**Montlake CC Board Minutes**

August 12; 7:00 p.m.

Neuhart Residence

Board Members Present: LeAna Alvarado-Smith, Bob Delay, Nathalie Gehrke, Lionel Job, Michele Layton, Rainer Metzger, Julee Neuhart, Jim Roe

Members Absent: Casey Catherwood, Bryan Haworth, Kathy Laughman, Lori Sabado

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**: Following corrections and amendments to the May 6 Board meeting minutes, the May 18 General Meeting minutes, and the June 10 Board meeting minutes, Michele moved, Bob seconded, and all approved all three records.

**Treasurer’s Report**: Due to change over in bank account access and other transition difficulties between the outgoing and incoming treasurers, the complete, up-to-date printed report could not be presented by Treasurer, Jim Roe. The account is, however, healthy; some income has been deposited from Pay Pal; some usual bills have been paid. Expected reimbursement requests from Night Out Block Parties are not in yet.

 **Old Business**

**Night Out Review & Assessment:** Informal reports from three Board members all indicated that significant numbers of residents gathered in their neighborhoods. About 100 in LeAna’s, about 35 in Jim’s, and about 40 in Nathalie’s. Bob’s report was that his was well attended, but more sedate than last year’s. Lionel explained that his neighborhood traditionally meets in September and will again this year. The Night Out party was affirmed by all to be a strong community building event for long-time and newcomer residents. It deserves continuing support with funds and publicity. President Julee, asked if we could find one of the several Block Captains to represent us on the East Precinct Police Advisory Council, since we do not now have a representative. Such a person might be identified at a meeting of all the Block Watch Captains. The idea of a Captains’ meeting was looked on favorably by the group. Julee was encouraged to call them together to ID a rep. and discuss other matters of interest to them as well.

**Business District Plan & Meetings**: Bob reported on the meeting that he, Kathy, Lionel, and Bryan, along with Lyle Bicknell of the City had on two different dates in July with the Montlake business representatives. He termed it successful because they discussed traffic and parking issues important to the businesses. Many ideas proposed appeared to be feasible and the expectation was that Bicknell would carry them forward to the City Traffic Engineer D. Chang. Also of interest to the business reps were ideas about art installations and mural projects that could enhance the business district and celebrate the historic nature of the Montlake neighborhood. All were interested in the *Only in Seattle* Initiative that Kathy described, and for which she offered to lead proposal development. Continued discussions with the business representatives will be planned by the involved Board members, as will continued advocacy for the business area.

**520 Bridge & Related Matters**: Rainer explained that in July the Seattle Design Committee meeting was held for members to consider the two options for design of the Portage Bay Bridge. (Rainer & Lionel attended) Opinions of the Committee members were divided between the box style, which is low profile and draws less attention to itself, and the cable stay bridge style which is higher profile and draws attention. Slight preference was expressed for the box style. (The same split and slight preference has appeared in the poll currently soliciting Montlake resident’s advice on our website.)

An upcoming meeting on September 11 will invite the community to see and give feedback on the options proposed, not only for the bridge but for other aspects of the next phase of the 520 project, including the Montlake lid. Out of multiple meetings by Rainer and Lionel with Lyle Bicknell has come a list of 10 points offered for Board approval as the preferred design actions set forth by the Montlake CC. After extensive explanation and discussion, Rainer moved, Michele seconded, and the 10 points of the design proposal were unanimously approved. These will become tools and talking points for Lionel and Rainer as they represent our voice moving forward.

**New 520 Web Page on Montlake.net**: Rainer reminded us to look at the page added to the website that is dedicated to 520 project news. Julee mentioned that some of the Respect Seattle group have mentioned its usefulness to them. Rainer announced that, because he is moving, he will resign his position on the Board at the end of 2014, but will continue to support the website work, especially the 520 page.

**Fall Yard Sale Plans**: Nathalie reported that the Yard Sale committee (Kathy -chair, Lori, and NJG) was underway in planning for the October 4 Yard Sale. First call for yard hosts was in last Friday’s Flyer/Forum. More to come.

**President’s Report**

**Respect Seattle Meetings:**  Julee reported on the Respect Seattle group’s most recent two meetings. She also told of her follow-up inquiry with Representative Frank Chopp’s staffer about the funding likelihood during the next legislative session (2015) for the next phase of the 520 project. The response: We will know after the November election. It will depend on which party controls the Senate. She has also contacted the Medina Public Works Department for information about how the current contractor on the project responds to neighborhood concerns. They have been satisfied with the responsiveness, but a different contractor will be handling the work on our side of the water, so it is hard to predict. All that she learned was shared with the Respect Seattle group.

**East District Council Meeting**: City Council Chair, Sally Clark met with the group. Right now, she is concerned with housing issues, especially balancing the need for low-income housing & neighborhood resistance.

**Community Concerns:** Community concerns about graffiti, complaints about illegally unleashed dogs in the parks and Community Center, and possibilities for construction of a dog park were all given consideration. The President will communicate with those who’ve expressed concerns.

**Open Trustee Positions & Resignation**: Julee continues to work to identify a Montlake School representative to assume that open trustee spot on the Board.

Meeting Scribe: Nathalie Gehrke for Secretary Kathy Laughman