

## MEETING NOTES

Attendees: Willard Brown, David Bestock, Michael Taylor-Judd, Ranette Iding, Kim Justice, Lynda Bui, Parie Hines, Dorsal Plants, Amanda Kirk

Absent: Carol Williams, Ivan Cruz.

Staff/Guests: David Goldberg, Aileen Balahadia, Lois Martin, David Sauvion

### **Intro/Welcome**

David welcomed everyone to tonight's meetings and began introductions especially for our neighborhood peer guests Lois and David.

### **Learning from Other Neighborhoods: Ongoing Stewardship beyond the ACT**

Aileen began by highlighting the importance of shared experience and learnings, especially from neighborhoods who have previously began ACT's and are now on their way towards fuller community stewardship. This was something the group was interested in, so Lois Martin from the 23<sup>rd</sup> Avenue Action Community Team and David Sauvion from Rainier Beach Moving Forward graciously agreed to talk about their experiences,

Lois's group began their ACT in the Winter of 2013, created their draft plan in the Fall of 2014 and have just recently finished creating their charter/guiding principles/code of conduct outlining how their group will operate into the future. They've held several community meetings and continue to meet monthly, today focusing especially on small business development and marketing. David's group began their ACT process in Sept 2010 and finished their plan in March 2012. After much community outreach as well, the group is currently focused on the Food Innovation Zone (employment and jobs), but also still meets regularly around the 4 action areas of the plan. They are also currently considering merging with the Rainier Beach Community Empowerment Coalition.

Some highlights and advice from the panelists:

- Developing trust within a diverse stakeholder group is challenging- but aim for consensus and be consistent in meeting together and creating strong ground rules for interacting.
- Tilt the planning process more towards community. Yes city is a partner and is critical, but community voice is most important and will keep the momentum moving forward. Don't be afraid to lead!
- Ensure planning language and lingo is easy to understand for regular people
- Ok to include elements in you plan not just focused on bricks/mortar and typical urban planning improvements—can include important capacity building issues like community engagement, ownership and building of local assets.
- Wise to include policy and long term changes you seek as well
- Use a planning document to help garner support for your overall vision and to hold parties accountable.

During Q&A, Delridge folks asked questions such as:

- Balance of "power" between city/community. Shared in the CD. For instance, have weekly meetings between Lois, consultant and OED staff- but agenda is set by community. Meetings notes are also kept and shared.
- Role of the community group in implementation. Depends on the project. In RB, the food district is huge and needs many partners- community group keeps community support going and vision strong. In CD, they do both

grassroots “low hanging” fruit projects and also have dreams for the bigger impact work that needs city partnership.

- Bringing together the different orgs and groups in the community. Both groups still struggle with this and have groups come in/out depending on interest and burn out. In many ways, the groups act like intermediaries- matching organizations and interests- but it is also good to find common projects all can work on. (ie: design guidelines in the CD or the food innovation center in RB)
- Balancing private developments/private sector interests, along with city- to work alongside community.

Thank you to our guests! We welcome continued dialogue and hope to meet with groups again.

### **Community Stakeholders**

As part of our next phase of outreach for the plan, we are trying to compile our community stakeholders list in Delridge. Aileen circulated a draft based on previous information from the group and the city. Members began to fill in the gaps, especially with important businesses to reach out to.

In addition, Aileen asked members to write down organizations they believe would have strong interest in one or several of our 7 focus areas of our plan. In addition, please add your name if you are affiliated with the group and are willing to bring the plan out to those groups for comment.

**TO DO:** Members will receive an email with the exercise again. Please add to the graphic by a set date (TBD) prior to the May meeting.

**TO DO:** Aileen will update the stakeholder list.

### **Action Plan Update**

David circulated a newer, condensed version of the Plan for initial review. He reminded members that this is the time that the Plan will be large and slightly unruly- just given its early stages. More refinement and editing will come.

### **Delridge Workshop June 6**

As part of the Plan outreach and to continue engagement on the specific city project concurrent, a Community Workshop will be held on June 6 from 10am-1pm at a SW Teen Life center gym. In addition to being able to comment on the specific city projects (SDOT corridor, and SPU drainage), we will be highlighting the ACT Plan and continue to gather information from the community on priorities and uses. The format will be roaming workshop/tables and interactive activities and the RechTech Video will be aired. Translation and interpreters (via the POELs) will be present as well as some food. ACT members will be asked to attend, recruit and participate in the event—with details still forthcoming.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40pm. Notes submitted by Aileen Balahadia. Next meeting May 18, 2015