

Magnuson Park Advisory Committee

Meeting Notes

May 10, 2023

MPAC Members Present: Samantha De Abreu, Jan Bragg, Ruth Fruland, Mary Bicknell, Gabrielle Gerhard, Bladimir Recinos

SPR Staff and Presenters: Lisa Nielsen, Kim LeMay, Brian Judd, Ben Burtzos

Welcome and Introductions

De Abreu calls the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

MPAC members and SPR staff introduce themselves and share one thing that went well this week.

- Bragg shares that SDOT has agreed to paint a crosswalk across NE 74th St at 62nd Ave NE. This project has been added to SDOT's prioritization schedule.

De Abreu asks for a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the April 12 MPAC meeting. The vote is unanimous in favor.

Adopted: April 12, 2023, MPAC Meeting Minutes

De Abreu asks for a motion to approve tonight's meeting agenda. The vote is unanimous in favor.

Adopted: May 10, 2023, MPAC Meeting Agenda

Announcements and Public Comment

Gerhard shares that Sand Point Arts and Cultural Exchange (SPACE) will be hosting its Paint Out event on June 3rd. This event will have artists creating art in the *en plein air* style, out in the park. The newest SPACE art exhibit will run from May 11 through June 16, culminating with an open gallery on June 17.

Fruland provides an update on behalf of Friends of Magnuson Park. FOMP has provided a new flag for the park; Mitch Cameron raises and lowers the flag, and the University of Washington provides lighting for the flagpole. Fruland also provides update on the 100th anniversary of the first around the world flight; the Washington State House of Representatives recently passed HR 4646, recognizing FOMP and the importance of the event.

De Abreu updates the group regarding the lighting on 62nd Ave NE. Full lighting replacement may take up to 3 years due to historic district concerns. De Abreu has made request to replace the bulbs in the fixtures with non-historic lighting options for now while historic requirements can be met.

Event Planning Overview

Lisa Nielsen, Athletic & Events Scheduling Manager, delivers the presentation.

The Event Scheduling office handles short-term rentals and scheduling for a variety of park facility uses, including picnic shelters and tables, indoor rental sites, ceremonies, memorials, day camps,

commercial filming, and outdoor events. There are two different avenues, one for indoor, the other for outdoor events.

Park Use Permit Process

- Application submittal
 - Reviewed between 5-15 days of receipt
- Confirmation
 - Event is reviewed for content/specifics
 - If space is available, no major concerns
 - Incomplete applications take more follow-up
 - Details with notes/questions
- Permits
 - Sent to event organizer two weeks prior to event
- Conflicts/Concurrent Events
 - Typically do not permit
 - Exceptions and considerations
 - For Magnuson specifically, one exception may be for small or medium sized events with sufficient physical distance between them (i.e., amphitheater and beach)
- Fees - dependent upon assets utilized
 - There is an hourly fee (\$35) which is increased if other amenities (e.g. a shelter) are included in the area to be used
 - Additional fees for alcohol and food permits

All permitted activities agree to abide by all Park Codes and policies, including SPR guidance on garbage, gas generators, traffic control, and amplified sound. Dogs must be on-leash if outside OLA. Advertisement is not allowed in the park; i.e., organization cannot post fliers within the park.

- Amplified sound (with permit) should be no louder than 95 decibels

Magnuson Park Hangar 30

- Hours
 - Amplified Sound allowed until 11:30 p.m.
 - Out by 12:30 a.m.
- Garbage
 - Event coordinate their own garbage removal with Recology if SPR staff determines SPR bins are inadequate for size of event.

Traffic control is an opportunity for improvement for SPR in coordinating events at Magnuson Park. One opportunity that has so far been untapped is the additional egress point of NE NOAA Dr.

De Abreu thanks Nielsen for the presentation and shares desire for traffic control officer or attendant at Sand Point Way NE and NE 74th St during large events. De Abreu emphasizes that formal inclusion of a transportation plan in the permitting process would be helpful for both environmental and residential reasons. Nielsen acknowledges the potential benefits of adding a transportation plan requirement and will investigate the possibility of traffic control.

Fruland asks if a calendar of upcoming events could be made readily available on the Magnuson Park website. Burtzos relates that such a calendar already exists but that manual entry of events is cumbersome and inefficient. Gerhard echoes some frustrations with the park calendar. Nielsen agrees to follow up with Burtzos about strategies to streamline the calendar updating process. Judd agrees to look at this with Burtzos.

Bragg asks about the approval process for events and permits that require gas generators. Nielsen clarifies that, per Judd's policy memorandum on the issue, gas generators will ideally not be approved for use in Magnuson Park, but some events and uses (e.g., food trucks) require them. These applications are reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Nielsen will revisit the approval conditions for generators with the Events Scheduling team and provide an update to MPAC in a few weeks.

De Abreu asks about best steps for residents and visitors to take if an issue arises during or immediately following an event. Bragg asks if any SPR staff are onsite during events. Nielsen clarifies that concerns can always be sent to PKS_info@seattle.gov or lisa.nielsen@seattle.gov, or to SPD if the situation warrants. SPR does staff events with Recreation Attendants; these staff members have a direct line to Lisa during events.

De Abreu asks if SPD and SFD are aware in advance of large events in the park. Nielsen shares that this awareness varies based on the size of event and use (for example, SFD is involved in the banquet permitting process, so an event with a beer garden will be on SFD's radar). A very large event will be reviewed by a citywide special events committee, including emergency services.

Bicknell asks if specific room rental (e.g., in Building 406) is handled through the same process. Nielsen affirms that her office handles these spaces, as well, if it is a one-time use.

Gerhard asks for clarification on the timeline for rental confirmation. Nielsen confirms that it takes about 10 business days on average for a rental application to process, but the actual permit is transmitted to the user about two weeks prior to the rental regardless of how far in advance the application is received. In practice, applications need to be submitted about 30 days in advance to assure processing time.

Fruland asks if there is a report that shows how many events take place in the park over the course of a year. Nielsen shares that anecdotally, the summer months are the busiest time by far. This report can likely be created.

Magnuson Community Center Report

Kim LeMay, Magnuson Community Center Coordinator, delivers the report.

The Magnuson Community Center moved back to Building 47 on April 5. Programming began right away, with egg hunts that weekend drawing over 400 guests!

Preparations for summer camps are under way. Registration is open for camps including Rock the Park (ages 13-17) and other camps (ages 5-12+), such as soccer, animation, Lego, and others. Later this month, Magnuson CC will partner with Solid Ground for a scholarship BBQ. A similar event with Mercy Magnuson is in the works. Summer program registration will open 5/23.

We are placing an emphasis on free and drop-in programming, including open gyms, pickleball, badminton, and roller derby. MPAC members and other community members who have ideas for fall programs should send those ideas to LeMay.

Clarifying after Nielsen's presentation: Community Center space and room rentals are handled through the Community Center.

Bragg asks how programs will be communicated to the community. Email and Building 47's reader board will both be used for communications.

LeMay shares that Magnuson CC has absorbed two programs from Lake City CC after that facility was damaged by fire recently.

Magnuson Park Manager's Report

Brian Judd, Magnuson Park Manager, delivers the report.

Topic	Updates/Notes
MPAC Roster and Recruiting	<p>The adjustments to the MPAC roster provided by membership at the April 2023 meeting have been approved.</p> <p>Brian will review upcoming vacancies with the group as a request to begin helping with recruitment during the summer. Members are welcome to renominate themselves if their term is expiring. The vacancies below are listed by name of represented group.</p> <p>Current Vacancies:</p> <p>Magnuson Business Tenant (x2) LIHI Resident (Term begins 1/1/24)</p> <p>Upcoming Vacancies:</p> <p>Mercy Housing Resident Magnuson Business Tenant (3rd seat) Solid Ground Resident MESA NE Seattle Community Councils</p>
Building 11 Masonry	<p>The work continues on the Building 11 facade. An additional section of the east side of the building does not require replacement brickwork, but additional ties are required to continue stabilizing this portion of the building.</p>
Magnuson Park Management RFP	<p>SPR will be seeking a consultant to explore alternative management and governance structures for Magnuson Park. Brian will provide MPAC with a link to the published document once released to the public.</p>
Transition from Webex to Zoom	<p>Ben Burtzos has been overseeing a transition from Webex to Zoom for all BPRC meetings. One benefit of his good work is MPAC will be moving to using Zoom sometime this summer. Stay tuned.</p>
CIP Updates: Roof repairs for Buildings 2, 12, and 138	<p>All three of these capital improvement projects (CIPS) are a review process called "90% complete" which refers to the status of the final drawings and plans. These three CIPs are moving along quite nicely and I will provide updates once the projects are staged.</p>

Questions regarding Magnuson RFP: Fruland and Bicknell voice concern regarding any movement towards privatization of park management. De Abreu concurs. De Abreu asks if MPAC and other community members will have any part in RFP review. Judd affirms that he will be looking for significant input from the community as well as MPAC.

Gerhard asks about roof repair schedule for Building 138. Judd clarifies that the current timeline is for the project to go to bid in 6-9 months; however, the bid process is often where projects slow down.

Gerhard asks if a one-year option can be offered for the term of an MPAC member. Judd replies that there's a lot of flexibility.

New MPAC Priority Introduction

Gerhard moves to extend meeting by five minutes; Bicknell seconds. There being no objection, De Abreu adopts the motion. The meeting is extended.

Bragg introduces a priority topic of relocating and locking the park gate on the east end of NE 65th St to a location on Lake Shore Dr NE north of the E2 parking lot. Judd shares that this priority would overlap with procedural direction already occurring within SPR; the gate at the east end of NE 65th St is not currently being locked because SPD and SFD need access 24/7 to the boat ramp. In addition, In past years, the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe has reached out to Judd for access to the boat launch for fishing, but this access is now codified in an agreement. Finally, Judd clarifies that the 3rd shift of SPR staff could lock a gate at 9 pm if it were situated such that the boat ramp remained open. Bragg recommends that MPAC formally endorse a letter to SPR Superintendent Diaz requesting support for the relocation and nightly locking of the gate. De Abreu reads a draft copy of such a letter aloud to the group and will circulate the draft following the meeting. Discussion will resume at the June meeting.

Old & New Business

Recognizing that the meeting has already run long, De Abreu adjourns the meeting at 7:36 pm.