



## **Green Lake Community Council Meeting Minutes Wednesday, March 13, 2013**

**7:05 pm – Paul Kostek call to order, introductions**

### **Candidate for Mayor – Charles Staadecker**

(Council does not endorse candidates, though allows them to present)

Attended Franklin High School. Was in the Army, then attended Cornell University. Worked at two international hotel companies – worked outside of the US. Came back to Seattle and started a commercial real estate company. For the last 30 years has had an office in Seattle. Involved in placing a wide range of retail shops from Bellingham to Medford. Served for two terms on the Vashon Island School Board – School Board of the Year for WA at that time.

Moved back to Seattle about 10 years ago. Is Board Chair of Puget Sound ESD. Education is very important to him, as are the arts. Business career ran some very complex entities, aligning divergent opinions.

Believes the city has a lot going for it. Though we're considered a "smart city", we are 46<sup>th</sup> out of 50 of states that send high school graduates to university. Education is critical. "A mayor needs to champion education." "And uneducated city is a city in decline."

Four pillars:

1. Jobs and economic sustainability
2. Education
3. Safety and core services
4. Quality of life

The city can't look to the state and federal government for help, needs to develop it within itself. Considers current leadership "polarized and divisive". Will have to look within, as a city, to grow. Wants to grow and increase small business, as well as large.

He issues a plea for people to get involved in the election. Will run as he is [transparent]. Does not have political patronage nor baggage. Will bring with him people with great minds and great heart. "Believe in Seattle"

Q: Will you take one of the four pillars and detail it?

A: Education – A school board manages the schools. True. But 85-86% of a students waking hours are outside of school. Believes it starts with a pregnant mom. Cites nutrition. Early education is key, and has worked on early education programs. "We need to invest in early education." Additionally, during high school, a mayor needs to help with internship programs. After high school, during college, there are many opportunities to get involved with our major universities. Involve students in government projects – eg architecture.

Core Services & Infrastructure – Don't recall the last time the city did a full transparent study on our current infrastructure – water main, electrical grid... what are we going to do in the future? "For many of our roads we've been using glue and band-aids." From a study, map out how to create a great infrastructure.

Q: City & Major signed a paid sick-leave ordinance. State legislature is trying to take that right away. Do you support paid sick-leave and secondly what would you do to try to uphold the city voter's wish?

A: Paid sick-leave is a great and noble idea, but we have to make sure we don't lose businesses. "By the way, I am for it." The problem he has with it was there wasn't enough discussion with businesses. Businesses have found the way it was implemented was very cumbersome.

As far as the state vs the city, doesn't have a strong legal background and on that can't answer.

Q: My concern is not the thing that won't be improved, but the thing that will enable that improvement to occur. We have a failing core transportation system for the people who need to get goods and services through Seattle. (Cites some transportation problems... ports, taking away of I-5 alternative.)

A: Washington State is the most rail dependent state in the nation. If our system is broken, if there are not dedicated ways to get goods to the Midwest (as well as the opposite direction), we will be in trouble. Would ask that the same energy that we've put into advocating basketball, would be put into advocating our port. We have to spend money to have dedicated roads to get goods in and out of the port.

Q: You brought up the Sonics. I'm not sure if I missed it, but I don't think I ever voted on that. Who's going to pick up the tab? How to insulate the city from costs?

A: Should the city invest its loan capacity for private interest? According to the charter, the mayor and council can do that. The question is, if you use that money for private enterprise, what does that do for our roads? It does not have an impact on the ability to deliver other services.

“The only reason I’m running is because I care deeply about the city.”

[www.charlieformayor.org](http://www.charlieformayor.org)

### **SDOT – Jonathan Dong**

Planned changes to Aurora & N 65<sup>th</sup> St. Bus stop for route 358 – very busy. A number of pedestrian challenges – lack of sidewalks, lack of curb ramps and a lot of speeding in that particular section. Proposing a new southbound bus stop just south of where the gas station used to be. Northbound would use the same stop, except on Woodlawn.

Intersection improvement at Aurora and N 66<sup>th</sup> St. New curb ramps and tighten up that intersection so that it’s more of a standard right turn. Add 130’ long sidewalk to replace existing broken sidewalk. Add planting buffer between pedestrians and Aurora. There will now be an all-way stop at Woodlawn Pl and N 65<sup>th</sup> St, southbound. Q from audience about accidents there. SDOT has not checked for data there.

Bus will now stop on southbound Aurora, rather than Woodlawn. Audience comment: will now bring one lane in a smooth flowing area to a stop.

Bus will block one lane of traffic.

### **Land Use Committee Report – Mary Muller**

Opportunity for people who are interested in providing feedback to DPD for the neighborhood guidelines for Green Lake. City Council is currently looking at updating multifamily residences. Our neighborhood has its own guidelines.

Please contact Mary if you are interested in providing your feedback. This is your opportunity!

### **Friends of Green Lake, next meeting March 26<sup>th</sup>**

Look at FOGL’s Facebook page for updates on the lake – new warning signs up.

### **NW District Council Report**

Discussion on Rapid Ride.

Safe Youth for Seattle matching grants – information on City of Seattle website.

New project – some area residents will be able to choose street trees – select one or one will be selected for you.

### **Blanchet High School Update**

City has still not made a decision about the lights. (70’ light towers and 30’ speakers.) Was supposed to be decided upon January. School owns some houses and were using for offices, but is a zoning violation. Have to vacate homes or apply for variance. Press box was built without permit. School must tear it down or apply it for permits.

### **SPD NW Precinct Report**

Top five issues discussed as part of safe communities event:

Drugs, low-level crime, burglaries, homeless and greater police presence. Discussion about how to deal with it. Other than burglaries and car prowls, this area is a fairly safe area. Police are trying to find ways for outreach. Can have discussions with police in your own home.

### **Seattle Public Theater – Keith Dahlgren**

Just finished a middle school production of *Romeo and Juliette*. This weekend, production of *Measure for Measure*. Professional show starting March 29<sup>th</sup> – *Edith Can Shoot Things and Hit Them*. A show about outcasts – kids basically abandoned by their father. Suggested for high schoolers+

### **Green Lake Chamber of Commerce - Dr Barry Gjerdrum**

Chamber was present many years ago, just over year ago a group got it going again with membership just over 20. Our vision is to bring the business community of Green Lake with the neighborhood of Green Lake. Believes when events are held, the businesses need to help on behalf of our neighborhood.

Next meeting is April 22<sup>nd</sup> – lunch meeting. Often meet at a restaurant or at the Hearthstone.

### **Seattle City Council – City Land Use committee member - Tim Burgess**

Tomorrow city takes up an issue related to small lots. Council had imposed an emergency moratorium. Tomorrow will receive report from DPD.

Soon will be taking up the issue of increasing heights in the South Lake Union area – south to Denny Way. Wants to protect public view corridors, and affordable workforce housing (\$39k-\$50k/yr incomes). Doesn't believe the mayor's plan goes far enough.

Annual city budget is approximately \$4 billion. Vast majority goes towards utilities and the cities capital investments. Approximately \$920-950 is general operating fund. 57% of that goes towards public safety.

Very concerned about growing backlog of maintenance work. Cannot continue to ignore the basic maintenance and repair that we need in the city.

Q: Many people are concerned about tall houses being built on small lots. What is your take on that?

A: Voted in favor of the moratorium. Will hear report tomorrow. "Am sure there's going to be some very lively discussion." Found cottage houses worked well and is now allowed city wide. Believes we need to do the same on these lot divisions. First emergency vote in over a decade.

Q: What's the current thought on density?

A: We currently follow a practice of "concentrated density" – urban villages & urban centers. SLU is an example. Allow density to build up around major transit stations, and along our transportation corridors. Big mistake was we started light rail and have started building it, but it's been operating now from downtown to the airport for four years, and are just now considering legislation about light rail stations in South Seattle.

**Email list possibly moving to MailChimp – Forrest**

Currently handled manually. Suggested moving to MailChimp and asked for feedback.