

Minutes for the Magnuson Park Advisory Committee

September 12, 2018

Lower Conference Room, Bldg. 30

Members Present: Gabrielle Gerhard (Chair), Tom Kelly (Vice-Chair), Mitch Cameron (Secretary), Jan Bragg, Julie Haran, Ashley Berkley(?), Megan Cathliano.

Members Absent: Carol Valdrighi, Aaron Hord, Scott Marshall, Chauncy Gibbs, Humberto Alvarez, Jon Carver, Dianne Hofbeck, Lhorna Murray, Sandy Bricel-Miller

Guests: Eliza Ives and John Owen (Seattle City Light), Joelle Hammerstad (Parks) are the presenters for the EV Charging Pilot Programs. Mary Ann Ward, William Gibbs

Seattle Parks Staff: Brian Judd

Called to order: Meeting came to order at 6:04 p.m.

Approval of July minutes: MPAC did not have a quorum. The July meeting minutes' Approval is deferred to October's meeting.

Public Comment:

Director's Report: Summer Highlights

Magnuson Café and Brewery @ *Building 11*

- Brian reported that the MC&B is up and running and they are getting rave reviews and is very popular.
- Lines are forming to wait for entry (up to an hour, a very good sign for a new restaurant).
- A Pergola will be erected in a week or two.

Missing Customer/ Participant from "outdoorsforall" outing within Magnuson Park recently:

- Great Team effort. 'outdoorsforall' called and informed Magnuson Park Staff that there was a missing person, who called the Seattle Police Department and Aquatics Staff, Brian said all groups worked cooperatively and efficiently until the youth was found in the blackberry bushes next to the Swim Beach.
- Yes, the youth was found safe and sound. No injuries.
- Brian said the cooperative search was a real testament to the team effort displayed when everyone dropped everything to search for the lost youth. Well done everyone.

Magnuson Park Security:

- Brian was happy to report that there were no major security incidents for all of 2018's summer season in Magnuson Park. There was a security presence in the park 7 days per week in the evenings.
- The only issues have been from fires being built in the children's wading pool, after the park has closed. There is slight damage to the drain and concrete, so the children's wading pool has been closed for the last couple of weeks of the summer. There are

insufficient funds to repair the wading pool immediately. Unknown what will happen to the wading pool for next summer.

Magnuson Park Hosted a National Night Out on August 7th:

- A wide array of people attended; about a hundred residents of the Park, Park Community Center Staff, Park Tenants all had fun, while pizza was arranged by Gabrielle Gerhardt and provided by Pagliacci's Pizza on Sand Point Way. MC&B also donated some food, a 1st time contributor in the Park.
- Mayor Durkin made a visit for about 20 minutes and said a few words.

New Shelter in the 'Small and Shy' dog's part of the 'Off Leash' area:

- A new shelter has been built in the Small and Shy dog's area over the summer.
- Installed by the Magnuson "Off Leash" Association, during the summer months.
- Come take a look.

Movies in the Park:

- The Community Center implemented a scaled down 'Movies in the Park' in August
- Smaller venue that was in the Amphitheater, was very successful.

All in all, Magnuson Park enjoyed a productive and busy summer.

Seattle Parks has opened an RFP (request for proposal) for Bldg. 18 (old firehouse):

- Proposals will be reviewed beginning on October 31st.
- The Superintendent will likely make the selection in February of 2019.

Lynn Ferguson had raised a question:

- What is happening with the parking area to the west of the Magnuson Athletic Club? This is the area where the motorcycle classes are held on the north shore of the Park.
- This parking area will be opened to all, on November 1st.

Mayor Durkin will Announce her 2019 Budget on Monday September 24th:

- The Seattle City Council will review the proposed Budget into early November and holds public outreach.
- Brian urges the MPAC to keep an eye out for the Public Outreach Events and other budget discussions and meetings.

Special Events, Highlights:

- Another Night Market is planned for the Junior League Parking Lot (large lot adjacent to the fields), from 4 to 9 p.m. on September 13th. Like a Farmers Market on a Thursday night.
- Rise Up for Homeless Fundraiser: Friday, Nov. 2nd
- The Best of the Northwest, Art and Fine Crafts Show on Nov. 9th. Annual tradition in the fall at Magnuson Park.
- Solstice Night Market, Food and Craft Festival on Dec. 7th and 8th in Hangar 30.
- Winter Beer Fest, on Nov. 30th and Dec. 1st, also in Hangar 30.

Brian Judd will be on Special Assignment for a few months:

- Joanne Orsucci will fill in for Brian.
- MPAC will meet Joanne in October.

- Brian will return in January

Christopher Williams, acting SPR Superintendent has been offered the Superintendent position by Mayor Durkin as regular position:

- He has declined the Superintendent position.
- Christopher Williams will take the position of Deputy Superintendent once the new Superintendent is in place.
- Christopher has filled the Superintendent's shoes a few times in the past.

2019 Magnuson Park Advisory Committee Slate:

- Brian and Gabrielle are looking for 3 positions for next year, Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary.
- Gabrielle will continue as Chair with the understanding that there will be a transition to a different Chairperson, soon.
- Lhorna Murray has expressed interest in the Vice-Chair position.
- Gabrielle spoke about how she is thinking of the MPAC Committee meetings and structure. Discussions for another meeting.

Presentation by Seattle Parks and Recreation & Seattle City Light:

Joelle Hammerstad, Sustainable Operations Manager with Seattle Parks and Recreation. Eliza Ives and John Owen with Seattle City Light. Presenting proposed Electric Vehicle Pilot Program.

- Joelle is passionate about the E/V Pilot Program, in reducing emissions in Seattle. Important to our environment due to the Climate Change.
- Much of the City's emissions come from gas powered vehicles. The goal is to follow the Paris Climate Agreement and be carbon neutral by 2050. To prevent a global warming event from becoming an uncontrollable problem, we must reduce our emissions by the 2050 benchmark date.
- Reduce energy consumption by 20% by year 2020. Mayor Nickels implemented in 2008.
- Reduce carbon emissions by 40% by 2025. Mayor Durkin implemented in 2018.
- Joelle went on to say that all paved surfaces original intent was to support vehicles using fossil fuels.
- Scientists are saying that to prevent a global temperature runaway effect, we all will need to be carbon neutral by 2050.
- All these goals are rolled into the Parks' goals of sustainability and climate stabilization.
- Placing the E/V Electric Vehicle Charging Stations in our Parks helps support carbon footprint reduction, customer service and to help build strong communities.
- Eliza Ives with Seattle City Light (SCL) made a Power Point presentation.
- Joelle mentioned that for every dollar spent at an E/V Charging Station, that dollar stays in the local government and community, not multinational corporations.
- John said that it is much cheaper to own and operate than a fossil fuel vehicle.
- Jan Bragg asked if the Electric Car Tax (part of vehicle registration) was factored into the economics of owning an electric vehicle. John said, no it doesn't and was frankly surprised that there was an additional tax.
- Feedback from the Beacon Hill E/V Charger installations have forced SCL to reevaluate the equity of their installations. Their reevaluation will take into consideration the availability to disadvantaged citizens
- Chargers would be most likely be used near amenities. (shopping, coffee shops, etc.)

- John proposed 4 possible sites in the Park. Please see Power Point presentation.
- Some of the prerequisites to install the E/V Chargers is space, electrical power availability, safety and equity.
- 200 ampere service is required and that is above the existing loads.
- Questions about SCL factoring in electrical loads from the Food Service Trucks at the Junior League parking lot. John mentioned that local electrical improvements and even non-electrical civic upgrades could be included in an installation. John noted to consider the Food Truck electrical requirements.
- John pointed out another possible site for the Chargers, the Brettler Upper parking lot. This is an SDOT property, but there will be a more Sand Point Housing targeted public outreach events. He also pointed out that the North Beacon Hill project feedback was somewhat negative. The residents said that parking was scarce and that the E/V Charging Stations took up valuable parking.
- Gabrielle noted the structural issues of the Brettler/ SDOT parking structure. Brian said, none of the problems encountered (like the Brettler parking structure) would mean the site wouldn't be considered. Just that SCL and SPR would need to take these extra costs into consideration.
- John talked about adding value to the E/V Charging stations, that would improve each neighborhood in some way. For example, repairing the light fixtures near the stairs leading from the upper Brettler parking structure to the lower parking area, improving safety for our residents.
- The parking lot at the intersection of 62nd Ave NE and NE 65th Ave. could be another site in our neighborhood.
- There will be a \$125 fine for vehicles who park in E/V Charging stations longer than an hour, like the ADA parking spaces, when not charging (state law). But, how often will Parking Enforcement check these sites? Could peer monitoring work in these cases?
- Brian said that having 2 – 4 parking spaces set aside for the E/V Charging stations at the Bldg 30 parking lot or the Junior League parking lot (closest to amenities) would not be a problem operationally.
- It was noted that the North Shore area wasn't on their preferred list of sites. John will integrate the North Shore into their assessments.
- This is phase one, where SCL meets with stakeholders.
- Please fill out the attached questionnaire.
- Mitch commented on the civic improvements that could increase safety and line of sight at the Brettler parking area and at the end of 62nd Ave NE. Though he cannot speak for the Sand Point Housing population, but the civic improvements might be something of interest.
- John said that the location at the Junior League field, is currently the SCL preferred location.
- More Public Outreach Events from both SCL and Parks are being planned, before recommendations to the Superintendent are submitted.

Vegetation Management Plan Implementation – Tom Kelly

Green Seattle Day – November 3rd

- Tom will hand out reminder postcards in the October meeting.

UW Students, Earth Corps, Conservation Corps, and Volunteer Work in Magnuson Park

- Each year and for the last few years Tom has worked with UW students. Teams of students doing touchstone projects, 4 – 6 seniors, grad students do a lot of work during

the year. Every year they celebrate at the end of the school year. Tom wanted to take advantage of their work and share the results with us.

- The students made a short video in addition to the posters.
- Tom showed some slides of worksites and the teams at work on Kite Hill.
- Tom also showed a breakdown of the Volunteer Hours on projects and equivalencies as if they had been paid.
- He is expecting 2 teams of volunteers next year.
- Tom continued to report on the progress being made throughout the Park, using slides of Magnuson Park that are color coded to illustrate what phase of the Plan they are in.
- Tom also showed a Green Seattle Reference Map (can be found online), the Green Seattle Partnership has divided the Park into polygons. These polygon areas are mostly divided up in logical sections.
- No color – Not in restoration.
- Dark green areas are “Stage 4” or the final stage.
- White colored areas are just starting and are “Stage 1”.
- Lt. Green areas are “Planting”
- Dark blue areas are “Establishment”, where plantings are monitored for growth.
- The whole project, metrics and planning are pretty good and well documented.
- There is a lot of overlap between the Vegetation Management Plan and the Green Seattle Partnership.
- EarthCorp. Works under an agreement with Green Seattle Partnership.
- The North Shore area will be an area to get future work, plantings etc.
- Tom showed the areas in Stage 4 in the south end of the Park, and on Promontory Point.
- Lynn Ferguson has a spot on the east side of Promontory Point that she helps maintain.
- Tom showed us an area under a maintenance contract that will be completed in October. The south woodlands have some old growth trees and the work crews are busy removing invasive plants. (blackberry etc.)
- Contracted Planting Plan – 22,000 plants, Earth Corps will probably be awarded this huge contract.
- Jan commented that she was glad to see the mechanical removal of invasive plants versus the use of herbicides.

Magnuson Park Emergency Communications HUB relocated to the Magnuson Community Center. – Mitch Cameron

- The Emergency Communication HUB for Emergent Disaster Preparedness in Magnuson Park for Residents, Neighbors, Visitors and Employees has been relocated.
- The relocation will better serve the community in a more central location and adjacent to the Community Center, making it a more logical position in our neighborhood.
- Gabrielle is installing another at the Sand Point Learning Center.
- ParkPoint Condominiums have shown an interest in working with the Magnuson Hub.
- The Magnuson Hub is not active yet, we are all still in training.

Organicide and Herbicide Use in Magnuson Park – Jan Bragg

- The concern is about the use of Bait Traps set with Rat Poison, where the rat ingests the poison and leaves the trap to die elsewhere. The raptors and owls do not differentiate between a poisoned rat and a healthy rat, and these raptors and owls can eat these

poisoned rats and they can die. We don't want the raptors and owls to die, they are an important link in a healthy ecosystem here at the park and elsewhere.

- Brian Judd arranged a meeting with Barb Decaro(?) on August 20th. Ms. Decaro is SPR's representative concerning poisons and herbicides, a good information exchange took place.
 - Jan found 22 Rat Poison Bait Boxes in Magnuson Park.
 - Barb Decaro said that Eagle Pest Eliminators bait boxes should be the only ones used in the Park, and that Seattle has a contract with Eagle Pest Eliminators.
 - Jan estimated that about half of the bait boxes she identified were from Eagle Pest Eliminators.
 - Jan asked Barb if she was aware that all the poisoned bait contained blood anti-coagulants? Barb responded that the use of anti-coagulants was prohibited in Seattle Parks.
 - Jan also shared that there were sanitation issues in the Park and at Solid Ground.
 - Barb acknowledged that good grounds sanitation is the primary defense against rats.
 - Barb informed Jan that Parks is looking into using CO2 for killing rats. Dry ice will displace oxygen in their burrows and the rats will suffocate. Jan would like to see all the bait boxes replaced by the new year.
- Jan mentioned that she had a discussion with Humberto Alvarez about having trash picked up twice weekly at the SG facilities.
- Jan's return inspection of the 2 sanitation trouble spots, Solid Ground and the area behind the Community Center, showed excellent improvement.
- Plants are being treated with herbicides in the Parks by the contractor 'Garden Cycles' for Green Seattle Partnership and that is on-going. This is occurring almost every week, primarily at the south end of the Park and around the Boat Launch.
- Jan reviewed the City Permits, and all is in order.
- Jan also wanted to raise our awareness of applied herbicides in the water at the swim beach.
- The non-profit group concerned with herbicides polluting the Lake (Washington) is Toxic-Free Future:
<https://toxicfreefuture.org/science/chemicals-of-concern/pesticides/pesticides-in-lakes/aquatics-lake-washington/>
 - The herbicide added to the water at the swim beach may be for the milfoil invasive species.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.