

Magnuson Park Advisory Committee

May 11, 2022

MPAC Present: Aaron Hoard, Katie Parker, Mary Ellen Bicknell, Ruth Fruland, Robin Melvin (co-chair), Jan Bragg (co-chair)

Presenters: Don Baxter and Elisa Law

Also present: Councilmember Alex Pedersen, John Doerschuk, Virginia B., Ben Burtzos (SPR), Brian Judd (SPR)

Introductions

6:01 PM Co-chairs call meeting to order. Brief introductions of those present.

Approval of consent items

5/11/22 agenda approved by unanimous consent

3/9/22 minutes – some confusion about wording. Jan asked for confused language to be stricken. Katie Parker clarifies that Mercy did not manage the property for Solid Ground and that Allied Residential is now the property manager for SG. With these adjustments, the minutes are approved by unanimous consent.

Presentation by Don Baxter (Seattle Animal Shelter)

13 field officers patrol parks in pairs. Rotation as complaints come in, as well as general rotation. Get requests from SPR for extra patrols, e.g., at low tide, focus on beach access. At Magnuson, a variety of activities/assets create a unique situation. If violation is seen, officers will educate or cite violators. Emphasis on education. Issues: feces in playgrounds, damage to assets, wildlife disruption. 1st infraction: \$54, then 109, 156, 162 for 4th infraction on. SAS are limited commission officers – cannot arrest or detain. Rely on SPD to identify individuals. We hope that education begets education. 7 day a week operation, except holidays (shelter does operate on holidays). Hours 9-7 but do adjust if need be.

Jan asks about specific visitation by SAS to Magnuson. DB responds that the larger parks get more attention, because they have a much larger volume of dogs. If there is a higher volume of complaints in one park, there will be an emphasis patrol for two weeks (daily presence) and then reevaluate. Try not to come to the same park at the same time of day.

Robin asks about appropriate public interaction with owners of OL dogs. SAS doesn't necessarily encourage confrontation, but if you feel comfortable, lead with education. Providing vehicle license plates can also begin that confirmation.

Brian asks how to provide that report. Don replies that reports can be made online (seattleanimalshelter.org) or by calling SAS at (206) 386-7387 (PETS). Online is preferred so that the phone can be kept free for emergency. In emergencies such as dog attack, always okay to call 911.

Robin asks how to identify SAS staff. Vehicles are marked, but a little bit lower-key. Current uniforms are tactical pants with vest, tan shirt, green jacket. Will be transitioning to green uniform. Officers will display badge.

Jan asks where to go to voice support for increased SAS presence. Don replies that SAS has partnered with SPR in the past but is not 100% sure where to go to increase budgeting for safety/security for increased parks patrols. Brian offers that any letter of support can go to CW and SPR can figure it out from there. Don says Esteban Rodriguez in FAS would be the analogous person for SAS.

Robin asks about correlation between OL areas in parks and incidents. Don reports that he doesn't notice much correlation, except for OL activity between designated OL area and parking lots.

Jan expresses concern regarding equity – many OL offenders are people of visible privilege, and increased enforcement officer presence may have an adverse impact. Don affirms that most offenders are Caucasian but recognizes that the dress and gear used can appear threatening. Some outreach is also done for houseless community. Regardless, SAS is aware of the potential and likely reality of the anxiety and negative perception. The field of animal control has changed substantially in the last 20+ years

Announcements from Members

Neighbor Care Clinic at Mercy Magnuson has re-opened.

Osprey nesting at the soccer field may have eggs because she is sitting very low. Bird pictures changed at the kiosk by the boat ramp for the new season (migration and summer).

Public Comment

Council Member Pedersen mentions Parks District funding process (ongoing). Jan asks for clarification re: how to make voice heard. Alex outlines different methods to make voice heard. Katie celebrates planned construction of marked crosswalk from Mercy to Magnuson CC, and thanks CM Pedersen for his advocacy. Aaron also thanks CM.

Manager's Report [see attached]

Manager Q&A

Jan expresses concern that the MPAC letter of 9/2021 was misinterpreted [see attached]. Brian understands the misinterpretation and tentatively commits to writing up a formal agreement not to bring in any future permanent fossil fuel burning truck or vendor. Some discussion of potential location for possible electrification pedestal or similar.

Outdoors For All has decided not to move forward with proposal to assume control of Building 18.

CM Pedersen reiterates opportunity for public comment at BPRC meeting tomorrow. Burtzos fills in some logistical details.

Friends of Magnuson Park Presentation

Elisa Law (FOMP) introduces proposed idea for walking tour panels for guardhouse structure.

Concerns about visibility to pedestrians. FOMP are also working on putting together an architecture tour on mobile platforms. Overview of potential pictures for inclusion led by Elisa.

Ideas for mural project on Building 2 windows.

1. First World Flight commemoration
2. Photograph/collage portrait project representing current vs. historic park
3. Focus on indigenous history of Sand Point, with maps and botanical drawings

Some discussion of timeline and various options for support. Brian offers support in concept because murals add value and decrease vandalism to buildings. No real opposition to any ideal; general support for idea #3.

Ongoing business

SDOT for next meeting? Brian says hold on, waiting to hear back on damage to turf.

Robin volunteers to chair next meeting. Jan volunteers to co-chair.

7:42 Meeting adjourns.

Magnuson Park Advisory Committee (MPAC)
Report from Seattle Parks and Recreation (SPR) – Brian M. Judd
May 11, 2022

Topic	Updates/Notes
Welcome to Ben Burtzos!	<p>Ben Burtzos is the Administrative Specialist for the Magnuson Admin. team. A portion of his work plan includes providing support to the Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners (BPRC) and MPAC. These duties for MPAC include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taking and retaining meeting notes. • Maintaining the web site. • Coordinating Webex meetings. • Seeking information requested by the group. <p>I am pleased to have Ben on the team. Please take a moment to welcome him.</p>
MPAC Webex Details	<p>In connection with what I have written above, Ben will be updating the Webex settings on our recurring meetings. This will mean the log-in information for the meetings will change and he will ensure everyone has the updated information.</p>
Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners (BPRC) Public Hearing – May 12th.	<p>(Follow-up from a previous email)</p> <p>Ben sent out information about this public hearing to the group, including the proposals under consideration.</p> <p>Brian will show on his screen the proposal specific to Magnuson Park.</p>
Acting Superintendent response to MPAC letter on gas generators	<p>Christopher Williams responded to MPAC’s letter about reducing the number of businesses in the park using gas generators regularly. While he did not commit to this policy, he did point out the City’s overall plans to reduce reliance on natural gas in city buildings and the piloting of installing an electric pedestal in Denny Park for food trucks.</p> <p>Magnuson Park is under consideration for future electric pedestal. This may lend itself to reducing the use of gas generators for food trucks and other, similar businesses.</p>

<p>One Seattle Day of Service</p> <p>To learn more about the event and register to volunteer visit: seattle.gov/dayofservice</p>	<p>(Follow-up from a previous email)</p> <p>I encourage MPAC members to sign-up for the One Seattle Day of Service scheduled for Saturday, 5/21. I will be participating at Hutchinson Park in the Rainier Beach neighborhood.</p>
<p>Building 18 Shed Collapse</p>	<p>(Follow-up from a previous email)</p> <p>A shed attached to Building 18 (former firehouse) collapsed a few weeks ago from a series of heavy rainstorms. This shed is not indicative of the rest of the building's condition and the rest of the building is sound.</p>
<p>Request for Additional Recycle Bins</p>	<p>Thanks to Jan Bragg for pulling together a map of proposed locations for additional recycle bins at Magnuson Park. I have sent this map to the North District Manager who oversees the crews that maintain our outdoors spaces.</p> <p>5/11 Update – NE Crew response indicated an openness to this plan and included some costs associated with it.</p>