

## **Minutes for Magnuson Park Advisory Committee**

**April 13, 2016**

**Meeting Place: Building 47 Windermere Room**

**Members Present:** Tom Kelly (Vice Chair), Adrienne Karls (Secretary), Lynn Ferguson, Carol Valdrighi, Arden Forrey, Gabrielle Gerhard, Ken Sparks, Julianna Ross, Pete Zimmerman

**Absent:** Loren Hill (Chair), Humberto Alvarez, Mary Anne Ward, Scott Marshal, Nino Johnson, Herbert Curl, Tracy Bennett, Chandra Hampson

**Magnuson Park Staff:** Brian Judd

**Guests:** Karl Fields, Marc Hoffman, Kelly Guy, James Brown, Bill Keller, Ed D'Alessandro, William Bartram, Tom Ansart, Angie Weiss, Mercedes Elizalde, Rob Rose-Leigh, Cheryl Fraser, Nancy Hevly, Joanne Field, Jill Geary, Liz Elwart, Will Ross, William Bartcam, Kristin Klansnic, Diana Kincaid, Robin Melvin, Bill Farmer, Kevin Volkmann, Patty Crossman, Rob Johnson, Rod Dembowski, Jessyn Farrell

**Call to order:** Tom Kelly calls meeting to order at 6:08pm

**Approval of Minutes from January and March:** motion to approve by Ken Sparks and seconded by Carol Valdrighi; unanimous vote yes to approve both minutes

**Public Comment:** None

**Next step forward recommendations in regards to the Magnuson Park Strategic Development Plan**  
Has been moved for discussion and voting until next MPAC meeting on 5-11-16

**Tour of the unusable space in the Magnuson Community Center:** Marc Hoffman led the tour and shared some history of the space. Work on the unusable space had been requested before in 2002. The estimated projected cost exceeded the allocation funds. In 2008 the center's hours were cut and this project set aside. Other questions varied from what programs you would like to see in this space and how far away from the goals of having a full renovation of the space is. Magnuson Community Center Advisory Council members addressed questions. Everyone was encouraged to email Marc Hoffman or James Brown if they have further questions regarding the space.

**Discussion re: MCC Unusable Space:** There's simply not enough usable space in the community center as of now; usable space is 864sq.ft.while the unusable space is 5832 sq.ft. Renovating this space would open the many opportunities to have more programs for kids, a quiet place to study, hold activities and/or socialize. The community center also desperately needs more staff and added hours to accommodate the demand of the park's growing neighborhood. Magnuson Community Center serves all of the surrounding neighborhoods as well as the families with kids and residents living within the park. The unusable space could also be available for rental in order to hold special activities or groups. This would generate revenue for the center. Neighbor comment; we need to talk about single residents and families including kids. We need to stop the segregation going on due to the way Solid Ground has set this campus up. We need to create real connections between all residents of this park. Integration of this neighborhood and the park is crucial as also the integration of surrounding neighborhoods with the park.

Q: What's being done regarding the need for study programs for the kids? A: The need for quiet space for kids to study is huge. Opening a computer lab for kids will allow such study space as well as the ability to create organized programs designed for the kids. We want to hear your suggestions so please email us.

Q: How are kids and parents involved currently? Will there be some type of survey to reach out to the park's neighborhood and the surrounding ones? A: Yes; we need feedback from everyone when it comes to this community center. We have a lot of people to serve here and we wish to have feedback from everyone living in the park and the surrounding neighborhoods. A focused survey would be a start. Design a list of "asks" and increase the requests for letters of support by brainstorming. To get more funding, the need for childcare, and support from the surrounding neighbors.

Special thanks to Carol for supporting the dance class for girls.

**Ed D'Alessandro; Seattle Youth Soccer Association (SYSA):**

This nonprofit organization offers quality physical fitness and active recreation to 13K kids ages 5-18 each year. There are programs for the developmentally disabled, 12 neighborhood recreation clubs, and its volunteer run and controlled. There is financial assistance for any family that requests it. The Ultimate Frisbee teams are self-officiated and they learn conflict resolution skills in a positive way. They have outreach programs to bring kids in from low income families, and Soccer in Schools program which provides PE class instruction in Seattle Public Elementary Schools. Their concerns are that there are more kids who want to play but there's no place available for them to do so. There are often 4-5 teams playing on one field in Magnuson Park and there is pressure from people who want to drop in or free play. The most needed time for playing is reserved far ahead of time; they want kids out and active. They have proposed to build a lighted synthetic soccer field as defined by the Magnuson Master Plan. They are also applying for the Parks District Challenge Fund. Their goal is to raise \$1M as a 50% match of total project cost. Pledges are currently totaling \$305K. They would like the support and an endorsement letter from MPAC.

Q: Where is the field desired for playing? A: West of where the current fields are.

Q: Describe the type of field you want installed? A: the city is trying out a field made with cork inserts and rubber. Lighting for the field will also be included.

Q: Will you be covering the cost of shoes, especially for low income families? A: Yes, there are funds available which contribute to shoes, jerseys and pads.

Q: Would you manage the fields? A: No, this is only an effort to expand and allow for greater capacity.

Q: Is this extended to low income kids living in Magnuson Park? A: we will help as much as we can to provide low income families assistance. We have had little luck with that in the past but would like that to change so more kids living here can take part.

We will review again and vote on letter of support at our next meeting on 5-11-16

**Brian Judd; Director's Report:** Bus #62 is doing a 90 day trial of its turnaround in the park. The bus will do this behind building 30. The key issues are that we may need to find more funds due to the wear and tear on the parks roadways. Roads are owned by SDOT, SPR, and UW. So far the turnaround is going well. More frequency of the bus routes in the park is good. The bus is bypassing stops due to them being full capacity. There is work being done on an all-day grid which has added routes to bus #76 and

keeping the #61 through the weekdays. We are learning to make changes with Metro. They have people doing daily body counts, stops, etc. During this transition we will be reaching out and working together to provide feedback. Improvements to bus transport into the park helps in many ways; the bus route through the park makes it feel alive. The #75 frequency is back to every 15 minutes. There will be transportation surveys that will be done to see how many park visitors there are. This is the first connecting style effort; as demand increases we will be looking to building bathrooms.

**Meeting adjourned at 7:35pm**

Minutes respectfully submitted by Adrienne Karls