

LCC Trustees meeting
Wu Hsing Tao School
April 11, 2011

Attending: Kirsten Curry, Kevin Chang, Emily Dexter, Jeannie Hale, Kathryn Kelly, Linda Luiten, Colleen McAleer, Stan Sorscher, Don Torrie, Maggie Weissman, Len Nelson

Excused: Marian Joh (leave of absence), Brian McMullen, Leslie Wright

The meeting was called to order and was followed by introductions.

CALLS AND CONCERNS

1. Laurelhurst Lookout: Since mid-February, Richard Ettinger has been in touch with LCC about transforming an unimproved streetend into a park. Dexter and Hale toured the site with Ettinger on 2/17. LCC featured an article about the proposal in the April newsletter. Dexter will update the board about the project as it is listed as an agenda item.
2. Pedestrian safety project by Metro Market: On 3/14, Jean Amick emailed to inquire about the status of addressing 40th Avenue NE coming south from the Metropolitan Market to Sand Point Way. This was a neighborhood street fund project last cycle. Hawthorne Hills reported that the application was funded and the project is to add sidewalks and curbs to the section of NE 50th Street between Sand Point Way NE and 40th Avenue NE. It is also on the list of proposed projects from Children's Livable Streets Initiative.
3. Speed signs: On 3/14, Jean Amick emailed to inquire about the speed signs on Surber. LCC responded that that stretch of Surber is one of SDOT's non arterial priorities. SDOT installed the temporary speed signs in response to complaints from neighbors on that street about speeding. SDOT paid. It was not the best siting for the signs because it was right before a curve when most drivers slow a bit anyway. Plus, the devices were right across the street from each other and the narrower roadway then forced drivers to slow. Since then, LCC has learned that SDOT has also done a speed study of Surber. That study, based upon strips laid on the roadway, found that 40-60 cars each day travel at over 40 mph. The speed limit is 25 mph.
4. Little League: Lendy Vail from northeast Seattle Little League emailed on 3/21 to report that they had extra kids sign up and didn't want to turn any away. As a result, LCC will sponsor the new t-ball team, continuing its decade tradition.
5. Lost earring: On 3/24, Alice Streidl emailed to report that over the weekend, she lost a single diamond earring that carries great sentimental value as it was a gift from her father before he passed. She searched many times along the mile and a half path she jogs without luck. LCC put her in touch with the Laurelhurst Blog.

6. Children's: On 3/25, George Majercak emailed with questions about financing of Children's expansion. Children's has provided information. On 4/8, Jerry Sherrard called with questions about building height.
7. Laurelhurst in the news: In March, *Seattle Met* magazine published its 20 Best Places to Live Now "An insider's guide to Seattle's top neighborhoods—now and in the future" and Laurelhurst was included in the list. Here is what the magazine reported about Laurelhurst:

"Laurelhurst has a reputation for being a ritzy, exclusive little burg in Northeast Seattle, and with good reason. The southern tip is all waterfront, and home prices are appropriately high. Many of those homes are, in the words of Laurelhurst Community Club president Jeannie Hale, "majestic and beautiful." Bill Gates used to live there, and his dad still does, for crying out loud.

But once you're there, you're family—even if you aren't a millionaire. Neighbors look out for each other (they've invested in a private security service to patrol the streets), and they've consistently supported ballot measures for low-income housing. "I think the perception is that everybody is very wealthy, which is far from the truth," Hale says. "There's a much broader mix of people, a broader diversity than many would think."

Other neighborhoods on the list include: Beacon Hill, Phinney Ridge, Ravenna, Montlake, Madison Park, Fremont and Wallingford.

Building for sale: On 3/31, Pat Hester and Alan Serebrin called and emailed to let LCC know they are selling their commercial building located at 3430 NE 45th Street. Both grew up in Laurelhurst. It is the brown wooden building where Le Petit Shoppe and other businesses are located and other businesses, down the street from China Village. The asking price for the six-unit building is \$1, 395,000.

8. Spring Clean: Neighbors (Dave Skow 3/31, Betsy Mullen 3/21) who attend the University Presbyterian Church have been in touch. They are interested in volunteering for community projects in May. Chuck Rullman 4/7
9. Work at the Playfield: On 4/4, Bill Scott called and emailed to inquire about possible work by the Playfield. There appears to be some project at this corner. It may be something the phone company has undertaken. There are small orange flags along the parking on 45th Avenue NE on the north side of the intersection. There are orange marks across 45th street, including on a Bell System manhole cover. There is a new, short telephone pole along NE 45th Street on the south side. But the most concerning thing is a three foot tall stake in the ground about 50 feet south of the intersection next to the gravel drive. The stake is in the street right of way, but this is used as "park" by kids for ball games and sledding. It may be that they're just laying a new underground wire, but there are other possibilities. LCC will follow up.
10. Vandalism: On 4/11, Marc Carter called to report that on Saturday 4/9, four boys aged about 12-14, threw rocks at the windshield of an excavator truck owned by Tom's Tree Service that was located at 3814 44th Avenue NE. The boys then entered the truck's cab and used their feet to push out the window completely.

Tom's Tree Service is offering a \$300 reward for the identity of the culprits. The boys, all Caucasian, three with brown hair and one a redhead.

11. Tagging: Cary Lassen reported on 4/11 that over the weekend taggers hit several areas near her home. They hit her fence, three spots at the school (including LCC's blockwatch sign and the side of the gym), another neighbor's fence, a realtor's sign and the sign at St. Stephen's. She was able to clean off the blockwatch sign and one school sign because they have anti-graffiti coating. The principal at the school said they would remove the tagging on the gym as soon as possible.

ADMINISTRATION

Minutes: The board postponed review of the March minutes until next month.

Treasurer's Report: Dexter briefed the board on the financial report included in the agenda packets.

Changes to the Agenda: Add report on the Solid Ground housing at Magnuson Park.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Please see NEDC announcement handout.

1. Thank you: Thank you to Don Torrie for coordinating distribution of the agenda packets and to Len Nelson for assisting.
2. Save Union Bay (SUBA): SUBA had planned to apply for an Implementation Grant to partially fund the milfoil management process, but ran into a glitch. The Implementation Grant, from DOE, requires that SUBA partner with a local government, in order to get funding. SUBA had partnered with the City of Seattle for its first grant, development of the plan. Seattle did not want to work on the Implementation Grant, so SUBA was unable to apply for that grant for this year's funding cycle. SUBA has been in touch with DNR's Aquatic Lands Manager at DNR's sponsorship as they own the lakebed lands. DNR does not want to partner with SUBA to seek an Implementation Grant, but they are willing to sponsor SUBA for its herbicide applicator's permits. SUBA can now move forward with its project to manage invasive aquatic weeds in Union Bay but, without an Implementation Grant, there are no funds. SUBA is planning to privately fundraise for this year's clean-up with donations from landowners/stake holders around Union Bay. The plan is to do a major herbicide and hand pulling project this summer. After that, they will survey and find where weeds continue to grow and then spot treat those areas.
3. Transportation community meeting: The second of Children's transportation-focused meetings is scheduled on April 30 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Center for Urban Horticulture. At this meeting, the preferred concept for the 40th Avenue NE and Sand Point Way NE traffic signal will be unveiled and there will be an update on progress of traffic mitigation for the Bed Unit South phase of Children's expansion.
4. SUN Park fundraisers: There are spots open for the garden tours SUN Park is hosting. The Miller Garden in the Highlands is Monday, May 9. The cost is \$125 and four out of 10 spots are taken. The Stumpery on Vashon tour is on Thursday, May 12. The cost is \$75 and three spots out of eight are taken. The Laurelhurst

Gardens tour is Thursday, June 8 and two spots out of 12 are taken. The tours include lunch and those interested should contact Jean Amick.

REPORTS/ACTION:

Crime Prevention: Luiten attended the recent North Precinct Advisory Council meeting and briefed the board on the "Neighborhood Viewpoint" Pilot Project and criminal activity in North Seattle.

SR 520 Update: Colleen McAleer updated the board.

CleanScapes Update: Maggie Weissman and Kay Kenny updated the board on the CleanScapes competition. By rule, recycled materials are scored by weight, so heavy items, like newspapers and glass bottles, count more.

Spring Clean: Dexter and Hale updated the board. Emily wrote a description of clean-up projects. Several neighbors have a volunteer project scheduled for May 24. Heather and Kirsten will schedule work a work party for traffic circles in the Town of Yesler. Maggie Weissman has stencils which volunteers can use to mark storm drains. Volunteers can be directed to a small park near the beach club. Kay will work with the traffic circle at 50th Ave NE and NE 52nd St.

Friends of Yesler Swamp is hosting a work party on Sunday, May 22 from 10 a.m. until noon. They will clean up trash, cut blackberry and ivy and spruce up the temporary trail with wood chips. There will be a work party at Waterway No. 1 and other events are in the works.

Solid Ground Housing at Magnuson Park: McAleer recently toured Brettler Family Place, a 51 apartment and townhome development for formerly homeless families which celebrated its grand opening on April 7. The \$14.3 million project of the Seattle non-profit Solid Ground received \$5.5 million in Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) financing from NDC Corporate Equity Fund. The development provides supportive services and community facilities.

To date, more than 30 families have moved into Brettler Family Place. There are five four-bedroom units, 14 three-bedroom units and 32 two-bedroom units.

Solid Ground plans to develop another 54 units, 20 for families and 34 for single men and women, including veteran, seniors and people living with disabilities. When complete, the Sand Point Housing zone will comprise 200 units.

Laurelhurst Lookout: **Motion** by Emily Dexter, seconded by Maggie Weissman, to support Richard Ettinger's effort to develop a park along the street right of way, from the end of NE 36th St around the corner to 49th Ave NE. The improvements would be to clear bushes and basic pruning, then making a path into the lookout point. **Motion passed** unanimously.

Neighborhood Street Fund/Cumulative Reserve Fund (NSF/CRF): At the April 7 NEDC meeting, representatives ranked the 11 projects submitted to the Neighborhood Projects Fund. Yesler Swamp came in 4th place and LCC's raised centerline diverter islands came in 6th. Kevin Chang presented the transportation project and provided several photos on the computer/PowerPoint equipment. The ranking was as follows:

NUMBER & RANK	PROJECT LOCATION / DESCRIPTION	POINTS	POINTS by average
1. 201 1- 069	NE 85 th Street between 30 th Avenue NE and 28 th Avenue NE; 28 th Avenue NE between NE 85 th Street and NE 83 rd Street; and NE 83 rd Street between 28 th Avenue NE and 25 th Avenue NE—Funding to design and engineer sidewalks on these streets in designated walk to school routes (<i>Wedgwood</i>)	104	104.4 (8.67)
2. 201 1- 022	West side of Sand Point Way between NE 70 th and NE 74 th Streets—Install sidewalk (<i>Hawthorne Hills/View Ridge</i>)	97	96.96 (8.08)
3. 201 1- 045	35 th Avenue NE at NE 80 th Street—Install highly visible pedestrian crossing marks on the roadway and sides of street, plus possible flags, and ideally overhead notification to drivers; development of a plan for future more formalized pedestrian crossing at this site (<i>Wedgwood</i>)	95	95.04 (7.92)
4. 201 1- 036	Yesler Swamp, bordered by NE 41 st Street, Surber Drive NE, shore of Union Bay and CUH—Install an ADA trail to provide public access to this bird and wildlife refuge and a means to restore the native habit and promote opportunities to learn about the swamp's ecosystem and history (<i>Friends of Yesler Swamp, Laurelhurst</i>)	88	87.6 (7.3)
5. 201 1- 077	NE Ravenna Boulevard between 15 th Avenue NE and 20 th Avenue NE—Traffic calming by road surfacing, including installation of speed bumps; alternatively construction of one or two marked pedestrian crossings (<i>University Park</i>)	75	81.25 (6.82) 7 pt bonus
6. 201 1- 034	47 th Avenue NE at NE 54 th Street—Install raised centerline diverter islands similar to those at 47 th Avenue NE and NE 50 th Street for traffic calming on this arterial leading to Sand Point Way (<i>Laurelhurst</i>) Approximately \$12,000-15,000	74	74.04 (6.17)
7. 201 1- 059	Dahl Playfield at NE 77 th and 25 th Avenue NE—Install pedestrian safety improvements at the main entry/access point to the Playfield, including median landing, curb ramps or bulbs, parking lot entry modifications, crosswalks (<i>Friends of Dahl Playfield</i>)	72	78.6 (6.55) 7 pt bonus
8. 201 1- 023	52 nd Avenue NE between NE 65 th and NE 60 th Streets—Install traffic calming to address increased traffic due to driver diversion to this area to avoid Sand Point Way en route to Children's, UW, U Village and other destinations (<i>Hawthorne Hills</i>)	62	62.04 (5.17)
9. 201 1- 080	20 th Avenue NE between NE 50 th and Ravenna Boulevard—Traffic calming for pedestrian and vehicle safety (<i>University Park</i>)	47	51.24 (4.27) 4 pt

			bonus
10.201 1- 032	NE 44 th Street from 36 th NE west to dead-end behind Laurelhurst business district—Install curbs and parking strip to provide visibility for pedestrians and to ease street congestion; this project only includes part one of this two street project (<i>Laurelhurst</i>) \$55,000-\$75,000 Note: if selected as an NEDC priority, SDOT will explore lower cost alternatives	43	42.96 (3.58)
11.201 1- 081	NE 52 nd between 15 th Avenue NE and 20 th Avenue NE — Scrape and resurface the street to address the many potholes (<i>University Park</i>)	25	27.24 (2.27) 2 pt bonus

NOTE: The shaded items above reflect a difference in points for those projects because one rep did not rank those four projects—consistently allowed by NEDC rules for the last decade. Questions arose this year so “averaging” was used in addition to standard tabulation of votes. The right hand column reflects an “average” calculated by using the number of points for the project, dividing that by the total number voting (11) and then multiplying that number by 12. Not voting for a particular project can be for various reasons—the rep has not visited the site, questions remain after the presentation at NEDC or from information provided, the presentation left too many questions, the rep doesn’t like the project, the rep doesn’t think the project is engineeringly feasible or is too costly, the rep only wants to vote for one project from that neighborhood, etc.

Planning for the Annual Neighbors Meeting: The Annual Neighbors Meeting will be held in May or June. Trustees discussed possible topics and speakers, including:

- Richard Ettinger's pocket park
- Pedestrian Bike safety
- Pedestrian and traffic patterns in the Children's expansion
- Gardener from Burgermaster
- Public employees who have helped the neighborhood
- Emergency preparedness - SNAP

Seattle Children’s Update:

1. Housing replacement: On March 10, Children’s notified LCC that it is in the final stages of an agreement with the University of Washington (UW) to develop a new multi-family housing project in the University District. This new housing would be located on the west side of 11th Avenue NE near NE 47th Street just north of the UW Tower and to the northeast of Children’s Roosevelt Commons administrative site. It will provide affordable housing options for employees of both the UW and Children’s, who will have prioritized access to all units prior to making them available to the public.

The UW would provide the land for the approximately 136 to 200 units, and Children’s would collaborate with them to select a developer after a competitive bidding process has been completed. Children’s expects there to be a mix of unit sizes from studio to three-bedroom to provide a range of affordability and size to residents.

Children's Board of Trustees was scheduled to review the final agreement with the UW on March 23. Children's expects design work to begin in 2012, construction in 2013 and the units be available for occupancy in 2014.

Representatives of the Displacement Coalition and Interfaith Task Force recently met with Children's representatives to obtain more details on the nature of their plans. The discussions were positive, but there are some outstanding questions and answers are needed to ensure that Children's replacement housing obligation is met.

A key piece of info the stakeholders and the city need to know is just exactly what is the nature of Children's contribution to this project, how much money is the UW bringing to it and then, more importantly, what is Children's really bringing to the table—to the "partnership". Further does their contribution actually "cause to create" 100 percent replacement of the 136 units they (not the UW, or the city, or anyone else for that matter) are required to replace. There is no language added to the conditions the Council set last year allowing Children's to enter into partnerships at all.

The Displacement Coalition wrote to the City Council about this on March 25. Councilmembers Licata and Rasmussen were very interested in the concerns raised.

2. Bike meeting: On Saturday, Lassen has a morning meeting on bikes with Councilmember Sally Bagshaw and a group of cyclists representing Spokespeople, Seattle Children's, Beacon Bikes and NE Sustainability. We looked at the different locations along the trail and Sand Point Way.

The group talked about the spots around the hospital of concern that are outlined in the Livable Streets report, stopping at each location. They rode through the hospital and showed Bagshaw how cyclists and pedestrians travel without a sidewalk by Ronald Macdonald house.

Bagshaw supports the concept of "Greenways" because she was just down in Portland (grew up there apparently) and saw how well those streets work for the residents, pedestrians, cyclists and cars. They talked about creating these walkable/rideable routes to school.

They crossed Sand Point Way at NE 52nd and rode up through Windermere Circle and behind the hospital to show Bagshaw the possible crossing and bike route. It was unnerving crossing Sand Point Way with the group of cyclists—one cyclist had to stop traffic so the group could cross the street.

The group talked about the need for HOV/transit from the light rail station through Montlake. They stopped at the crosswalk where the Laurelhurst neighbor was hit (by Bill the Butcher) and showed the terrible stairs with no ADA access and how that crossing could be made as a connection to the back of the UW to light rail station. This whole walkable/rideable network could be created that might allow some people to feel safer and actually walk/ride/take transit. This is the goal—just make it safer and easier for those who want to try riding or walking to do it. When surveys are done, there is a huge population called the "willing but wary" who want to try riding or walking, but don't feel safe.

3. Draft Memorandum of Agreement: The agenda packets include LCC's letter of April 8 to Children's and a draft memorandum of understanding for Children's to consider. The draft agreement address Children's changes to the phasing, helistop and other elements in the adopted master plan and how certain aspects of development will be implemented under the plan and the Settlement Agreement. LCC will meet with Children's next week to discuss the proposed memorandum of understanding.

Stan Sorscher spoke to Mark Trumbauer and Adrian Whorten about returning to the Board. Neither plans to return, so we should be thinking about other neighbors who might be interested.

Minutes by Stan Sorscher