

SPCC Board Meeting Minutes November, 2008

Present: board members Tenaya Wright, Alex Zankich, Sunny Knott, Kiku Hayashi, Joanna Cullen, Andre Helmstetter, Bill Zosel, Marianne Mork, and neighbor Stewart Perry, from SDOT Mary Catherine Snyder, and from Capitol Hill Housing Kate Stineback.

The meeting was called to order at Pratt Fine Arts at 7:00 P.M.

Tenaya noted the upcoming **Neighborhood Safety Forum**. There was a brief discussion of the Forum and of the anti-crime effort headed by Larry Evans. Tenaya suggests that the EPCPC should meet from time to time (maybe every other month) at the teen center. She is concerned that the EPCPC meetings talk *about* youth but not so much *with* youth. All were urged to attend the Neighborhood Safety Forum.

Residential Parking Zone Policy Mary Catherine Snyder of the Seattle Department of Transportation accepted our invitation to talk to the group about the status of the proposed changes to the RPZ policy. The changes were published on the SDOT Web site last month and comments have been solicited. Technically the comment period is up, but Mary Catherine is interested in hearing more if there are additional comments. One of the hardest issues facing the RPZ policy makers is that, in some zones, there are “way more” permits issued than there are parking spaces. What should the City do? The policy has been to issue as many permits as there are cars, with no car per household limit. This appears to create a situation where the fittest and fastest (or something like that) get to use the nearest on-street parking spaces. Others may find on-street spaces unavailable or far from home. In the most crowded neighborhoods SDOT is considering limiting the number of parking permits a household might obtain. For example, in zone 7, which includes part of Squire Park, households might be limited to two permits. Because SDOT, on its Web site, received a high number of comments related to this, other strategies are being considered. One is to allow households more than two permits, for example, if household members were willing to pay a small additional fee for the additional permits.

Another change considered would be designed to reduce the “permanent “use of guest permits. In some cases guest permits are sold, loaned, or otherwise end up with users who are not actually guests and who use the permit to park on a more-or-less daily basis. A strategy to discourage that would have guest permit validity limited to a short term, say, *e.g.*, a day.

Finally, SDOT has repeatedly heard that, in order for the system to work well, increased enforcement is necessary. There are proposals for more efficient enforcement, some of which include new technology allowing associating license plate numbers with RPZ permits.

If we believe that the current time limits (two hours) are too long to permit effective reduction of institutional parking in our neighborhood we need to let SDOT know. Reducing the time limit to something less than one hour is not included in the current policy revision proposals, although Snyder said SDOT is interested in hearing more from affected neighbors. (Hint: send an e-mail to MaryCatherineSnyder@seattle.gov if you think this is an idea worth considering.)

The RPZ policy site: http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/parking/rpz_policy_review.htm

Capitol Hill Housing project for 12th Avenue Kate Stineback of CHH (formerly known as CHHIP) provided an overview of that organization’s project involving 12th Avenue. The so-called “12th Avenue Initiative” is focused on the business district on 12th Avenue from e. John to Yesler Way and has several ambitious goals over the next few years. Included are efforts to support diversity and affordability of residential and commercial space through direct development of tow mixed-use projects on 12th, on at 12th and E. Jefferson on a City-owned site. CHH also is partnering with local organizations to offer assistance and tools to small businesses, and working with community groups, institutions and developers, targeting certain areas of 12th Avenue for new pedestrian amenities. And, CHH is working with community groups and others to advocate for forward-thinking urban design in all new developments and a coordinated effort to locate public transportation along 12th Avenue.

Of particular importance, now, are the proposals of King County to seek development of the Youth Services Center site. The neighborhood has, for many years, urged King County to develop the parking lot portion of the DYS site with housing and neighborhood-serving retail space. Recently King County has completed its planning related to replacement and expansion of courtrooms and offices on the DYS site. The County has solicited proposals from private developers who might be interested in building, not only a new County building, but also housing and retail space. Responses to the County's Request for Qualifications (RFQ) are expected by the end of November. It will be very important for the community to be involved in the planning process to try to ensure that neighborhood interests are reflected in the project.

In addition to the DYS site, it's expected that the Seattle Housing Authority is looking at developing part of 12th Avenue. SHA already owns several parcels on 12th near Yesler and on Yesler between 12th and 13th.

There are other large underdeveloped parcels, including ones owned by Pioneer Human Services and the Catholic Archdiocese.

Dearborn/Goodwill Project Stewart Perry provided an update on the permit and rezone status of the Dearborn /Goodwill project. The Hearing Examiner's decision was entirely in favor of the developer. Bill Bradburd is appealing. Stewart suggests that SPCC should consider filing a document requesting it be allowed to intervene in the appeal. It's expected that Interlm will also ask to intervene. The board voted 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstention to reaffirm our earlier position regarding the Dearborn/Goodwill project and to seek intervention in the appeal.

Nomination of Historical Landmarks in Squire Park The Coca Cola building (14th and E. Columbia) was approved as an historic landmark. Future meetings of the Landmarks Preservation Board will decide the details of how the current owner, Seattle University, may eotk on the building. S.U. is planning on making the building ready for use as a temporary library while the Lemieux Library is being remodeled and expanded. Exterior work on the Coca Cola building will include new windows. S.U. is attempting to install windows that are as close as possible in appearance to the old windows. Historic Seattle and 4Culture have filed documents to nominate **Washington Hall** as a landmark. The meeting of the Landmarks Preservation Board to consider whether or not the site might be eligible for landmark status is November 19. Public support is important. The board voted unanimously to write a letter to the Landmark Preservations Board supporting the landmark status of Washington Hall Historic Seattle is working on the documents to request landmark status for the **Carmack House** on E. Jefferson just east of the new Sabey/Swedish parking garage addition. No meeting dates have been set. The Squire Park Community Council is the nominating party for that site.

RPZ 2 Expansion Sunny reported that the article in the October SPCC Newsletter about this issue got a lot of response. Sunny is trying to coordinate the effort among all interested people to bring about expansion.

Harborview Parking on 14th Avenue Sunny will provide Alex with the appropriate name at Harborview and he will contact that person to ask about the status of Harborview Institutional parking on 14th near the Bailey Gatzert School.

New board members There are board vacancies, and the January quarterly meeting is the regular time to elect new board members. All are reminded to think about possible new board members. A discussion followed about the desirability of having one or more local high school students as members of the board. This will be discussed further at the next board meeting.

Newsletter Because of the holiday schedule of Seattle U Reprographics, it will be necessary to get the next SPCC Newsletter put together in early December. Susan is out of town and is not able to be at tonight's meeting, but still is interested in editing the newsletter. It was decided to have a newsletter meeting when Susan returns. Bill will arrange a date and let all board members know. All are encouraged to attend the newsletter meeting.