

Montlake CC Board Minutes
September 19th, 2012; 7:00 p.m.
@ Steve Milam's house 1820 E McGraw St

Members present: Connie Bain, Anita Bowers, Nathalie Gehrke, Bryan Haworth, Arthur Lee Jacobson, Elaine King, Steve Milam, Julee Neuhart, Jim Roe, Colin Shannon-Garvey, Kathy Smith-DiJulio

Members absent: Scott Forbes, Signy Hayden

Guests: Jon Decker, Bob Edmiston, Lionel Job

August 15th board meeting minutes and September 19th general meeting minutes: Arthur moved to approve, Kathy seconded, and the Board adopted both.

Treasurer's Report — Connie:

The Treasurer's report dated Sept. 19th 2012, was briefly discussed. Jim moved, Kathy seconded, and the Board adopted it.

NextDoor.com — Kathy & Connie:

This "free private social network for neighborhoods" is being used on 23rd Ave E in Montlake. Connie and Kathy looked into it, and came away unimpressed. It would seem to duplicate on a block by block level what Montlake strives to cover in our forum, blog, and *Flyer*. While we did not want to discourage community members from joining the network if they chose, we did not see it replacing our forum, blog, and *Flyer*.

520 bicycle and pedestrian lanes — Anita & Lionel

Much discussion. Bottom line, for Montlake to decrease vehicular traffic, we can promote bicycling and walking. The proposed rebuilt SR-520 Portage Bay bridge *can* have a bicycle/pedestrian lane. But a group of neighborhood representatives from Portage Bay - Roanoke, and North Capitol Hill, oppose a bicycle lane, largely because of the added width of the new bridge. Kathy moved, Jim seconded, and the Board approved the resolution: That Montlake Community Club supports the original record of decision of a 6-lane bridge with a bicycle lane —not an 8 lane bridge without one. Jim moved, Kathy seconded, and the Board approved that the bicycle lane be no wider than that on I-90. Jim moved, Kathy seconded, and the Board supported that any added Montlake Bridge bicycle lane be as narrow as possible.

Neighborhood Plan update — Anita:

Anita is working on this effort to give the Club better focus. It is vital that she get *help*; she will meet, for example, with Jon Decker about the school, and Janice Sears to get accurate survey data. Anita will make a list of assignments and background material for board members to consider helping with.

***Flyer*, Website updates, etc. — Colin:**

Colin hopes to leave the *Flyer* editorship after June. Signy and ?Cathy _____ will meet with Colin to discuss helping. Alas, the Montlake website is being updated only with the monthly addition of the current *Flyer*. Its Wordpress software is not flexible; ideally, Montlake will find someone to change its template or theme to a better fit for our needs. Colin will obtain an estimate of how much it will cost to hire this feat. Now that the free advertising period is over, Bryan is soliciting paid *Flyer* advertising, but so far getting little positive response.

Coalition / SR-520 update: None.

Consultant Contract for Montlake School nomination for Historic Designation — Jon Decker:

Jon is volunteering on this process. Connie moved, Julee seconded, and all but Jim who dissented, approved that the Club hire BOLA Architecture & Planning to do the process, at a cost of \$7,343 plus photocopying fees. Steve signed the contract with BOLA.

Budget for 2012–2013: It was agreed that an entire meeting be devoted to fine tuning the draft. Date TBD. Anita noted that our Neighborhood Plan goals should guide the budget priorities, and Colin stressed that the Club must maintain a reserve.

Richard Conlin and 2nd Montlake Bridge: Councilmember Richard Conlin had agreed to oppose a second Montlake Bridge, and offered to attend one of our meetings. Jim thinks we ought to get Frank Chopp here, inasmuch as he controls the money coming from Olympia.

Transportation consultant — Anita:

Anita will learn more about the desirability and cost of the Club hiring a transportation consultant.

Design review for the property on 24th between Lynn and Boston — Anita:

The existing vacant lot will get a building with an underground 39-vehicle garage, retail/offices ground floor, and 23 housing units on top. The design review meeting is Oct. 3rd. Connie reported that the initial design shown had an ugly building, but that in a later rendition, it looked better.

Reserving space at Community Center for future Meetings:

The Club paid \$145 for the room rental on Sept. 12th — which was high. We need to schedule future dates for the year, if possible. But Anita noted that most community councils host meetings as needed rather than follow a regular schedule. No action was taken.

Cost and assessment of Sept. 12th meeting, assessment — Jim:

Our effort and expenditure for the September 12th Candidates' Forum Meeting was viewed as not cost effective inasmuch as so few Montlakers attended. Discussion about what to do — attract more attendance or hold fewer meetings? Anita suggested that people prefer unrestricted meetings. Jim thinks we may need to hold digital meetings. Connie: putting up sandwich boards will help. Bryan will look into how much it would cost to meet at Montlake school instead. Nathalie: maybe we need to host *events*, rather than general meetings.

General meeting topic proposals — Anita:

November: Home security and Household safety

January: Building community

March: Garden and yard care tips

May: the arts in Montlake

There was no enthusiasm or consensus to host a November general meeting.

New business:

Julee proposed we move the November board meeting to another day — not the day before Thanksgiving.

Meeting ended at 9:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Arthur Lee Jacobson, Sept. 25th 2012