

(approved)
LICTON SPRINGS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of General Membership Meeting, February 21, 2018
Meridian Center for Health, 10521 Meridian Ave. N., Seattle 98133

Directors Present: Ellen Beck, Jan Brucker, Thomas Stachiw, Melanie Davies, Tom Meyer, and Kathleen Braden.

Jan convened the meeting at 6:35 PM.

Mineral Springs and Licton Springs Parks: Thomas reported on needles found in Licton Springs Park and that he had called it in to the City's hotline for pickup. He also noted how nice the park looked after the recent work party led by Liz Kearns and Melanie added that Liz had made a great presentation on the park history at a recent ALUV meeting. Kathleen reminded people of the upcoming March 5 meeting on Mineral Springs Park with Randy Wiger of the City Parks Dept. Jan will send him the Your Voice Your Choice project idea she submitted on the park.

The minutes of Jan. 17 2018 were approved with several corrections and the Treasurer's Report of 11/01/2017 -1/31/2018 was approved.

Jan announced that she and Dave Barber had met with Debora Juarez Feb. 2 to draw attention to the impending availability of the Sam's Club property (13550 Aurora Ave. N.) and that Council Rep. Juarez was aware of that fact, might explore it for a North Precinct bldg., and acknowledged that the Licton Springs community was hoping for a community center.

M/S/A by unanimous vote of all present a change to By-Laws as follows: (1) Modify Article VII-5 which states that a quorum consists of six Board members. Change to "a majority of serving Board members". (2) Article VIII-1 on officers; change from vote in May to vote in April once Directors are confirmed as elected at April meeting (per Article VII-3-b) so there is not a month long gap in officers.

Group debriefed the Feb. 13 forum with Council rep. Debora Juarez sponsored by the D5 network at the Seattle Mennonite Church in Lake City. There will be an upcoming spring meeting with Council Members-at-Large Herbold and Mosqueda, perhaps with a slightly modified format.

The possibility of a Licton Springs Community Council spring event was discussed, perhaps coordinate with P-Patch managers at North Seattle College. The group discussed various options for an event.

Melanie discussed issue of a community center for the Licton Springs neighborhood and wondered if a smaller space might be more attainable with recreational space for children, meeting places. Kathleen noted that the Jehovah's Witness Hall, 10015 Ashworth N., is for sale. [secretary's note: Zillow says as of 2/23/18 it is off market but was listed for about \$1.1 million and zoned Single 5000 which allows for subdivision into 3 lands.] There followed general discussion of housing construction in the neighborhood, whether a Land Use Committee for the LSCC might be revived, but also idea that LSCC could join forces on this topic with ALUV.

Lee Bruch presented letter (attached) which he had circulated by email to members of LSCC from Northgate Bridge Coalition asking for support. Jan suggested we could support parts of the letter but it would be better for Licton Springs Community Council to express its views separately. She and melanie will work on a letter on this topic to circulate to the Council. the group discussed the various routes and the history of actions and discussion on the topic of the pedestrian-bicycle bridge over I-5.

Notes submitted by Kathleen Braden, Secretary LSCC

DRAFT LETTER FROM NORTHGATE BRIDGE COALITION

Mr. Goran Sparrman,
Interim Director, Seattle Department of Transportation

Dr. Warren Brown,
President, North Seattle College

Peter Rogoff,
Sound Transit Chief Executive Officer

Dear Dr. Brown, Mr. Rogoff, and Director Sparrman:

We represent a broad-based coalition of advocacy and community-based organizations that helped secure \$35 million towards construction of the Northgate Bicycle and Pedestrian Bridge, which would connect North Seattle College (NSC) to the future Northgate Link light rail station. We urge you to come to agreement on an easement across the NSC campus to accommodate the western landing for the bridge.

Our coalition has been advocating for the Northgate bridge for nearly six years. During that time, NSC has been a full partner at our coalition table, serving an integral role at critical junctions for this project. Former Vice President for Administrative Affairs Orestes Monteracy attended coalition strategy meetings and accompanied us to discussions with elected officials as we solicited funding.

After many years of effort, we are pleased to see the Northgate Bridge nearing design completion and construction. The barrier of the I-5 freeway that presently separates the light rail station site and NSC must be bridged to enable easier connections between these two important destinations. The nearest freeway crossings, Northgate Way to the north and N. 92nd Street to the south, are too far away to provide a viable walking connection between NSC and Northgate.

By directly linking NSC to the Sound Transit light rail system, the bridge will greatly benefit college students, faculty, and staff. By 2024 this light rail system will connect Lynnwood to Federal Way, and Seattle to Redmond, significantly expanding the number of potential students who can reach NSC on low cost, frequent, and reliable public transit. This direct connection to light rail will make it much easier for NSC students to pursue education and job training opportunities throughout the region, including taking classes at other colleges and universities such as Seattle Central College, Highline College, Edmonds College, the University of Washington, and Seattle University. The bridge will also be a great boon to the greater Northgate community, knitting this community closer together, fostering economic development in the burgeoning Northgate urban village, and increasing transit ridership (daily light rail boardings at the Northgate station would increase by an estimated 5%).

We are encouraged to hear reports of progress in negotiations between NSC and the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) over the easement for the bridge's western landing. These negotiations touch on issues that are vitally important for the successful operation of the bridge once it is completed. We hope that any easement agreement includes a clear delineation of roles and responsibilities for bridge maintenance and security. Sound Transit can enhance the success of the bridge by arranging its overnight closure of Northgate station so as to maintain continuous access between the bridge and transit center via the station mezzanine level.

We do not support the straight east-west alignment along N 100th Street favored by Prof. John Figge in his February 8 guest editorial in the Seattle Times. This proposal contains several fatal flaws and should be eliminated from any further serious consideration. It would environmentally impact the adjacent Bartonwood Sanctuary, harming wetlands and requiring the removal of a significant number of trees. This in turn would necessitate costly environmental permitting and mitigation. This alignment also threatens to disturb the many utility lines running along that corridor, entailing very high restoration and/or relocation costs. Furthermore, major revisions this late in the design process threatens to delay bridge completion. It is imperative that the bridge is finished prior to the opening of the Northgate light rail station in 2021.

The greater Northgate community looks forward to working with SDOT, NSC, and Sound Transit as the Northgate Bridge advances closer to completion. It is time to move forward and build this important project.

<<signatures>>

cc: Seattle Mayor Jenny A. Durkin

District 5 Councilmember Debora Juarez

District 6 Councilmember Mike O'Brien, Sustainability & Transportation Committee Chair

District 4 Councilmember Rob Johnson, Planning, Land Use, & Zoning Committee Chair

46th District Senator David Frockt

46th District Representative Gerry Pollet

46th District Representative Javier Valdez

Seattle Colleges Board of Trustees