

LICTON SPRINGS COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of Community Meeting, March 16, 2016
NSCC Campus, OCE&E Building, Room 220B

Directors Present: Jan Brucker, Liz Kearns, Kay Mesirow, Melanie Davies, Tom Meyer, and Ellen Beck.

Board Representative Present: Kathleen Braden (List Serve and Facebook page).

Visitors: Mindy Lee Irvine and Marie Oliver.

Treasurer's Report. The February bank balance was \$5,835.87.

Minutes. The February 17, 2016 minutes were approved as presented.

Board President Jan Brucker called the March meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. We had introductions around the table.

NEW BUSINESS.

Conspiracy Theory at the City. Tom Meyer reported that there is a lurking theory that there is conflict between the Mayor's system and the council system. We are in the council system, which consists of all the neighborhood councils, the 13 district councils, and the CNC (City Neighborhood Council), one part of the "machine." Deborah Juarez and the other City Council members are another part of the machine. The existing council system is at odds with the new seven districts of the City (plus two at large Council positions, Position 8 and Position 9. Deborah Juarez, Council Representative for District 5 (which includes Licton Springs), now has an office here at the College next to the Sustainability Office. She has an office, and traction with the College, and it's like she is the one who needs a relationship with the College, not us. This might be why the College is distancing itself from us.¹

The CNC, formed by the City Council, has legislative authority to conduct the process for the distribution of the Parks and Street Fund.

Jan stated that there is a tug-of-war between the Major's office and the City Council.

Board Nominations. Mindy Lee Irvine and Marie Oliver were nominated to join the LSCC Board. We're very pleased they are interested in joining us.

Crime Statistics. Kathleen Braden presented crime statistics that she had compiled. She had attended the meeting at Epic Church. At that meeting she heard people's stories about how

¹ It can also be that Vice President Andrea Johnson is not familiar with the College's mission.

crime had affected them. Then she read an article in The Stranger reacting to Next Door postings, which stated that people in the North End had whipped themselves up to hysteria and were paranoid. Kathleen is a social scientist, so she became interested in the crime statistics. She thinks that we have a disproportional increase in crime in our area, i.e., auto thefts and burglaries. Carmen Shore who does numbers analysis for the North Precinct has been helpful and Kathleen is going to meet with her in April to make sure she is interpreting the statistics correctly.

She said that Sharon Holtz of ALUV is also interested in the crime statistics. She also told us that she signed up 33 people for our List Serve at the Epic Church meeting. Thank you for all your hard work, Kathleen!

Melanie Davies was also at the Epic Church meeting, which began with dinner for a large group of people.

Ideas for More Dialogue. Mindy mentioned the benefits of a blog, which is updated through the month, in addition to the E-Currents that comes once a month. Tom mentioned that he and Kathleen update the Facebook page, but would be happy to get more people involved.

Other Concerns. Jan mentioned that she had watched the Frontline program on the problems of people with addictions. Where are the methadone treatment centers? There is almost nowhere to be treated. Something to think about: Is it appropriate for neighborhoods to say they are willing to have a facility. We have NW Hospital, and UW facilities in our neighborhood. She would like us to step up and be part of the solution.

Emergency Hub. Melanie informed us that Epic Church has stepped up and is the Emergency Hub for our area. Their address is 10510 Stone Avenue North, Seattle, WA 98133.

List Serve Backup. Kathleen has backed up our List Serve on the server at SPU. It was agreed this was fine.

OLD BUSINESS.

Relationship with the College. Kathleen reported talking informally with a friend who is with the Northwest Commission of Colleges and telling him that we were having trouble with our traditional relationship with the College, that they now wanted money. She pointed out that the mission statement of the college states the college must cooperate with "community groups," not "government groups." The college is up for their site visit for accreditation in April and this is the sort of thing that doesn't look good for them. Her friend advised us to write a letter of record to the Commission if the College does not work cooperatively with us.

LSCC Website: The Licton Springs Community Council website is still down. This is very frustrating for everyone. Discussion continued. Liz Kearns said that Lisa Henry has agreed to continue to maintain the LSCC website, but she will not be the one to choose where we go for hosting the website.

After more discussion, it was decided to go ahead with Go Daddy for a one year contract to host the website. We don't have to stay there, but it gets the website back up. Treasurer Debra Willendorf is authorized to make payment for the website hosting.

Mindy offered that our website needs updating to make it more "hip." We all recognize that our website was built by students at the College and its design hasn't been changed since the students designed it back when. When we have an updated design, Melanie Davies asked if we could get cards. Kathleen offered a card that she had made, and said we could use the logo from the card she created. Discussion followed. Mindy said she knew of web designers in the neighborhood. Wow!

LSCC Domain Name. Debra had contacted Liz to say that she is beginning to research our domain name: LictonSprings.org. The documentation has Tom Bates name, an employee of the College, on it and Liz's address, so it needs to be updated.

Capstone Studio Project - UW Architecture School Master Study. Melanie explained that Capstone Studio is a program for architectural master students at the University of Washington. Professor Julie Johnson teaches the studio, which focuses on community design. They go into a neighborhood and learn about and analyze the geography, demographics, issues, and connections or lack of connections, which community development could solve or strengthen the neighborhoods. They focused on Greenwood several years ago, from North 85th to North 105th. Now, they are focusing on Licton Springs and Haller Park. There are eight students. They look at short-term and long-term changes to a neighborhood issue and come up with solutions. Two of the students focused on Northgate Elementary School, which is the poorest school in state of Washington. It is a City of Seattle magnet school and they bus poor students from all over the city to the school. Twenty-four languages are spoken there. The master students looked at solving problems at the school.

Melanie said that once the work of the students is posted and our website is up, we can put a link on our website to the UW department website. The Studio is not the usual one quarter study, but the current Studio will continue an additional quarter.

The master students write about their rationale for the actions they suggest. We will have a lot of information about our neighborhood when this Studio is completed. They do a whole body of analysis. It becomes a record about our neighborhood that interested people can research.

Aurora Licton Urban Village ("ALUV"). Jan reported about the ALUV grant. The grant is for crosswalk treatments, with special colors and striping, has been submitted to the Park and Street Fund (\$90,000.00) of the Department of Neighborhoods. The crosswalks involved go from North 85th Street to 105th. This grant concerns safety and is needed because of the two new schools being built where Wilson Pacific formerly was located. The idea for the grant came from a meeting of the Capstone Studio! The grants will be voted on at the April meeting of the NWDC. Depending on the year and the competition, perhaps only three grant proposals go forward. If the ALUV grant proposal is accepted it then would have to go to SDOT for proofing and analysis, i.e., what is the real cost. We anticipate that there will be push back from the Aurora Merchants Association, which doesn't like changes to Aurora. But a member of SDOT has been coming to the Capstone Studio meetings, so there will be push back from SDOT!

ALUV is very excited about the grant proposal. Part of their inspiration for the grant was the Aurora-Licton Neighborhood Plan.

Our next meeting is Wednesday, April 20, 2016.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen M. Beck, Secretary

