

Montlake CC Board Minutes
December 4th, 2013; 7:00 p.m.
@ Julee Neuhart's home: 1526 E. McGraw St

Members present: LeAna Alvarado-Smith, Connie Bain, Nathalie Gehrke, Bryan Haworth, Arthur Lee Jacobson, Lionel Job, Kathy Laughman, Michele Layton, Rainer Metzger, Julee Neuhart, Amanda Williams

Members absent: Marilee Goebel, Jim Roe

November 5th board meeting minutes: Kathy moved to approve, Bryan seconded, and the Board adopted them—with a single tweak: the word *us* became *we*.

Treasurer's Report — Connie:

The December 4th 2013 Treasurer's report was discussed. Account balance then was \$22,916.50. Whether the PayPal feature is working flawlessly or not, is uncertain. This feature can be used ideally either to enable businesses to purchase ads, wherein PayPal takes a cut; or for people to give money, wherein no cut should be taken. It seems that this distinction is lost on many users.

We decided our yearly budget and treasurer's report shall be distributed in May at the annual meeting.

Old Business

A) Snow Brigade — Kathy & Bryan:

The "snow brigade" page along with the annual MCC fundraising appeal letter has resulted so far in 29 volunteers who have signed up to learn more. An orientation will held for potential volunteers on Dec. 9th at Montlake library; 6:45 p.m. The email address will be snowbrigade@montlake.net. A telephone number, ideally a land line, is needed. Nathalie and Bryan will look into options. Kathy provided a draft poster, and we discussed its content, appearance, and how it will be distributed.

B) Fundraising:

Julee mentioned that pre-printed remittance envelopes, with flaps, can save paper, printing costs, collating, and likely result in more returns. We also noted that recently, the school PTA, and Montlake Family Fitness, had been fundraising in the neighborhood, so competition for donations was high.

C) Montlake Historic District:

Jon just submitted an article on the matter to the *Flyer*. Some members opined that fuller *context* and *history* of the process is desirable to engage more support. Most of the members of the current board know little or nothing of this project because so many of us have joined the board after the first wave of activity. We need information.

D) Gate to Nowhere —Rainer:

There are two projects: 1) a *temporary* art exhibit: mirrors on pillars and an arch, to raise awareness and remind people of history . . . that has been approved by the powers that be; and 2) not at all certain, an *arch* of a pair of undemolished pillars and their supported brace to will remain forever. The first phase needs *ca.* \$18,000 be raised, and plans are underway for that. The potential second phase is years hence.

E) Montlake History archives—Kathy:

The UW Carlson Leadership & Public Service Center has confirmed that students (if any volunteer) can help scan materials as a project. Kathy & Anita Bowers will write a course description and submit it for the winter quarter. The project will start small with one student, only 3 to 5 hours weekly. It may expand to include oral history recording and whatnot. Still TBD is where the physical scanned materials are to be archived.

F) Shelby / Hamlin parking update—Julee:

The UW Director of their Office of Regional and Community Relations, Theresa Doherty, agreed to a letter, to be sent jointly with MCC, to residents of Shelby and Hamlin streets, who may place copies onto windows of cars parked there in violation of the parking regulations. Lionel gave a bit of background, to

the effect that until the UW updates its master plan, getting codified parking relief for Montlake is virtually impossible.

G) Montlake Family Fitness update—LeAna, Michele:

The project is fully funded (some \$200,000). Tomorrow evening there will be a review of the adult fitness equipment options. Incidentally, some people —especially newcomers— are confused about the distinction between the Montlake Community *Center*, and Montlake Community *Club*.

Chairperson's Report — Julee:

A) 43rd Legislative district appointments: with Ed Murray leaving Olympia for Seattle, Jamie Pedersen gets Ed's former office; and Brady Walkinshaw was nominated on Dec. 3rd (Scott Forbes was runner-up) to assume Jamie's former office.

B) 520 Coalition. Julee mostly observes the activity of the coalition for a sustainable SR-520. It is apparent that the particular needs of Montlake, are not the chief interest of the main coalition volunteers —dominated by residents of Capitol Hill/Roakoke/Portage Bay. Montlake is concerned about *mobility in Montlake*; the 'uphill' neighbors are concerned with minimizing the size of the 520 bridge to Capitol Hill.

C) City Services. Julee has collected information about City of Seattle services, and intends to write one *Flyer* article monthly, the first to feature senior services.

New Business

A) Forum/Website issues—Rainer:

Soon there will be more color added to the website, thanks to a Montlake graphic designer, Laura Sherman, who volunteered some professional services. As with Obama-care's website, MCC's new website still has wrinkles to iron out. All agree that *more* content postings, especially photographs, are needed. We discussed whether to make changes to the MCC forum, whether, as it were, to 'put a leash on' the occasional excessive e-mail flurries. Consensus was let *status quo* prevail.

B) Concern about street-end neglect:

A neighbor near 19th, at the McGraw St stairway, expressed concern about the decaying condition of the guard rail there. Members familiar with and using the nearby stairway, and admiring the sculpture horse, thought that the area is functioning safely. A question arises as to whether the land is still wholly SDOT responsibility, being street right-of-way, or has been partly vacated to the adjacent property owners (as is sometimes the case).

C) Greenways meeting:

Lionel noted that while Montlake had been working towards safe routes to schools, and trying to ensure intelligent connections with the new 520, the City in recently proposed a Capitol Hill greenway that has alarmed some people: 23rd Ave in the CD and on Capitol Hill (not at all in Montlake), may be put on a 'road diet' and the assumption of certain planners is that therefore bicyclists should be encouraged to use an adjacent street such as 22nd. How this will all *end up* is unknown presently. Meanwhile, Lionel, Rainer and other Montlake volunteers continue working on such matters as suggesting an ADA ramp near Boyer Children's clinic to connect 21st & Interlaken safely with Boyer opposite Howe St. Such work is slow and often discouraging, but now and then actual good results occur. Example: SDOT will remove part of the guardrail that annoys pedestrians near 19th & Lynn St.

D) Welcome-to-Montlake. Julee asked who can replace Debby Cook in assisting Marilee with welcome-to-Montlake role. Michele volunteered.

Meeting ended at 9:17.

Next board meeting date Tuesday Jan. 7th. Refreshments to be provided by Kathy, Jim & Michele. Julee will be absent, so Nathalie will assume her role.

Respectfully submitted,

Arthur Lee Jacobson, December 7th 2013