



Green Lake Community Council Meeting Minutes Wednesday, January 9, 2013

Katie Gray – Seattle Parks Department

Winter projects involve many types of deferred maintenance – trimming, edging, leaf pickup. No special projects currently planned at Green Lake.

Question about lights around the pathway had come in from the neighborhood. It would be extremely expensive, and some support and oppose it. Also has an impact on wildlife. No lights planned.

Question from attendee about concrete pads – will any be removed? (Pads put in by pool near lake. Were not approved by community.) Two pads are still planned to be removed. Want to get them removed to have time to rehabilitate the area quickly.

Question from attendee about alum treatment – overdue? Is that Parks responsibility? Yes, planned for 2015.

Officer Penelope Fulmer – Seattle Police Department North Precinct

Car prowls around Green Lake come in grow in rashes. Peak around holiday times. Best deterrent is not to leave anything in your vehicle that might be seen by someone who might want it.

Burglaries are also an issue, especially during the daytime. Try to keep an eye out and report any suspicious behavior. Better to offend someone than allow a neighbor to be burglarized. Also report any suspicious behavior in the park, including homeless (not that homeless qualifies as suspicious behavior.)

Question from attendee about assaults along Aurora. Seems to be an increase? It comes and goes, but not aware of any current abnormal issue. Recommends not showing high dollar items (eg phone) around “85th and Aurora”, late at night.

Recommend porch lights be on dusk until dawn, or use a motion sensor. Lock doors & windows.

Paul Kostek – Mayor’s Safe Communities Program – Thursday January 17th
6-8pm, Hearthstone “Board Room” – 6720 E Green Lake Way

Mary Muller – Land Use Committee Formation

Mary has volunteered to chair the committee. Still a temporary moratorium on height limits. If you want to get involved or let the committee know if an issue, please contact Mary.

Michael Cornell – Real Estate Report

People often ask him if the market is picking up. The market is quiet brisk. For the month of December for the area around Green Lake, for houses and condos:
-Average original asking price was \$474k
- Average list \$461k
98.1% of asking price.
47 days on market – normal is between 60 & 90
Prices are a hair lower than a year ago, but would caution against reading into that. Very little inventory. Not enough on the market for buyers to buy.

Updates are posted on michaelcornell.com

Lee Bruch – Blanche HS Lights Project

Large amounts of documents have been submitted to the city planning department on November 20th, 2012 – both by the group against it and Blanchet

In early December, “Concerned Blanchet Neighbors” submitted more documents, and against on December 17th. Expected the city to make a decision by the end of last year. On December 24th, they put partial comments about some transportation items. No comments have been made about total land use. Believes that their case is legally strong enough to require the city to deny the project.

There was a large group of people working to reach compromise. Over the summer there were very unproductive conversations. More recently, the president of that group sent a message to his group to get on board with the group that is in full opposition.

Waiting for the city to respond. Has hired an attorney and a sound acoustic expert. City had asked Blanchet to find such an expert, but they reportedly did not.

Are certain there will be appeals no matter which way the decision goes.

Group believes they don’t meet the requirements for all requirements for a variance. Has found in city records that there are three major permit violations.

1 – Sound amplification system – city had requirements and Blanchet did not follow them at all.

2 – Press box in west bleachers – never authorized through land use. Original permit doesn't show it, later permit shows it as existing. No records of a permit for that.
3 – Blanchet as turned two existing houses from residential to offices, which is not allowed by law. Houses are more than 4000 sf, which thus require a new transportation management plan. “Making a big deal of that one”

Believe there are a number of SEPA violations.

Question: Would letter writing do any good?

Answer: Technically the city is supposed to ignore. However, after talks with city planners, they do listen to neighbors.

BlanchetNeighbors.com

Gayle Garman – Friends of Green Lake

Continue to monitor lake on a weekly basis. Last temp was 46°F. Clarity remains good and no accumulation of algae. Tentatively the parks have budgeted \$1.5M for an alum treatment in 2015, suggests reminding the city to make sure that's where they money is spent.

Starting work on a comprehensive management plan for Green Lake. Started working on it at the last meeting. Working on developing a database of stakeholders – from the Hearthstone, swimmers, rowers, people using the path, other neighborhoods that come to the lake. Looking for a lot of community input, thought and support.

Come to meeting at the Hearthstone on January 22nd.

Concerned about channel catfish that were planted by the state last summer. They are not native.

Ellen Hewitt – NW District Council Report

Next meeting will have six “Bridging the Gap” function projects discussed. Three will move on. Third and final part of “Bridging the Gap”.

Paul Kostek - SPD NW Precinct Report

Still looking for a community representative to attend the meetings. Many people are not leaving their doors locked or taking basic precautions. Reminded to ask questions if there's anything unusual.

The next meeting is the February the 6th

Keith Dahlgren – Seattle Public Theater

This weekend middle school kids open a production of *Anne of Green Gables*. Show is free. Right after that they begin “tech rehearsal” for *The Understudy*. January 25th – February 17th. “Fun and an insight into the rehearsal process... interesting example of art vs commerce”.

Received good reviews from last year's shows. New heating, new roof. New seats, and the new MOHI has many of their old seats on display.

Paul Kostek - Emergency Preparedness Meeting

Wednesday January 30th @ the Hearthstone in the Board Room