

October 13, 2021 • MPAC Minutes

Webex Meeting • 6pm-7:30pm

**In Attendance:**

Members: Lhorna Miller, Elisa Law, Mary Bicknell, Janice Bragg, Garrett Arnold, Karey Kessler, Kate Palmer, Samantha DeAbrue, Aaron Hoard

SPR: Brian Judd, Toby Ressler

Guests/Members of the public: Lynn Ferguson, Neal Simpson, Tom Kelly

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

6:04 Lhorna calls the meeting to order.

Elisa volunteered to take minutes.

Lynn wonders if there are Halloween plans at the Park for residents.

Brian doesn't know of anything at the moment. Parks is under constraints right now in terms of what we can offer and how many people we can attract.

Janice announces that the letter re the motion passed at the last meeting recommending that no further permanent businesses ~~no longer~~ using gas generators be added was signed and sent to Jesus on September 28<sup>th</sup>

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA & MINUTES**

Lhorna calls to approve the July minutes at 6:06. July Minutes were not straightened out as we'd discussed at last meeting.

Kate moves to approve the September minutes. Minutes approved.

Lhorna offers a small edit to the agenda, changing the order of Brian and Toby on the agenda.

**TOBY RESSLER – COMMUNITY CENTER RENOVATION PROJECT UPDATE**

Brian introduces Toby as the head of the Community Center renovation project. Last I was here we were on design and permits. We have those now and the project is advertised for bids, opening on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. We should know whether we have a contractor by that time. If all goes well with insurance and bonding, we should begin in December. It's going to take 9 months for construction, and we will get a better idea of scheduling once we get with our contractors and subcontractors. There still requires some time, usually about a month, for our

operations team to get things finished. We will keep narrowing down the date. That's a quick overview. I'm happy to answer questions or provide other details on the project.

Samantha: Is this including the pool?

Toby: We're renovating the upper floor of the South wing of the building and a little asbestos removal on the lower level. Work is focused on that space. We are working to hire an architect to plan for that pool space however.

Lhorna: Can you tell us about the funding available for the pool renovation?

Toby: That's the planning groups purview. I think they're working on the hiring of the architect now to do the feasibility studies to bring that area up to code.

Lhorna: How does that affect the theater company that would be in that building?

Brian: I think in 2017, we did a RFP process for the theater in Building 47 and we did include the pool in there because it had been previously contracted to Seattle Musical Theater. Our department did not have plans to open up a pool at Magnuson. We have a conflict of plans with the community center and pool development and the theater group – Broadway Children's.

#### **BRIAN'S UPDATE—CPTED report**

See Brian's notes.

Garrett: If we want to move forward with safety recommendations, how does it work? Where's the funding and what's the process?

Brian: The answer is going to depend on the proposal.

Lhorna: There's a lot of interest in those recommendations.

Janice: If there was evidence anywhere that lighting makes things safer.

Brian: That's a big question that I can't answer. Some of these questions like lighting and pathways and uses in the Park are tied to the master plan passed by city council in 2006 that we are beholden to, it would require additional public process. We have these foundational documents that we go by.

Brian: There was also an update from SDOT (Seattle Department of Transportation) that the last part of the 74<sup>th</sup> St entrance is working on the signal and that should be done in November. I wanted to give everyone an update on that. Toby gave an update on the Community Center, that's great. There's a link to the Seattle Parks budget I sent out.

#### **BRIAN'S UPDATE : MPAC 2022**

Brian: I want to chat about the 2022 slate coming up. Talks about terms on MPAC coming to completion at the end of the year and finding new people to fill those roles. Currently no one slated to be chair or vice chair next year. We will be looking for volunteers for next year. Wants to discuss in November having a meeting every other month rather than every month. Some of the agendas have been on the lighter side.

### **BRIAN'S UPDATE : ARCHIVES**

Over the past year, I've been thinking about the original drawings in my office in Building 30. We were storing the drawings for SG and UW; they now have them. I am partnering with UW City of Seattle to have the park-owned buildings scanned to be and be archived as part of city history. Long term vision is to have those drawings accessible on the City Archives website. More to come on that, but a cool step in historic preservation on the campus.

### **FOLLOW UP QUESTIONS ON BRIAN'S REPORT**

Lhorna: Wondering how MPAC members nominate other members?

Brian: Let's say you have a neighbor that would be fabulous and I feel there should be one from Mercy and one from Solid Ground. You would just send that nomination to me and I would chat with them and tell them about MPAC and what we do. Then I would send a recommendation to have them added.

Lhorna: What about a youth member on MPAC? How old do the nominees have to be?

Brian: We are open to that. We could create a seat or two for a young person. That's an idea that we've done before, that's no problem.

### **JAN'S REPORT**

Jan: The old fields in the sports complex have green artificial turf and underneath tiny black rubber pellets. I started to notice that those tiny pellets were coming out and going onto the sidewalks and into the surrounding environment. Two years ago I sent an email with photos of this to Parks without a response. In early September the pellets under the bleachers were so thick that it was like a mat. Well it was cleaned up somehow, I don't know how, if it was blown or swept.

The new turf fields, it's the latest cutting edge sports field. I heard they are rubber coated sand under the artificial turf. Those plastic grass pieces come off and are all around the new sports field. When will those be cleaned up?

And thirdly, Arena Sports wants to have an artificial turf field on their parking lot. And I want to know how they plan to mitigate the spreading of those pellets.

Brian: I do send a work order in to the turf crew when I get your emails. We are facing labor shortages which is why we are doing things slower. We do share your concerns about new turf or other assets. We have a process for reviewing. If the Arena Sports turf goes up, it will need to meet our code compliance and they will be responsible for maintenance.

Jan: In terms of the turf crew, were you able to find out how they cleaned up the pellets?

Brian: I can put you in touch with the turf crew to get some answers.

Garrett: We also have artificial turf and am concerned as well about pellet containment. I'm curious how they clean that up as well.

### **SAMANTHA – PEDESTRIAN SAFETY**

Lhorna introduces Samantha, a resident of the Park, who will be talking about safety.

Samantha: Thank you. I moved here with a group of single moms from the UW housing. We represent a subset of the community here. I wanted to get involved. I have a PhD in Forestry and Environmental Science, so I have Jan's interest at heart. In the future it would be good for getting more community input from diverse people in the park. That's something I would like to keep in mind. Many residents of Mercy Magnuson have concerns about safely crossing.

Diana spoke with SDOT and they said they would give us two signs along 62<sup>nd</sup> Avenue and we want them to be speed signs. We want to suggest there be children at play signs. There are many children, outside families as well as residents who are navigating these unsafe streets right now.

Other speed calming mechanisms like speed bumps or lit crosswalks are going to require funding and SDOT support.

Jan: Thank you. Did you get back together with the group that did the circulation plan for the park?

Samantha: I'd like to reach out to them.

Brian: They're still drafting the study. We did do several outreach efforts to Solid Ground and Mercy Housing and they put announcement re Circulation Plan meeting ~~them~~ on their TVs and MPAC members were asked to share with their constituents.

Samantha: What will the next steps be?

Brian: Assessing internally and figuring out how to fund the programs. I checked in with my contact with SDOT, they told me they were waiting to hear back from Diana (here Brian forwarded SDOT email to MPAC members)

Katie: We tried to get some interest getting residents together to work on making a safe way from the housing to the Parks. It just kind of fizzled out. We had a group that was going to lead but I couldn't get residents together. It's safety, it's resident engagement. We want to do it.

Garrett: I want to be a part of that conversation also. Every other month there is a complaint about speed around our building. There's after school programs, camp programs and the Waldorf school traffic as well.

Brian: In response and support of what Samantha is saying, SDOT is just waiting to hear back from Diana.

### **SAMANTHA – CRIME & SAFETY**

Samantha: In regards to the CPTED report, I don't believe most of the residents knew that report was being done. I would have loved to take part. In regards to the discussion, we looked at the Community Center and its island of native plants in front of it. It's important to have those plants but that particular island needs to be cut back. I agree that it's a visibility issue. We talked about the need to maintain trees that are blocking lights and whose branches are falling down. What do we currently do in terms of tree management?

Brian: It depends on who owns it. Mercy and Solid Ground Housing are managed by those property owners. 62<sup>nd</sup> and 65<sup>th</sup> and 74<sup>th</sup> are managed by SDOT, so it depends on where the tree is. Parks has a tree service. Go to the Find It, Fix It App.

Samantha: All the trees I'm thinking might be SDOT.

Brian: What happens in general city-wide is that if there's a wind storm there is a neighboring landowner's responsibility to pick up the fallen cones. If you want to talk more about this, I'm happy to share maps and the history with you.

Samantha: The last thing is the field out there on 65<sup>th</sup> on the left.

Lhorna: It's half SDOT, half Parks.

Brian: There is a chunk of it that belongs to Solid Ground.

Karey: The native plant island in front of Community Center, I think Emily Bishton created that. But I don't know who took over her job when she left. When it was maintained it was lovely, but it hasn't.

Brian: There was a volunteer party to get together and tend to it and they're getting to it when they can.

### **CLOSING REMARKS**

Lhorna: Any other comments or concerns?

Jan: Juli was going to distribute the process for setting the agenda.

Lhorna: That reminds me. We need someone to chair next meeting. (No one volunteered.)

Katie: Neighbor Care is hoping to open later this month. They're having issues around finding people to hire on. We are hoping they will open one day a week if that's all they can do. It's going to be a satellite of the Lake City Way clinic. We really want behavioral health to remain. It's just a matter of them finding a provider who can do that.

Jan: Thank you for chairing tonight's meeting, Lhorna.

Brian: Seconds.

Samantha made a motion that the meeting be adjourned, Garrett seconded it.

**Meeting Adjourns 7:27**

**Magnuson Park Advisory Committee (MPAC)**  
**Report from Magnuson Park Manager – Brian M. Judd**  
**October 13, 2021**

Topic	Update
<b>CPTED Status Report</b>	I resent this update to MPAC yesterday. Happy to field questions about the status report.
<b>NE 74<sup>th</sup> ST Entrance Work</b>	<p>This work has been completed and is looking excellent. Update on details from SDOT.</p> <p>Report from Christa Dumpys @ SDOT:</p> <p><i>The work at the 74th entrance is done except for the signal work. We are in a holding pattern waiting for City Light. The entire project is expected to be completed by the end of this month, apart from striping work that happens a few weeks after things have cured.</i></p> <p><i>I got a little more information from Jesse today about the signal work at 74<sup>th</sup> and SPW. He said that right now it is tentatively scheduled for mid-late November, and it will be about two weeks of work. They will be putting on and powering up the new signals, finishing wiring connections, pulling out the temporary and existing poles/wiring, cutting in the remaining traffic loops, and then finishing the small pieces of sidewalk that are left around the temporary poles. That means there will be some lane closings at the park entrance but not a complete closure. Just wanted you to have this ahead of your MPAC meeting tonight.</i></p>
<b>Sand Point Naval Air Station Drawings</b>	<p>Working with United Reprographics and City Archives to scan and store these important drawings.</p> <p>Originals for UW and Solid Ground have been collected by the respective property owners.</p>

<p><b>Magnuson Community Center Update</b></p>	<p>Toby Ressler attended tonight to provide a timeline update for this project.</p> <p>Magnuson Community Center continues to operate in Building 406 and 30.</p>
<p><b>2022 MPAC Slate</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Open Positions</b></li> <li>• <b>Leadership Positions</b></li> <li>• <b>Ideas for Adjustments</b></li> </ul>	<p>Brian reviewed openings and asked folks in those seats currently to follow-up with him.</p> <p>Brian to review ideas for adjusting MPAC's schedule and sought out leaders.</p>
<p><b>2022 Proposed Budget</b></p>	<p>Mayor Durkan announced her 2022 budget proposal. City Council is now reviewing the budget with public outreach opportunities.</p> <p>Brian sent out an email with a link to both the budget book and public outreach opportunities.</p>