

## Magnolia Community Council

January 21, 2020 minutes -

Present: Trustees David Kaplan, Carol Burton, Cheryl Jacobs, Stephanie Ballard, Lynn Hogan, Alison Grevstad, Steve DeForest, Janis Traven, Pat Craft, David Moehring, Valarie Cooper, Lisa Barns, Fritz Kessler, Jayson Morris, Stephen Faciszewski, Mary Hoverson, Don Schlosser.

Guests: Andrew Lewis, Parker Dawson, Anne Thoe, Sarah Rehder, Sarah Reyneveld

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Lynn Hogan, President

Election of Officers for Calendar year 2020 presented and approved: Stephanie Ballard – President, David Kaplan – Vice President, Alison Grevstad – Secretary, Mary Hoverson – Treasurer

Steve DeForest motioned to note the splendid work done by Lynn Hogan as past President, all approved.

Building security: Church requests we lock the front doors after 7:15.

New sign-in for neighbors. Open Forum with comments from community members for 2 minutes each.

MCC website needs updating. Cheryl Jacobs to coordinate with Carol and Joe to post updated minutes. Discussed posting by-laws. Janis will continue to review incoming emails. Alison will send Cheryl final approved minutes to post after each meeting in 2020.

November meeting minutes approved.

### PRESENTATION:

Andrew Lewis, the new district 7 council representative along with assistant Parker Dawson as District 7 Director were in attendance. Andrew will plan to hold regular office hours in Magnolia, most likely on a Thursday or Friday and will inform the community of his schedule.

He serves as Chair on the Committee on Homelessness Strategies and Investments, with a goal to create one unified regional response. Covers tiny house villages and encampments.

Also serves on Committees for Public Safety, Sustainability, Land Use, and Economic Development. He encourages community members to engage with him on all issues, including Parks and Transportation even though he doesn't serve on those two committees.

Q&A covered neighbors issues with the Albertson's development (City Council has limited options since the upzone law has passed, though there may be opportunities to put something in place for the future), upcoming BIRT meetings and Community Centers (a 6 year plan for metropolitan park improvements will include capital improvements for community centers. Juarez chairs the committee for community centers.)

Cheryl suggested that Andrew keep the MCC in mind for future potential speakers for issues that may come up.

### Tree Protections:

Annie Thoe, with 'Don't Clear-Cut Seattle.org' presented the large amount of trees being lost in the city. 72% of trees are neighborhood trees. Describes a 10 year effort to strengthen the city's tree ordinance.

That there are two arborists working for the city and seven departments that manage the trees in the city. A chest high 30" diameter tree qualifies for the definition of an "exceptional" tree. They would recommend: Add replacement requirements, require developers design with trees in mind, address unpermitted cutting for ADUs, lower the threshold for 'exceptional' trees to 24", have OSE oversee trees instead of Development, add more funding for more enforcement. She points out that rules are different for developers.

Sarah Rehder, from the Urban Forestry Commission (which started in 2009), discussed what policies would help the urban forest. Highlighting the positives of trees. This infrastructure needs to be protected because it is a community benefit. Currently there is no tree removal permit required on private property, only on street trees.

Presented 7 key ways to strengthen the tree ordinance: expand the permit program, replace significant trees, certify tree service providers, track changes in the urban forest, protect exceptional trees, groves and trees on undeveloped lots, fund and enforce.

Last data study on the urban canopy was done in 2016. The UFC wants feedback from the community on what we want in the ordinance for trees citywide. Send questions and concerns to [Sandra.Pinto\\_de\\_Bader@seattle.gov](mailto:Sandra.Pinto_de_Bader@seattle.gov) and/or sign on to <https://www.dontclearcutseattle.org/>

Introduction:

Sarah Reyneveld, candidate for state representative introduced herself. Experience as assistant to Attorney General Bob Ferguson.

Open Forum:

Jill Wahleithner has a question on how does the Village handle upkeep of the neighborhood, and describes concern along with other community members in attendance regarding the choice to use porous paving around the established sidewalk trees. Pat invites community members to attend future Magnolia beautification meetings which have been ongoing for the past five years.

Alex Joss, and other neighbors adjacent to the future Albertsons project express concerns about bulk, mass, and height. Discussion of the 55 foot upzone and the 68 foot height of the project. David invites interested community to attend a land-use meeting on Sat. Feb 15<sup>th</sup> from 3:30 to 5pm at the Magnolia Library meeting room to discuss this development and other land-use issues in the neighborhood. Parker Dawson states there is very little the city council can do now regarding this project. Mentioned contract rezones and encourages community engagement.

Janis – handout of the BIRT process/schedule which shows it is at the very beginning of their timeline.

Magnolia Community Council Orientation – Part One, postponed to next month's meeting due to time.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Alison Grevstad