



The City of Seattle

Ballard Avenue Landmark District Board

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BLD 30/22

MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 6, 2022 MEETING

TIME: 9:00 A.M.
PLACE: Ballard Neighborhood Service Center
5604 22nd Ave NW Seattle, WA 98107

BOARD MEMBERS

Sandy Wolf, Chair
Kaia Wahmanholm, Vice Chair
Angela Economou (participated remotely)
Cass O'Callaghan
Tommy Patrick

STAFF

Minh Chau Le

Absent:

Mark Durall
Joseph Herrin

As a quorum was present, the meeting was called to order at 9:14 a.m. by Board Chair Sandy Wolf.

100622.1 BOARD BUSINESS

Discussion regarding potential legislation related to land use decisions:

The staff reported that the Board's input on potential legislation made at the September 1 Board meeting had been provided to Department of Neighborhoods. The staff distributed a written summary of the Board's recommendations and said that the content of the legislation to be proposed was still being deliberated by Department of Neighborhoods.

Cass O'Callaghan asked how to address an e-mail sent to the full Board, by Board member Joe Herrin, related to the topic of legislation. Tommy Patrick suggested the e-mail be read into the record.

Sandy Wolf stated communications among the full Board outside of a Board meeting is discouraged and not consistent with procedures.

The staff stated all Board communications should occur at a noticed public meeting to comply with Open Public Meetings Act.

The Board requested to include further discussion related to the legislation on its next agenda.

Ballard Avenue Design Charette:

Tommy Patrick and Kaia Wahmanholm provided a summary of the September 16, 2022 Ballard Avenue Design Charette convened by Councilmember Dan Strauss' office, stating the goal was to gather feedback on safety measures implemented in summer 2022.

Board members expressed an understanding for the need to adopt short term measures allowing for street cafes in response to Covid. Board members stated the cafes did not all fully meet District aesthetic standards and better adherence to guidelines was needed going forward towards longer term use.

Cass O'Callaghan said they detracted greatly from the historic feel of the neighborhood.

The Board discussed the short term safety measures implemented in summer 2022, citing that some improvements had been gained in pedestrian safety and loading conditions but some components detracted for the District's historical character.

The staff said that SDOT shared a preliminary idea to develop a pre-approved street café plan and that further discussion should take place regarding how the concept would fit within the approval structure of a historic district.

Regulation and compliance:

Staff reviewed the procedure for handling non-compliance with the District requirements to obtain a Certificate of Approval for physical alterations. The Department of Neighborhoods is the first contact and infractions could then be referred to SDCI, which has the ability to issue notices of violation. Staff noted a large volume of compliance work City-wide and stated the Historic Preservation Program would be coordinating a Citywide outreach effort to business and business owners.

Tommy Patrick suggested that fines can be an effective deterrent.

Cass O'Callaghan requested the Board have the opportunity to review outgoing outreach materials.

Sandy Wolf requested the topic be included on the next Board meeting agenda.

100622.2 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes had not been prepared for approval.

100622.3 REPORT OF THE CHAIR

There was none.

100622.4 STAFF REPORT

Staff reported one administrative approval issued since the September Board meeting for the Matador Restaurant outdoor dining structure.

Staff reported that the candidates for the Positions of Architect and Community Historian were awaiting confirmation by Seattle City Council.

Staff reported that materials for the annual Board member election had been released, noted the upcoming October 18 deadline for nomination and voter registration, and provided nomination and registration forms.

10:05 a.m. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Minh Chau Le
Board Coordinator