



Green Lake Community Council

Meeting Notes

Date: May 13, 2009, 7-9 PM

Location: The Hearthstone, 6720 East Green Lake Way N., Seattle, Washington 98103

- I. **Meeting begins at 7:00 PM.** Intro skipped to get started quickly, as some need to leave early.
 - A **Larry Phillips, King County Councilman** – running for King County Executive. Grew up in Seattle, near Lake Washington. Moved to Magnolia. Graduated in 1973 from UW. Went to law school. Was on Sound Transit board. Worked his way up to county council.
 1. Wants to keep farmland protected. 155,000 acres protected
 2. Focus on urban core. Create new urban communities and infrastructure to support that. (Update on light rail plans and expansion.)
 3. Economic challenge. Plans to use infrastructure expansion to create jobs. “Tens of thousands of jobs.”
 4. Stabilize public safety functions – already required by state to do so.
 5. Gives overview of campaign – larryphillips.com – funding, individuals involved
 6. Questions:
 - a. “How would you differ from other candidates?” - Great knowledge of county government. Hiring good people, holding them accountable. Cites experience of high level decision making. None of the opponents have the same experience.
 - b. “How would you collaborate with the other stakeholders?” Cites endorsements with mayors, as he has already worked with them collaboratively. Example of salmon recovery plan used to create a solid plan without costly lawsuits. This was done by collaborating with local government.
 - c. “County is facing a lot of revenue drops. Do you see a way to see money out of

the budget?” We've already cut \$200M out of the general fund, have already prioritized. Must work with state, but state has presented a “failing business plan” where mandates are issued but the funds and authority to tax to generate funds are not provided. Wants to work to make counties self-sufficient. Efficiency example: 268 people in the county assessors office. Today, there's more parcels to assess, but only 211 employees.

d. “Is there an opportunity to get some of the Fed stimulus funds to help with transportation problems?” Was part of a team to argue for state funds – WA was first state to do paperwork to get funds. King county was one of the first counties to do the same. Wants to put emphasis on transit programs to solve problems.

e. June 6, 1pm – kickoff party

B. Dow Constantine, King County Councilman – running for King County Executive. Grew up in West Seattle. Product of public schools. Mom taught at Madison Jr. High. Both parents are retired teachers. Went to UW and UW School of Law. Served in State House and State Senate.

1. Introduced first climate change legislation in WA, in 1987. Has been a leader on environmental protection. Grandparents from Snohomish County. Has been dragged through ten years of litigation to try and preserve Puget Sound. Hopes people see him as putting up a fight for what's right.

2. Believes a “culture change” needs to take place in county government. (Cut cost mismanagement.)

a. “How would you differ from other candidates?” Has been very committed to making change. Has been willing to take on others on numerous issues, including performance based government.

b. “Tell us about your priorities for the transportation issues.” Believes past decisions have created current circumstances. Wants to create transportation between “employment and residential centers.” Chairman of transit oversight committee. Wants to make sure we're not building a system we can't afford to operate.

c. “How do you reconcile the cost of performance measures at this time?” Insist that we have a clear mission statement and vision and goals. If we fail to do those things, then we'll never be able to get to the inefficiencies. Need to have a permanent mechanism in place to do this. Not much left to cut. Must enroll employees in efficiency. Have clear measures in place to quantify them.

d. “You're basically talking about accountability. How are the people there going to be held accountable?” If you don't engage the employees in how to make the change, the inertia will have a tendency to drag you down. Provide them assurances that the efficiency won't put them out on the street. Already enough attrition, don't need to lay anyone off.

e. “Most of city is served by busses. May have to cut service. Have you thought

about how this impacts people?” “40/40/20” - (Means 80% of all new bus hours will go somewhere besides Seattle, Shoreline & Lake Forest Park.) Need to embrace other residential centers. If we could serve to these areas, we would likely get more support for increased funding

- f. Need to shift tax revenue from sales tax (very volatile) to other taxes which are more stable

C. **David Ginsberg – Candidate for Seattle City Council.** Concerned about the future his adopted children face. Believes current leadership doesn't have a sense of urgency. “It's time for change.” Believes current managements put “process over progress.”

1. Economy comes first. “Get out of the way.” Council implemented square footage tax, causing small businesses to leave Seattle. Would like to city partner with universities and colleges, and other areas, where the unemployed can take good ideas and create their own businesses.
2. Transit & Transportation – Anticipates 140k new people in next 30 years – can't build enough roads to support that.
3. Affordability – worried kids won't be able to raise their families here.
 - a. “Where do you come from, what's your background, what makes you qualified?” Born and raised here. Went to UW. Spent last six years at WAMU, in charge of large technology projects. Active in politics for entire life. Organized present for Obama campaign. Served as LD captain.
 - b. “Transit. Concerned about transit programs that are more of a novelty than effective.” Had great streetcar system until 1940's.
 - c. “What solution do you see a two-lane tunnel under the city offers?” Doesn't like it. Doesn't want a tunnel. Wants to plan for solutions for the next century.
 - d. “Mentioned housing affordability. How would you address that?” By making sure we have enough housing to house everyone. Increased development and increased development. “Denser housing doesn't so much mean less expensive housing.” Cites supply & demand.

D. **Greg Phipps – I-5 Construction – Brock Bender** – Recap of what was said in March. Concrete panel replacement, and pavement grinding. Most of the work from south end to Eastlake has been done. Ship canal north remains, though much of it has been done.

1. 85th north, this week, next week and following night. Two lanes northbound to be closed at night.
2. Brought earplug – same earplugs the workers use.

3. Grinding sometimes has to stop for mechanical reasons. Will continue through July, possibly longer. "Triage" - fixing worst of the worst. Fixes may last up to 10 years. Some projects funded in 2017 to make other replacements. Considering a test section of quieter pavement.
 4. I-90 – closures in July on westbound lanes.
- E. **Friends of Green Lake – Gayle Garman.** Water temp 59° - 18' clarity. No more water skiing on lake. Next meeting May 26. Looking for people who would like to help out. Milk carton boat races – Saturday, July 11th. July 28th – Friends of Green Lake Picnic.
 - F. **McDonald School – Mark** – Installation phase has begun. Basketball hoop installed. Old wooden structure was torn down. New play structure going in. New benches and play tables as well. Spring clean-up up at 9am on May 30. June 13th – 10-12 - "Friends of McDonald School Fun Fest" kids activities, music, ribbon cutting event. Everyone from community is invited.
 - G. **Sustainable Green Lake – Leif** – Sustainable communities all over Puget Sound. Meets third Tuesday of every month at 6:30 PM. Mix of education and community building. Presentation on composting. All about living more sustainably. Recent projects include chicken coup co-op. Working with stewardship partners to put in a rain garden. Sustainablegreenlake.com
 - H. **Hearthstone Expansion – Stan Gregory** – One block east of current location. Four story, 28 units, with retail stores. Demolition has completed. Not sure when construction will take place. Currently in pre-sale phase. Asked by bank to sell 70% of units. Then funding will be available, though current interest rates offered are high. Nine months to build. Phase two isn't even under consideration right now.
 - I. **Introductions of secretary candidates** – postcards would be their responsibility.
 - J. **Northwest District Council – Blayne McAferty** – Greenwood/Phinney, Licton Springs & Green Lake Council – Blayne McAferty – Focusing on affordable housing and parking zones. Korean community council is meeting in Greenwood, is looking for a more permanent structure. Neighborhood street fund. \$90k worth of street improvements. Includes a possible shade garden at Wynona and 76th.
 - K. **Seattle PD North Precinct - Bernie Kay** – Pistol whipping incident, leader of group got 28 years. Unsure about deportation. Going away party for chief Gil - 21st of May - \$20. North Seattle burglaries are on the increase – flat screen TVs. ID theft from stealing of cell phones. GPS from cars – take holder off as well as unit otherwise thieves go looking in the car. Police are cracking down on jaywalking and cars not stopping for crosswalks – marked or unmarked.
 1. People living in the park – call 911. If they are trespassing on your private property, 911 as well. Neil Hanson - "Community Police Team" - can take reports on smaller issues.
 2. Funding has been in place for more officers. They are still in the academy. Still trying to get funding for officer who tracked graffiti.

- L. **Seattle Public Theater – Historic Bathhouse Theater at Green Lake – Kieth Dahlgren** - “A Wedding Story” open on Friday, runs through 7th of June. British play about a family. Parents are professionals, mother has Alzheimers, daughter falls in love with a woman. Final production of theater. Youth productions in summer. Up to a dozen productions this year – The Jungle Book with middle-schoolers, and others with ages 5-21.

II. **Meeting adjourns at 9 PM.**

Meeting notes recorded by Forrest Corbett.