



# Magnolia Community Council

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## Magnolia Community Club Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

*Tuesday September 15, 2015 6:30pm*

### OFFICERS

President

Carol Burton

Vice President

Janis Traven

Treasurer

Mary Hoverson

Recording Secretary

Richard Piacentini

Communications Officer

Angela Bever

Past President

Stephen DeForest

### TRUSTEES

Bruce Carter

Margaret Cerrato-Blue

Michele Marchi

Mary Montgomery

Bill Stafford

Tom Tanner

Janis Traven

Heather Ussery

Rex Wardlaw

Magnolia  
Community  
Council  
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Introductions, Roll Call.

In attendance: Janis Traven (presiding), Mary Montgomery, Rex Wardlaw, Mary Hoverson, Margaret Cerrato-Blue, Bill Stafford and Richard Piacentini

Guests:

Laurie Ames, Seattle Department of Neighborhoods

Joe Villarino

Sarah Reyneveld, 36<sup>th</sup> District Democrats

Tre Maxie and Debra Prins, King County Assessor's Office

The June Meeting Minutes were approved

The September 15, 2015 meeting agenda was approved with one change - the Ace Hardware banner was no longer an issue needing discussion.

Mary Hoverson gave a brief Treasurer Report. Efforts continue to give away the books, and it was noted the Magnolia Historical Society did not disband as previously stated. Certain members of the MCC and Historical Society were planning to meet to revisit the book give-away. The goal remains to reduce the number of books in possession of the MCC resulting in a corresponding reduction in the size of storage unit being rented. The MCC also donated \$500.00 to Summerfest. The follow up to Summerfest indicates it was a success and will continue in the summer of 2016.

Sarah Reyneveld, (Contact Phone 206-795-7555), the Political Director of the 36th District Democrats made a brief presentation concerning the anticipated changes in local government representation because Jeanne Kolh-Wells is leaving the State Senate to run for the King County Council and Reuven Carlyle moving from the State House to the State Senate. As a result, there will need to be an appointment to the State House for the 36th District. Ms. Reyneveld was encouraging participation in this process and is welcoming more involvement by the residents of Magnolia in this process.

Communications Officer – Joe Villarino described the MCC's recent webpage activity.

October General Meeting– The October general meeting will be a Candidates' Forum on October 15<sup>th</sup> from 7pm to 9 pm at the Interbay Whole Foods store. Janis described a number of candidates that have already confirmed their attendance and she asked for volunteers to help with setup and running of the meeting.

Tre Maxie, Chief Deputy Assessor for King County, and Debra Prins, Residential Division Manager, King County Assessor's Office, made a presentation regarding assessments in King County. They described the assessment process, including that King County is divided into 86 areas for assessment, of which Magnolia is one area. When a property owner receives a property value statement, that person has 60 days from the date of the statement to appeal the value. Property values in Magnolia have just recently exceeded their peak values reached in 2008. Mr. Maxie said that there are three considerations that determine the amount of taxes on a property. The value of the property is one consideration, with the other two being the budget set by local governments and voter approved measures. He discussed how cities with large amounts of commercial property, such as Seattle and Bellevue, tend to have lower residential tax rates than areas without as much commercial property, such as Auburn and Enumclaw. The largest portion of property taxes, at 54.72%, goes to fund state and local schools. They demonstrated an impressive tool on the King County Assessor's Office website called "LocalScape" that allows users to obtain sales and value information. LocalScape provides comprehensive information about King County neighborhoods, including values, taxes, school attendance, zoning, etc. As of January 2014, the total appraised value of property in Magnolia totaled 6.5 billion dollars.

MCC Storage Unit – Janis read a note from Carol saying that the storage unit is slowly emptying and that she's hoping the MCC will be able to downsize the unit by the time the lease expires. There are two locked file cabinets in the storage unit that are proving to be difficult to get into.

Community Crosswalks – The Board discussed improving crosswalks in the Magnolia area by painting them in colors similar to what has recently been done on Capitol Hill. It would be a Neighborhood Matching Fund project, with volunteer labor counting towards the community's contribution. The discussion included ways to get the community involved.

Magnolia Remembered Books – The MCC gave away approximately 300 books over the last few months.

MQADC – Laurie Ames reported on the recent meeting, including a discussion on the homeless encampment in Interbay.

Smith Cove Park – The 3<sup>rd</sup> public meeting will occur on September 21<sup>st</sup> at 7pm. They will present the preferred plan and it's the last public meeting before the design goes to the City.

October Board Meeting – The October Board meeting will be October 20<sup>th</sup>, but since the library is not available, it will need to be at another location, yet to be determined.

Laurie Ames reported on a number of local group meetings that will be occurring in the next few weeks.

Meeting adjourned 7:40pm