Snohomish rail line with the Port of Seattle. Mr. Ferguson's view is that the County should keep transportation use open as well as use it for a bike trail. In the swap, the Port would do work to the rail corridor to prepare it as a trail. The only budget impact to the county would be for annual maintenance. Mr. Ferguson indicated that the council is also looking at other ways to purchase the rail corridor and not give up Boeing Field. A partnership with Sound Transit is one idea. A community member made the comment that the county should not be interested in creating another sound generator, i.e. the expansion of Boeing Field if traded to the Port.
   - Keeping two public health clinics open. These two clinics, in north Seattle and Bothell were slated to close in a budget cutting measure. Those who are uninsured or underinsured use the clinics extensively. A random poll of King County residents was taken recently and they rated this matter the number one budget priority for the County.
   - A question was raised as to what future elections would look like in the county. Mr. Ferguson explained that currently 60% of county voters are permanent absentee voters and we average 70% absentee in each election. The county is moving toward an all mail election. If this is done, we will be the second largest jurisdiction to go to an all mail ballot. This could be in place as early as August 2008.

3. **Sherry Carr, Candidate, Seattle School Board, District II**. Ms. Carr has lived in the Green Lake area, near Blanchett High School, for 25 years. She believes that the greatest gift we can give our kids is a high quality public education. Ms. Carr is a 20-year employee of the Boeing Company currently holding the position of Sr. Finance Manager. She has spent 9 years as a PTA leader and recently as the PTSA Chair.

- She would like to see the school board not focus so much on detail, rather to pull up and listen to recommendations from professional educators.
- She would like to improve parent satisfaction with the schools and increase the predictability of school assignment.
- She would like to look at how the school board engages the public and make changes.
- She would like to make an effort to broaden relationships with stakeholders in the community.
- She feels strongly that schools can change for the better.

4. **Erica Hutcheson, Daniel Bagley Elementary**. Ms. Hutcheson is the spokesperson for the elementary's parent organization, which is spearheading a project to add a front entrance plaza and change the landscape at the front of the school. Bethany Church donated two light standards that will be incorporated into the plan. The purpose of the project is to redirect kids in a safer way when school is out. The plan includes hardscape areas, benches and planting areas. They are looking for community input on their designs. Contact Daniel Bagley Elementary for more information.

5. **I-5 Noise Wall Project**. Erin Fletcher, design lead, Washington State Department of Transportation (DOT), gave us an update on this project. The I-5 / 5th Avenue NE to NE 92nd Street Noise Wall Project received $7.7 million in funding as part of the 2005 Transportation Partnership Account. The project planners have now determined the height of the walls for the project. Heights range from 8' to 18', dependent upon the location. The height of the walls is generally the height of a two-story home. Persons living 300' to 500' of the walls will benefit from the noise reduction. Questions/Issues raised by community members:

   - What about noise echo on the freeway? WSDOT is working with sound and noise experts. Because of the distance between the walls, this shouldn't be an issue.
   - Is there money in the budget for landscaping? Yes, it's part of the overall plan, and the plan includes trying to save as many existing trees as possible.
   - What about seismic stability? The walls are designed by WSDOT bridges & structures group, and specifically by a structural engineer. The walls are designed to withstand an earthquake.

   Persons living within 500' of the proposed wall will receive notices of community meetings to discuss the project and may vote on whether to build the wall in their area. The meetings are public and all are invited to attend. Current project schedule indicates noise analysis and planning in 2007/2008; solicit bids in 2008; and construction to begin in 2009. Further information can be found on the project website: www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/I5/5thAveNEtoNE92ndNoiseWall/ Project contacts are Lauren Chudecke, WSDOT Communications Officer 206.440.4473 ChudecL@wsdot.wa.gov or Kinyan Lui, WSDOT Project Engineer 206.770.3503 LuiK@wsdot.wa.gov.

6. **Neighborhood Land Use**.
   - **Spud's**. Michael Cornell attended the recent design review meeting on the Spud's site. The project plan includes demolishing the existing structure and developing a new building that includes commercial on the ground floor with 12

senior rental units above. Spud's Fish & Chips plans to move to the Albertson's site project when it is completed. The site redevelopment will not begin until the restaurant moves to its new location. Spud's has been in its current location since 1967.

- **The Hearthstone on Woodlawn (Yasuko/Plastic Sales Bldg.).** This project received an approval of the below ground alley vacation between the two buildings of this project.
- **80th & W Green Lake Way N.** This parcel, currently housing Rialto Italian Café, is slated for redevelopment. It is zoned NC40.

7. **Friends of Green Lake**. Karen Schurr, Vice Chair, gave the committee update. The next major activity at the lake is the open swim on June 24th, then the Milk Carton Derby on July 7. FOGL is looking for volunteers to assist at both events. Next meeting is May 15, 7pm at The Hearthstone. The Green Lake Community Center and Evans Pool will be closed for periods of time this summer for upgrades. Evans pool, the oldest public pool in Seattle, will get new systems and the floors of the community center will be refinished.

8. **NW District Council.** Blaine McAfferty, our representative on the council, gave an update. The Greenwood Auto show will be held June 23, and the Phinney Greenwood Art walk is May 11&12. City Councilmember Richard Conlin spoke to the council on the following matters:

   - He would like the city to move to a zero waste policy. The goal is 60% recycling; he would like us to get to 70%. He would also like to extend food waste recycling to multi-family and commercial buildings. The Wallingford transfer station may be remodeled in the future.
   - He would like to see the city limit the number of mega houses in order to maintain sustainable single-family residential communities. To do this he would advocate subtracting 5' from the height limit of residential structures. This would eliminate a third story. He would also advocate for a maximum 35% lot coverage.
   - Phinney Neighborhood Center. The city is looking for funds to purchase this building from the school district in order to maintain it as a community center.
   - Adding sidewalks and curbs to Linden Avenue

9. **Bridging the Gap**. Ref Lindmark let us know that he is on a committee to oversee the spending of $1.5 Million from this levy that was earmarked for neighborhood suggested projects. If you would like to make a suggestion on any projects you feel should be included, let him know.

10. **Green Lake Branch Library**. Steve DelVecchio, branch manager, let us know that a free preview by Seattle Public Theater was held at the branch. The branch currently has 6 different book groups, 2 each for kids, teens and adults in the afternoon and evening. Members of book clubs are given copies of the books to read. The library will again hold summer reading programs for kids and teens.

11. **Seattle Police Department North Precinct Council**. Our representative, Bernie Kay, let us know that the annual North Precinct free public picnic will be held on June 30, from 1-4pm at the precinct. Bernie reminded us to lock our doors when we are working outside or in the backyard. Recently, thieves have been coming in homes

through unlocked doors when residents are home but outdoors. Seattle is targeting the issue of chronic prostitution. Contact the vice unit: 206.684.8660, if you have any information.

Bernie is looking for Green Lake volunteers for the Seattle Paint Out Day in our neighborhood on Saturday, August 18. Community volunteers are given supplies to paint over graffiti in their neighborhood. Bernie is trying to gauge the interest in our community for this activity. Need 15-20 volunteers for ½ day.

12. **GLCC Officer Elections**. Current officers have held their posts for two years. Elections will be held at the July meeting. Chair, Monica Hinckley asked for nominations from the floor. Michael Cornell indicated that he would be interested in running for another term as Vice Chair. If you are interested in being a part of the council, or would like information on what is needed and the time commitment required of each position, please contact Monica or any current officer. www.greenlakecommunitycouncil.org.

End.

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