

Montlake CC Board Minutes
September 3rd, 2013; 7:00 p.m.
@ Kathy Laughman's home: 2434 E. Miller St

Members present: LeAna Alvarado-Smith, Connie Bain, Nathalie Gehrke, Marilee Goebel, Arthur Lee Jacobson, Lionel Job, Kathy Laughman, Julee Neuhart, Jim Roe

Members absent: Signy Hayden, Bryan Haworth, Rainer Metzger, Amanda Williams

Guest: Colin Shannon-Garvey

The evening's agenda: Jim moved to approve, Arthur seconded, and the Board accepted Julee's agenda.

August 6th board meeting minutes: Nathalie moved to approve, LeAna seconded, and the Board adopted them.

Treasurer's Report — Connie:

First, the August 31st 2013 Treasurer's report was discussed. Account balance then was \$21,621.45. Jim moved, Lionel seconded, and the board approved the report.

Second, the MCC draft budget for fiscal year Sept. 2013–Sept. 2014, presented by the executive committee, was discussed. Compared to last year's budget, it had few changes, none controversial. Someone noted that to secure maximum employer-matching fund donations, MCC must have and submit the proper paperwork. Also, somewhere in the budget it should be stated that the club tries to always hold onto at least a \$10,000 reserve in savings, for emergencies. Kathy moved to approve the budget, Connie seconded, and the Board adopted it, with Jim dissenting.

Communication & website — LeAna:

LeAna, echoed by Colin (and Rainer, *in absentia*), urged every member to please look over the draft new MCC website design. Thus far, the migration of the existing MCC website content to the new draft website, is done. Colin tested the new forum and found its font formatting worked only partly. The website's "theme" (that is, its background colors, font, and look) is one of about a dozen possible. If we like its black & white, sans-serif appearance, then it shall remain. If instead we prefer a more colorful, or otherwise different "theme," then it is hoped a consensus can be discovered. Other possible "themes" are presented on this web page: <http://my.studiopress.com/themes/>

To choose a different "theme" (and not all shown will suffice for our purposes) will entail additional cost. But the money is in the budget, and it is roundly agreed that our website must be appealing to attract the maximum number of viewers.

The current incarnation of the new website is a work in progress. The communications team must be supplied our input as to its appearance, ease of navigation, and we must also of course post some new content onto it.

Chairperson's Report — Julee:

A) Follow-up to RPZ change for Montlake. Amanda had thanked Tom Rasmussen for his role in securing the ability of Seattle School District to apply to City for employee parking permits in an otherwise ineligible RPZ. The SDOT liaison to city council is Cheryl Swab, who has been asked by Julee to provide details as to how the new process will work.

B) Earthquake preparedness planning for Montlake is a topic that Debby Cook has great interest in and knowledge about, but she needs help, and thus far has been unsuccessful in recruiting any. A volunteer is sought.

C) Seattle Community Council Federation. Steve Milam informed Julee that he will be teaching on the Tuesday evenings the meetings are held, so cannot represent Montlake there.

D) The UW Hec-Edmundson bridge. Julee asked if we were aware that the UW plans a replacement bridge for pedestrians & cyclists, and what did we care to do about it. Lionel has concerns about this project and said he would respond to SDOT via their website where public comment is requested.

E) Smart-meter safety. Wireless "smart" electricity meter-readers being installed by Seattle City Light, are causing some concern. No details were provided, and no action was taken.

F) Gateway Parks: Julee reports that Patricia Shannon-Garvey, having done enormous valuable service to Montlake in spearheading the Gateway Parks, is asking that someone else take the lead. The leaning white birch tree was removed safely.

G) Anita's e-mail about a perceived leaking fountain: Actually, the cause of water on Boyer by 26th Avenue, is natural hillside springs—nothing can be done to stop as much. Colin will contact the person who expressed concern.

New Business

A) Possible MCC projects/activities for 2013–2014.

- 1) **Fall neighborhood garage sale.** Nathalie, Kathy, and a volunteer yet TBD, may organize a neighborhood-wide garage sale for Saturday Oct. 5th, in which MCC can publicize it, and ask for a per cent of participant profits.
- 2) **Fall door-to-door fundraiser.** Julee will be glad to do what we did last December.
- 3) **Winter neighborhood meeting.** Julee proposes that next March, MCC host a community meeting at which representatives would be present to answer how our tax dollars are spent, and what these agencies can do for us. Examples: Police dep't, Fire dep't, City arborist, Senior services, METRO. If people like this idea, we will do it; if people prefer something else, we will do that.
- 4) **Arts and Music event.** Nathalie, Julee, Connie and Patricia will again plan this event for 2014, making improvements such as involving more children.
- 5) **June garden tour.** Jim, Arthur, and Kari will think about it.
- 6) **Montlake volunteer brigade.** Kathy, inspired by how people behave in both Nice, France, and Madison Park, Seattle, wants to try to coordinate Montlake residents willing to *volunteer help* to other neighbors. Examples: car trips for residents unable to drive; snow shoveling for elderly.

Meeting ended at 8:56 (it had officially been called to order at 7:07).

Next board meeting date Tuesday Oct. 8th. Refreshments to be provided by LeAna, Bryan & Marilee.

Respectfully submitted,

Arthur Lee Jacobson, September 4th 2013