

Montlake CC Board Minutes

June 10, 2014; 7:00 pm

@ Café Lago

Board members present: LeAna Alvarado-Smith, Bryan Haworth, Connie Bain, Nathalie Gehrke, Julee Neuhart, Lori Sabado, Casey Catherwood, Bob Delay, Kathy Laughman, and Michele Layton.

Members absent: Jim Roe, Rainer Metzger *and Lionel Job.

Board members introductions: Julee asked each board member present to introduce themselves and explain their connection to the Montlake neighborhood, which they all did; some at greater length than others. Julee introduced the three absent board members and noted their contributions to the Montlake neighborhood.

Distribution of MCC information: Julee distributed copies of the MCC by- laws, the schedule of meetings, the September 1, 2013 – August 31, 2014 budget report, and the results of the MCC survey which ask the participants to prioritize a list of neighborhood projects to the members present.

May 6 board and May 18 general meeting minutes: Approval of the meeting minutes was delayed to the August 12 meeting.

Treasurer's report: Connie reported income to date exceeded our expenses for the budget year but noted we need to receive the communication invoices for the website development so that we can finalize our expenses. Bryan will follow up on this outstanding issue.

Use of funds in MCC account:

- 1) LeAna made a motion that funds could be used to support the Night Out community event which is scheduled for August 5, by offering block watch party givers funds for their events. The motion was amended so that block watch party hosts could request up to \$75.00 for their events. Michele seconded the motion with the amendment and it was approved. Bryan volunteered to post on the forum and contact block watch captains; LeAna offered to give him the captain list that she had on file. He will contact the block captains to query how else we can support this event.
- 2) Michele moved that we initiate a cleanup project for the roundabouts and bump outs in the neighborhood. We could make funds available for new plants, fertilizer, etc. All labor would be done by volunteers from the neighborhood. Julee second the motion and the motion passed. LeAna will announce this project on the web.

All-Montlake Music & Arts Happening of May 18: Nathalie gave a report on the music and arts happening. Majors points made were:

- 1) Fewer people were in attendance compared to inaugural year, 2013.
- 2) Suggested that event could start at 1 pm instead of 2 pm. The event would end at 4:00 pm. This time change may encourage more attendees.
- 3) We need to think about ways to increase interactivity between artists and attendees.
- 4) The music needs to be more low volume because it is difficult for elders to hear and engage in conversation.

- 5) Invite those who attended the Music and Arts Happening for their comments on their impression of the event.
- 6) We need to do a better job of broadcasting this event. A sign up brigade where the members go door to door and distribute information about how to sign up for the Forum—if necessary help them sign them up—was suggested. We need to get the news across the community.

Signing up neighbors for the Flyer: Discussion continued on how we can increase readership of the Flyer. It was suggested also that we canvas our districts as board members. Julee suggested that we table this discussion until we talk to Rainer about his time line for developing a new page on the Montlake website.

Results of neighborhood survey: Julee reviewed with results of the survey which ask the participants to prioritize a list of neighborhood projects. The two highest concerns by large margins were the importance of improving traffic congestions and parking concerns and repairing broken sidewalks. Copies of the survey are available for a more detailed review.

Only in Seattle Initiative: Kathy gave a summary of her proposal for development of the “downtown Montlake” business district. It would include widening the sidewalks in front of food-serving businesses so that they could add outdoor dining options, removing trees that hide businesses and break up sidewalks and replacing them with plants that complement the environment, adding signage, adding banners at the North and South ends of the district which identify the neighborhood as Montlake, and assist businesses in upgrading their business fonts. The next step is to contact Lyle Bicknell for his comments and then schedule a meeting with him. Bryan and Casey volunteered to attend the meeting.

Montlake history project: Connie will talk to Anita about her needs for going forward.

Hamlin home owners: The green belt between the alley in back of East Hamlin and the existing freeway has been used at will by some of the homeowners. WDOT has told them this green belt is going away and has put stakes 6 feet beyond the alley. WSDOT’s plan is to install a chain link fence where stakes are. Lyle Bicknell is hoping he can work with WDOT move this fence a few feet back –toward SR520. Julee will talk to Lyle about how to inform the neighborhood about this situation and then put the information into the Montlake Flyer.

Follow-up regarding website page for SR 520 articles: The discussion on adding a website page for SR 520articles was tabled until Rainer returns to Seattle.

Meeting concluded at 8:50 pm. The next scheduled meeting is August 12. Location to be announced-

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Laughman
July 4, 2014

***AMENDMENT Spelling of Rainer Metzger’s name corrected before minutes were approved at August 12 Board meeting.**

