



Magnolia Community Council

September 18, 2018

Magnolia Community Council Board of Trustees Meeting
United Church of Christ

Trustees present: Mary Montgomery, Lynn Hogan, Aubrey Mandus, Libby Stevenson, Alison Grevstad, Stephanie Ballard, David Moehring, Cindy Pierce, Carol Burton, Bruce Carter, Charlene Strong. Members of the community, Seattle City Councilmember Teresa Mosqueda.

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Cindy Pierce
Bill Stafford
Libby Stevenson
Charlene Strong
Tom Tanner
Janis Traven

Introductions

Meeting called to order at 7:02 pm. Trustees and attendees gave self-introductions. Motion to approve the draft of the September meeting agenda passed.

Introduction & Presentation by Councilmember Teresa Mosqueda

This is Councilmember Mosqueda's first year with the City Council. She plans to focus on a list of topics/priorities such as housing, health, energy, labor:

- Domestic workers bill of rights
- Wages & workers concerns
- Smarter uses for public land
- Seattle City Light auditing underway, process improvements being implemented

Regarding the Magnolia bridge, she's aware the 1:1 replacement is our top priority. She wants to discuss the bridge with her state and federal level partners to make the most of the five-year funding window right now. She will make sure this is a top priority for SDOT. She is willing to attend Transportation Committee meetings and work on legislation for this project.

- Charlene Strong suggests we approach the Port of Seattle and Expedia as partners, asking for their assistance, pointing out the fate of the Magnolia bridge is in their best interest.

Councilmember Mosqueda has a tour scheduled to review the port area under the Magnolia bridge to consider way to make better use of the land. She also thinks we should continue to think about uses of the Magnolia bridge beyond just traffic. There are opportunities to develop the bridge for bicycle and pedestrian traffic as well. She promised to follow up with the Magnolia Community Council after her October meetings.

Regarding ST3 plans, Ms. Mosqueda is also advocating for the underground option/tunnel rather than high fixed/draw bridge option. She's heard the difference in cost is small but not sure how much. Ms. Mosqueda will speak to Rob Johnson and follow up with us soon on this topic.

Traffic will reach 'Maximum Constraint' when highway 99 closes and the tunnel opens. She is interested to see how we can evaluate traffic and efficiencies, especially for groups of individuals who need extra consideration such as the elderly and disabled during this time period.

- Charlene Strong suggested changing traffic lanes, on Elliott Ave for example, to all flow one direction during peak traffic hours.
- Mary Montgomery raised concerns about bicycle vs. bus traffic, which creates slow-downs and safety risks for the buses and everyone else.

Ms. Mosqueda shared that she is running an initiative called “Teresa Tuesdays” during which she says to let her know about all community meetings (usually held on Tuesday evenings) so she can attend.

Introduction of Katie Cryan Leary, Principal of Magnolia Elementary School

Ms. Cryan Leary was not able to attend the meeting but Charlene Strong, who is on the PTA and knows Ms. Cryan Leary, provided an introduction. Ms. Cryan Leary has a strong following of families and a great reputation throughout the community. Ms. Strong shared that Katherine Blane is building up its PTA members with the intention to move some of them over to Magnolia Elementary. There was some discussion about ways to capture more K8 kids by moving boundaries and efforts to capture more family business during after-school traffic. The option to change the day and hours of the farmers market to attract more family interest/business on week nights was discussed.

Old Business

Motion to approve the minutes from the June 19 meeting (with minor edits) passed. Mary Montgomery gave a verbal treasurers report on behalf of Mary Hoverson. The current bills are being paid and we are working to reserve the church space for next year’s meetings.

Neighborhood Advisory Council (NAC) Report

Lynn Hogan requested a motion to approve Weldon Ihrig as the new facilitator. The motion passed. Carol Burton requested a copy of the NAC meeting minutes. Lynn Hogan, Bruce Carter, or Stephanie Ballard can provide a copy. The NAC meeting minutes will be published on the Magnolia Community Council website when it is received (please send to Aubrey Mandus).

Nomination Committee Report

Charlene Strong reported there are a few people interested in the open positions on the Magnolia Community Council (MCC) board of trustees:

- Harley Lever
- Ben Suriano
- Andrew Holtsclaw

The MCC board will determine a final number of open seats, review the bylaws for additional requirements, and work with Charlene to finalize the candidates before the next meeting.

West Precinct Advisory Council (WPAC) Report

Cindy Pierce reported the meeting was smaller this time. Crimes of various kinds are up around the city. Funding for the homeless family center was cut-off, leaving more people to wander the streets in the early morning hours, which has created the need for a police escort for the fire department in certain areas. Ms. Pierce stated we need to encourage the public in the neighborhood to keep calling the police and filing reports online, and promote block watches to help combat crime issues in Magnolia.

Transportation Report

Mary Montgomery reported there was a meeting with Burlington Northern Railroad regarding the train bridge replacement. Burlington Northern is expecting a five-year timeframe for the rebuild. Currently it cannot be fixed and they have been warned that heavy fines will be issued if it affects maritime traffic.

Carol Burton reported she attended the Sound Transit 3 (ST3) lightrail meeting, stating the most consideration was given for Expedia's campus rather than Queen Anne or Magnolia. Attendees wondered if ST3 people have ever actually driven up 15th to see the issues as they currently are and understand how things will be affected in the future. Ms. Burton reported there was also a good discussion about extending the helix bridge to Queen Anne for pedestrian traffic.

- Lindsay from the port said that the port categorically won't support the lightrail line coming through the port terminal.
- We will publish all ST3 information received on the Magnolia Community Council website, most information, or links to the appropriate sites, have already been published on the website.

Land Use Committee Report

David Moehring reported on the Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs), the city will issue a decision in the next few weeks.

- Paul Carlson, Marty Kaplan and David Moehring met to discuss implications of the decision.
- Paul Carlson stated this is a key juncture, there's a need to consider next steps and decide new plans.
- Bruce Carter proposed a motion to authorize the Land Use Committee pursue an appeal or partner with Queen Anne at their discretion after the city's decision about the final EIS is released (probably before the next MCC meeting).
 - The MCC's position is this needs to slow down, be done smartly and along arterial routes. We believe the decision needs to be much more thought-out rather than rushed, with earlier requirements being tossed out.
 - There were questions and discussion about why Magnolia doesn't have an official Neighborhood Plan.
 - Monica Wooton can be contacted with questions on this issue, according to Carol Burton.
 - Motion approved to authorize the Land Use Committee to take any necessary action on this issue before the next MCC meeting.

Parks Report

Bruce Carter was selected by the Seattle Parks Department to be on the viewpoints committee for the Magnolia neighborhood. Currently Ursula Judkins park is listed as the optimal city viewpoint. Mr. Carter thinks we should recommend to the Parks Department that this be changed to Magnolia Park and Magnolia Boulevard.

- Motion proposed to write a letter to the Parks Department with this recommendation. Motion passed.
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Carol Burton reported the street sculpture painting/revitalization process will move forward later. Nutty Squirrel has agreed to make donations for the celebration. They are still collecting funds for the celebration, the MCC should consider donating funds at a later date, when more details have been established.

Carol Burton also reported an updated for Smith Cove park. The King County strike caused delays but the plan is still on track, or so we assume at the moment.

Unrelated note: the MCC will send a card to Ellen Monrod, the Queen Anne Council trustee who's husband recently passed away.

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New Business

- The next MCC meeting will be October 16.
- The Wastewater Treatment presentation is currently slated for the next meeting.
- Democracy Voucher program presentation is another possibility.
- We are working to reserve the church space for next year, as mentioned in the verbal treasurers report earlier in the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Aubrey Mandus

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Recording Secretary