

LICTON SPRINGS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Community Meeting, April 20, 2016
NSCC Campus, OCE&E Building, Room 220B

Directors Present: Jan Brucker, Liz Kearns, Kay Mesirow, Melanie Davies, Tom Meyer, Mike Cuadra, and Ellen Beck.

Board Representative Present: Kathleen Braden (List Serve and Facebook page).

Visitors: Andréa Johnson (Vice President of North Seattle College), Ronald McKenzie, Pat McKenzie, Mindy Lee Irvine, and Richard Truax.

Treasurer's Report. The March bank balance was \$5,925.87.

Minutes. The March 16, 2016 minutes were approved as presented.

Board Vice President Tom Meyer called the April meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. President Jan Brucker arrived as we started introductions around the table.

NEW BUSINESS.

Board Elections. Mindy Irvine and Kathleen Braden were both elected to the Board by acclamation. Kathleen will carry on as our Membership List Coordinator.

North Seattle College - Use of Seattle District Facilities Form (Policy/Procedure 250). Liz Kearns volunteered to complete and deliver the Use of Seattle District Facilities form.

Next Meeting. Liz announced that Art Bouchet will be at our next meeting to talk about the pedestrian bridge. She also mentioned that the pedestrian bridge concept came out of neighborhood planning and Jan was instrumental in that.

Deborah Juarez. Richard Truax asked if we had been invited to the meeting on the pedestrian bridge. He said the members of the Bridge Coalition were not invited. It is a concern that people concerned and involved were not invited to the stakeholders' meeting.

OLD BUSINESS.

LSCC Meeting at College. Jan asked Andréa Johnson if the Council would be able to continue to meet at the College at no cost.¹ Ms. Johnson reported that the committee was meeting about our request, but she was not able to stay in that meeting. She said she did know that we had nonprofit status. She said that the College wants to treat everyone fair and equably across the board so that anything they tell us, they can also tell anyone else, referring to price and arrangements. She said a letter would be coming to us.

Next, Ms. Johnson discussed our website, which she said was being investigated. She said the College would get back to us with what they can and cannot do. Jan thanked Ms. Johnson, but said enough time had passed and we couldn't wait and have made other decisions.

Liz asked to meet with the Executive Committee because of the special relationship between LSCC and the College. Jan said the Council has an historic relationship with the College. President Peter Ku insisted that the Council meet in his Boardroom and he came to our meetings and helped write our Bylaws.

The Council met in the President's Boardroom until Ronald LaFayette became President of the College.² We settled into this room and it works for us. We cannot meet in our homes because none of us have homes accessible to wheelchairs or people with disabilities. Ms. Johnson said that the College is trying to accommodate nonprofits. Tom Meyer added that in a sense the community is hosting the College and this Council represents the 20,000 residents of the neighborhood. He said that the Council is the one asked when the College needs to get word out to the community.

Kathleen Braden mentioned that she works for a major institution and knows that the mission statement for such institutions includes working with communities and the community is given special status in that case. Because of this special relationship consideration should be given to the Council. The cost could be donated or waived. Ms. Johnson said it was impossible to donate state monies.

Ms. Johnson said that it was not her intention to alienate any of us and was sure that in the future there would be projects we could work together on.

Jan asked to follow up on communication from Ms. Dixon advertising an upcoming event. It also stated that the College was midway in a seven year project and that is news to the Council. Per her earlier conversation with Ms. Johnson, Jan thought we would be involved in

¹ We have met in the OCE&E Building since June 20, 2012 and in 220B since September 19, 2012.

² We met in the President's Boardroom from March 17, 1991 through April 18, 2007 – 16 years.

all stages of planning. Jan questioned whether there was a difference between a strategic plan and the long range campus plan. Ms. Johnson didn't know all about the strategic plan, but knew it had begun before her arrival and that there had been meetings held. She said there was an upcoming meeting on May 16th. Jan pointed out that the Council had not heard of the strategic plan or the previous meetings held. Kathleen pointed out that the seven year strategic plan is driven by the Northwest Division of Colleges and Universities, whereas the Master Plan is driven by the City. Jan restated her request that we be involved in all kinds of planning. Ms. Johnson said they were in compliance with the Master Plan, but would be working on a progress/status report in the coming months. The College would be working with the Department of Neighborhoods to be sure the College was in compliance with the Master Plan.

The College does not have funding at this time to build student housing. Ms. Johnson did not know what would be required precisely if they did obtain funding. Jan pointed out that we are all impacted by the College and affected by changes that are made.

New Schools. There was also discussion about the impact of the two new schools bringing buses and many additional cars into our neighborhood. Liz mentioned that the plans for the new schools included areas where portables could be/would be added. Ms. Johnson pointed out that if schools did not plan for portables, it was much more expensive to add them later when years down the line, portables would be needed by the schools. Jan pointed out that the College was not included in the planning for the schools, when there would be traffic impacts at the least. The School Department has not done in depth traffic studies, but rather have claimed that there would be no impact.

Aurora Licton Urban Village ("ALUV"). Jan explained to Ms. Johnson the formation of this new group which includes representatives from the Greenwood, Haller Lake, Green Lake and Licton Springs neighborhoods. The group has been involved in working on a grant proposal to improve the crosswalks on Aurora to be more noticeable and safer for both kids and adults. The adults would include people walking to the College, and Jan promised to provide a copy of the grant proposal to Ms. Johnson. ALUV would appreciate a letter of support from the College. The schools are coming on line next year, 2017. Ms. Johnson advised us to get to know the principals of the schools because when traffic concerns are brought to them, the principals are required to act.

What Is Going On. The College has lost \$1 Million in funding and now are trying to get money wherever it can, including instigating/raising rental rates. We have considered using other sites, but nothing has worked out as yet. Moving to the Blue Room is now an option and Liz offered to talk to Amy about what's available/cost for various locations at the College. Tom mentioned that it was really the principle that's important, not the cost. It seems that the College does not value our role in the community. Kathleen offered that we need to let

the folks who gives accreditation to the college know that they are not including the community in their historic role. Kathleen offered that the College is now a four year institution and the word community is out of their name. It's perhaps now like the UW interacting with their neighbors. Mindy Irvine offered that we should introduce ourselves to the College and let them know our value to them. Melanie offered that we need to decide what we want from them and realize that this is a new relationship. Jan added that, everything aside, it doesn't make sense that an institution having an impact on the community around them, doesn't feel it is necessary to reach out and communicate with that community. Discussion followed.

LSCC Website: Liz Kearns and Debra Willendorf have made the decision to go with In Motion hosting the LSCC website. The website should be up and running on Sunday. We won't be able to make any changes for two weeks. Lisa Henry has had our website backed up, so there will be no problem mounting on the website. Liz said that Lisa will not be the one to redesign the website, but she will continue to maintain it. We have time now to find the person who will update our website. Discussion followed. We need to know what to ask of/qualifications needed for the person who is chosen. Liz said that perhaps Lisa would be willing to vet the applicants. Jan said that we should include the College in our outreach.

A question was raised about the Franklin server. Kathleen said that the only thing on the Franklin server was the List Serve, which she also backs up. The parent company of the Franklin server lost track of it and it is still floating around in space with our List Serve the only thing on it. The Franklin server is functional and it is free. Kathleen located the parent company and they told her that the Franklin server does not exist anymore.³ At some point the parent company will discover the Franklin server and then it will disappear.

Kathleen also mentioned that the LSCC Facebook page has 200 friends. Kathleen told us that she has gone to the park and taken pictures of people with their dogs and told them to go to our Facebook page and like it to see pictures of their dogs!

Social Services Report. Mike Cuadra reported the needle course has now spread. He said the first course was held at the Masonic Lodge and the Lodge provided sharps containers and pickers. Forty to 50 people attended. Fremont is now going to do a course, as well as Capitol Hill. He is going to be meeting with Patricia Sully, a staff attorney, about an injection site, "safe house," where there is a nurse, access to services. Because of an interview on NPR, Mike has heard from people across the country. Jan asked for names and addresses of folks and institutions that supported the needle course, so we can send thank you notes.

³ This comment caused a big laugh!

Jan mentioned that ALUV's grant will next be considered by the Northwest District Council. She said that when she knew the date of the meeting, she'd spread the word.

Crime Report – Kathleen. Kathleen received responses to her February 27th letter regarding crime rates in the North Precinct from Brenda Joy Gilmore, Senior Executive Assistant, Office of the Chief of Police, from Tyler Emsky on behalf of Deborah Juarez, and from the Mayor's office. Kathleen also met with Karmen Shuur at the North Precinct. Her study showed that property crime had an unproportional increase in Licton Springs. Karmen said that was correct. How boundaries are set for micro-policing units makes a big impact on what the data looks like. They change the boundaries based on hearing from community groups and their officers. She said the Chief O'Toole is very interested in using data. Sea-Stat weekly meetings on crime statistics are open to the public. Kathleen is interested in attending a Sea-Stat meeting because there they decide allocation of officers.

Kathleen said she would also attend another North Precinct Advisory meeting because that was interesting. Also, she and Mindy are going to start a block watch.

Capstone Studio Project - UW Architecture School Master Study. Melanie said the eight students who focused on Northgate Elementary School did a presentation at the School. She said it would be interesting to meet with the principal there, a school where 24 languages are spoken and the kids are from low income homes. There was a good turnout. The Master students, who attend the University of Washington, School of Architecture, and specifically landscape architecture, are in the fourth week of spring quarter and the Master students, are now delving in specific areas of their project, which is their Master thesis. They have been working on this study for six months. May 9th will be the final presentation. Anyone can attend.

Jan said that the inspiration for ALUV's grant proposal was inspired by work of the graduate students.

Melanie and Jan also met Laura Jenkins at the Capstone meeting. Laura is with the Department of Neighborhoods and is the coordinator for the Mayor's Find It, Fix It Walk Program. She was excited in getting us involved in the program. It was suggested that we all reach out to Laura.⁴

Closing Comments. Ronald McKenzie said he and Pat attend the Epic Church and live in Phinney Ridge. Pat said she was impressed with our commitment. Richard said that he enjoys coming to our meetings and learning new things. Long term, he would love to see something happen with Aurora.

⁴ Laura Jenkins, DON, 600 – 4th Ave., 4th Fl., P.O. Box 94649, Seattle, WA 98124-4649; T. 206-233-5166; C 206-402-7788.

Jan said that next month she'd like us to voice projects the Board could and should take on. We do Halloween in the Park each year. We participate in Celebrate North Seattle. Kathleen would like to see the Board working closely with the North Precinct and establishing more block watches. She said that Karmen said the kind of crime developing here is more preventable.

Jan said she still has the books from when we had a book sale. We should think about an annual fundraiser now that we will have monthly expenses of room rent.

Our next meeting is Wednesday, May 18, 2016.

The meeting adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen M. Beck, Secretary

