

Montlake CC Board Minutes
February 4th, 2014; 7:00 p.m.
@ Connie Bain's home: 2056 23rd Ave E

Members present: Connie Bain, Nathalie Gehrke, Bryan Haworth, Arthur Lee Jacobson, Lionel Job, Kathy Laughman, Michele Layton, Rainer Metzger, Julee Neuhart

Members absent: LeAna Alvarado-Smith, Marilee Goebel, Jim Roe, Amanda Williams

Guests present: Anna Rudd, Allan Seidenverg

January 7th board meeting minutes: Kathy moved to approve, Bryan seconded, and the Board adopted them.

Treasurer's Report — Connie:

The February 4th 2013 Treasurer's report was discussed. Account balance then was \$24,377.61. Since November, 157 donors have contributed; we are about \$1,000 less than the same time a year ago, and it seems more donations are smaller.

Old / Continuing Business

C) Ramps to Nowhere — Rainer:

WSDOT permits are expected soon. So far, 80% of the cost has been raised for the temporary exhibit. Discussions have been ongoing about the possibility of a *permanent* monument to consist of two columns and the arch they support. As envisioned, it entails mainly sparing said concrete from the wrecking ball. Anna Rudd and Allan Seidenverg have been involved with others in pursuing this possibility. At least 4 Seattle City Council-members have expressed commendation. A status update will occur on the 6th. Anna and Allan asked if MCC desired to support this endeavor. Arthur moved, Rainer seconded, and the board approved that the MCC declare its support in a letter to *whom it may concern*. Julee volunteered to be the board's point person (besides Rainer) to follow this. Lionel noted that in March, Andy Sheffer of the Parks Dep't will attend our board meeting, and that will be a good time to discuss the project with him. Anyone with information or concerns is urged to contact either Allan (AllanSeid@comcast.net) (or Anna (AnnaRudd2@seanet.com)).

A) Montlake History archives — Kathy:

One UW student is meeting weekly with Anita Bowers to obtain oral histories from Montlakers; as the student only spends 20 hours per week, and receives 2 credits per quarter, this will take several quarters. Hard copy compilation is also occurring, for eventual scanning and posting onto our website. The archiving of our materials may be done at MOHAI.

B) Snow Brigade — Kathy:

We need to put up more "snow brigade" flyers, especially as snow may occur in a few days. Another article in Montlake.net is in order. Opinions differed on whether we should or shouldn't ask snow brigade volunteers if they care to help in *other* neighborhood capacities—such as somehow working towards safer sidewalks. Nathalie observed that some volunteers may care to directly help other people, while other volunteers may prefer helping things such as sidewalks or parks. Kathy will draft a letter for our review.

D) Montlake Family Fitness update — Michele:

The playground and basketball court will *not* be ready by February 9th. The adult fitness equipment ordered can be readied when grant contracts are finalized. But a Park's Dep't employee is causing a delay. It was suggested that since Montlaker Barbara Wright is on the Board of Parks Commissioners, that we seek her input.

E) Montlake Historic District Landmark meeting of January 16th — Julee:

Many officials, and a few Montlakers, attended the meeting. Julee praised Jon Decker (jdecker@deckerarchitects.com) for his immense work, since *ca.* 2009, on this sort of concern. Now, as part of the 520 mitigation, every Montlake building 50 years old or more is eligible for documentation. The neighborhood is notable because of the *variety* of architectural styles present, and well preserved. As

part of the application, 6 or so Montlake buildings of exceptional character are to be chosen and highlighted. Julee and Bryan will help Jon with this. An issue is the precise delineation of the boundary of Montlake. Our **Bylaws** (Article I, section 2) *exclude* some houses (such as 2161 E Interlaken Blvd., built in 1904) that are both obviously in Montlake, and special. It is neither simple nor quick to change our Bylaws. It is simple and quick to *ignore* them, however . . .

F) SR-520— Rainer:

WSDOT has notified us that soon there will be construction on the new west approach. That means, in effect, the area north of existing 520 in Montlake will soon get construction equipment, digging to move utilities, demolition, deforestation and the like. The good news? Haul routes will be limited to the freeway rather than our residential streets. A big concern is that SDOT has *not* been proactive in preparing for the traffic changes that will accompany the final redesign in a few years. Though the bridge tolling has reduced bridge traffic, Montlake Boulevard and 24th Avenue are still often backed up.

G) West Montlake Park Path report — Jim:

Skipped due to Jim's absence.

H) UW - MCC joint parking letter — Nathalie:

The letter made available to residents of Shelby and Hamlin streets, to place onto windows of cars parked there in violation of the parking regulations, has made little or no effect. It seems that unless a specific complaint is made to Seattle parking enforcement, then no action can be expected. Lionel opined that our RPZ is a tax we pay for living nearby the UW; and that the entire neighborhood needs one uniform zone, enforced, and paid for by the UW. Meanwhile, no one on the Board is pleased with the letter's wording.

New Business

A) Nominating Committee:

Kathy volunteered to join Jim on the nominating committee. Julee will send an e-mail reminder to determine exactly which Board members are planning to depart after the May elections, and which shall continue serving. Then the nominating committee will know how many recruits are needed.

B) Fundraising & City of Seattle Neighborhood Grants— Nathalie:

A quick overview by Nathalie on what is available by way of City grants that we may care to apply for.

C) The Ring Walk— Lionel & Rainer:

No action has been taken.

D) *Flyer* author volunteer sought— Nathalie

Nathalie repeated that it is desirable 1) that Board members write for the *Flyer*; 2) that a volunteer serve as an unofficial liaison between the "downtown Montlake" businesses and the *Flyer*, to keep readers posted about matters such as the new ownership of the alehouse.

Bryan noted that the communications committee had met and established new advertising rates. We talked about letting neighborhood kids (such as babysitters) get discounted rates.

Meeting had begun at 7:05 and ended at 9:09.

Next board meeting date Tuesday March 4th. Refreshments to be provided by Amanda, Lionel, Rainer. The meeting will be held at Julee's house.

Respectfully submitted,

Arthur Lee Jacobson, February 5th 2014