

Admiral Neighborhood Association

General Meeting Notes

Tuesday, April 12, 2011

Attendance:

* 22 were in attendance. See attendance sheet.

Officer and Committee Reports:

Secretary's report:

· March 8, 2011 meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

Treasurer's report:

· We have about \$2200.00.

SWDC:

- Update from 4/6/11 meeting provided by Vice President Karl de Jong.
 - Information about SWDC web portal and grant money to develop it.
 - Discussion of Triangle development. There is no direction being given by the City.
 - City Council President Richard Conlin spoke. The Council has 17 legislative priorities. He spoke about 5: Schools and Education levy, economic recovery, consolidate Seattle Parks' community centers, transit regional partnerships and sustainability of libraries.
 - Special neighborhood maps are being created for Summer Fest. There was discussion of what to include in the overlays.
 - Volunteers are needed to staff the SWDC table at Summer Fest (July 8,-10 in the Alaska Junction).
- Highlights are in the West Seattle Blog:
<http://westseattleblog.com/2011/04/southwest-district-council-summer-map-admiral-speed-triangle#more-69172>

City Councilmember Tom Rasmussen, from West Seattle, spoke about a variety of subjects. With regard to the Safeway change, to add more apartments, he explained that he had held up the vote until he read the record. The change passed City Council unanimously. Councilmember Rasmussen said he's chair of the Transportation Committee and past chair of both Housing and Parks. With regard to Parks, he said that High Point playfield was getting a new surface because of money saved in renovations to other playfields. Moving on to Transportation, he talked about the Viaduct replacement. It's a state project, but the City reviews it to minimize the inconvenience construction will cause. He spoke about the three agreements voted on by the City Council which are for City Light, water and transportation. The referendum to repeal these decisions are in court because the City Attorney maintains that they are administrative decisions and thus not able to be revoked by referendum vote. Councilmember Rasmussen is on the regional transit committee. The task force for regional transportation is working on changing the current 40% south, 40% east, 20% Seattle formula to add transit as well as the 20% south, 20% east, 60% Seattle formula to cut transit. The goal is to make these decisions based upon community need (ridership, productivity, geography and social value) rather than a rigid formula. He spoke of the West Side Corridor with Rapid Ride bus service which is coming. Work on the Transit Master Plan is in progress. Some numbers for transit were presented.

Building costs are \$100 million per mile for light rail, \$50 million per mile for street car and \$10 million per mile for electric. Sales tax is 75% of Metro income - sales and thus sales tax collections are down. He spoke of the State giving the County authority to impose a \$20 annual vehicle license fee for mass transit. The parking tax was discussed with Councilmember saying it was a balancing act to set the rate. A Transportation Benefit District has been established for Seattle and there may be a vote for a higher license fee. Tolling local roads was briefly mentioned. Finally, the traffic signal that we have been trying to have installed on Admiral Way at 47th Ave SW is on the list, 11th out of 12. Only a small number of traffic lights are funded each year, so this light won't be installed for the foreseeable future. In thanking the councilmember, President Katy Walum asked if he would like to emcee one of our concerts. Details will be worked out.

Jimmy Matta of the Regional Council of Carpenters spoke to us. The Carpenters' union was invited to speak about the noisy picketing at Safeway, across California Avenue from Lafayette School. He gave an informative presentation of what he referred to as the underground economy. This involves wage and safety violations, leading to problems for workers and a loss of tax revenue for all of us. For other information, he referred people to www.nwcarpenters.org and click on "Protecting Area Standards". It is quite informative, however the picketing at Safeway is related to Marquise Drywall and I didn't find information about them at the carpenters' website. He added that the picketing is informational in nature, not a union/non-union dispute and that it is protected free speech. Katy read a letter from Virginia Turner, Lafayette School Principal. In the letter, she recognized that she supports the right of free speech, but that the drums and bullhorns are disruptive to students' learning. Jimmy Matta said that whistles and bullhorns won't be used in the future. Marquise Drywall was going to attend this meeting, but instead sent a letter for reading by Katy on condition that it not be passed around to meeting attendees. "Family business", "meet state standards", and "competitive in pay and benefits" were mentioned in the letter. Karl de Jong and Jimmy Matta clarified that "meets state standards" means overtime pay after 40 hours in a week and minimum wage (\$8.67/hr in Washington state).

Committee/Planning Reports

- Admiral Business Engagement Committee – David Whiting
 - David Whiting described the survey. Survey Monkey will be used and the questionnaire will be released electronically with a limit of 10 questions.
 - Once results are gathered, they will be presented at a luncheon on May 12. Safeway will present what it's projecting to bring in to the neighborhood when it reopens. 25,000 transactions a day was mentioned.
 - Mark Wainwright is talking to the Chamber of Commerce to help identify the businesses in our neighborhood.
- Summer Concerts – Katy Walum
 - Dave Weitzel has committed sponsors for \$9500.
 - Katy said that the bands will be announced at the May 10 meeting.

New Business/Announcements

- Website – Sylvia Rolle is working on the website as we meet.

- . Katy reported she went on a site walk-thru of the new Safeway. It will have slightly less square footage than Safeway at Roxbury. The opening date is still August 12.
- . Seattle CoolMom is looking for Steering Committee members and volunteers on its Anti-Idling project. <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/AdmiralNeighborhood/message/863>
- . There are round table discussions about improving transportation in Seattle: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/AdmiralNeighborhood/message/862>
- . Katy announced that Lafayette School has selected their Big Toy and passed around information.
- . Seattle Met magazine spotlighted Admiral as one of Seattle's "Best Neighborhoods."
- . The Adopt-a-Street Cleanup on Saturday March 19th was a big success. There were 21 people participating. The next Admiral Cleanup is Saturday June 4.
- . Hiawatha, our Olmstead Park, is having its 100th anniversary.

Next meeting is May 10, 2011 at 7 PM

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM