

LCC Trustees Meeting  
Wu Hsing Tao Institute, on the Talaris campus  
January 10, 2011

Attending: Kevin Chang, Emily Dexter, Jeannie Hale, Kathryn Kelly, Cary Lassen, Colleen McAlleer, Stan Sorscher, Leslie Wright

Excused: Kirsten Curry, Marian Joh, Brian McMullen, Don Torrie, Maggie Weissman, Len Nelson

Guests: Karen Ko, Department of Neighborhoods; Linda Luiten, Judith Thornton

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. and was followed by introductions.

City Budget: Karen Ko said the Department of Neighborhoods will continue to work with 13 districts, but will cover them with 10 coordinators. The Mayor will host a general purpose Town Hall meeting at University Heights.

#### CALLS AND CONCERNS

1. Closure of Laurel Village entrance: Heather Newman reported on 12/14 that she has not received a response from the UW about the request to close off the Laurel Village entrance onto NE 44<sup>th</sup>. She and Theresa Doherty from the UW continue to discuss the issue. Daycare workers and those living in the student housing park on this narrow, dead end street and then cut over to the student housing. There is fencing along the other dead end streets backing up on the student housing.
2. Private security project: Kent Hinds emailed on 1/17 to inquire about subscribing to the private security project. He was put in touch with the crime prevention coordinators.
3. Stolen packages: On 12/18, it was reported that a package delivered by FedEx to a home in the 4700 block of 46<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE near Laurelhurst Elementary School was taken from the homeowner's porch. After verifying that the package had been delivered, the vendor agreed to send a replacement item (but not in time for Christmas). There were reports of stolen packages during the holidays at the December trustee meeting.
4. Suspicious vehicle: On 12/23, it was reported that a shiny black SUV with custom chrome wheels and darkly tinted windows (partly rolled down) driven by a 20-35 year old white male was slowly cruising the area by Villa Academy. The driver circled Ivanhoe, 50<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE and Nicklas and Harold Streets. It was suspected that the driver was seeking targets for vacation break-ins. The neighbor was unable to get the license plate.
5. Vandalized Christmas lights: A couple of days before Christmas, it was reported that a vandal cut the Christmas lights in several places at a home near the intersection of 50<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE and NE 41<sup>st</sup> up the hill from the Beach Club.
6. Unleashed dogs: On 1/3, the Laurelhurst Blogger emailed in response to an inquiry from a neighbor who has concerns about off leash dog walking in the evening. LCC responded that occasionally, it includes an article in the newsletter reminding pet owners to leash their dogs and pick up after them. LCC also provided a listing of fines for animal violations.
7. Distant train whistle: On 1/4, LCC received an inquiry about the far-away train whistle that can be heard on occasion from Laurelhurst, Montlake and Windemere. The neighbor enjoys the whistles, just wondered about the source.

8. Magnuson Athletic Club: Bruce Borsak, former manager of ProRobics and now employed with the Magnuson Athletic Club, called on 1/4 to tell LCC about the new athletic club and to lay the groundwork for a good working relationship. The website is <http://macseattle.com>. He was invited to a future LCC meeting.
9. Waterway No. 1: Neighbors cleared logs and floating debris along the shoreline at Waterway No. 1. LCC has been in touch with DNR about log removal. Under LCC's Right of Entry Agreement with DNR, all volunteers must sign a volunteer form authorizing specific work to be performed at the waterway. Work should be coordinated with Fish and Wildlife to ensure that habitat is not impacted. LCC has also been in touch with King County's noxious weed program to seek advice on removal of the phragmites.
10. New chocolate/wine bar: Leta Goldberg emailed on 1/6 to tell LCC about her new business My Divine Chocolates which just opened on 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE between Mama Melina's and Shun. It is a chocolate café and wine bar with an elegant atmosphere, free wi fi, a large flat screen, tapas and sandwiches and wine by the glass or bottle to purchase with gift chocolates. Everything made on the premises is Belgian chocolate.
11. Children's construction issues: A neighbor who lives near the hospital emailed on 1/7 raising concerns about demolition of Laurelton. Dump trucks are going in and out of the path in between the hospital and Laurelton—directly across from the boulevard and right below the bus stop. There was a photo of this in a recent blog posting. There are flaggers, but the neighbor asks whether it is allowable for trucks to use the path. She added that cars are not expecting vehicles to come out of that area and that it has never been done before as far as the neighbor knows.

The neighbor also raised concerns about 40th Avenue NE. There is a road closed sign there on and off. It seems as if part of the street has been dug up then replaced with a big metal cover that cars go up and over now. There are very large excavator vehicles sitting on the road and sometimes not even to the side. The neighbor wondered if Children's was authorized to close this road. The neighbor asked that Children's keep vehicles inside the property until they need to exit as well as parking construction vehicles inside the property and not out on the street. In addition to flaggers, there are many other construction workers milling around out on 40<sup>th</sup>—posing safety risks This is not convenient for surrounding communities and seems a bit dangerous not to have all activity contained inside the Laurelton property.

12. Chickens: On 1/9, Richard Ettinger emailed to see if LCC knew of any neighbors raising chickens so his family could compare notes. He was put in touch with the Jensens.
13. Unsafe and over-parking on residential street: On 1/10, a neighbor reported that the renters at 4335 NE 45th Street (a very busy street and entry point in Laurelhurst) have parked their convertible on the street for over six months now. It is covered and has an orange electrical cord running from it and up into a tree then onto the rental property. Several neighbors have called Seattle Police Parking Enforcement as the parking enforcement officer told neighbors that and he used to come by every week for the last few months and mark the car on the tire with green chalk. The car would then be moved for a very brief time to get the chalk off and be right back. The officer said he talked to the renters and they claim they move it every 72 hours however it doesn't appear they do. For two days they parked it in the driveway, really where it should be parked for long periods of time. Now that this parking enforcement officer has changed his beat the car sits there endlessly without being moved as it doesn't appear the new Meter Maid is watching it. The neighbor believes it is unsafe to hang an electrical cord from a tree. The neighbor also said that the cover on the car is

very mildewed and looks awful. Our neighborhood prides itself on following City codes, being respectful of neighbors and keeping our neighborhood appearance clean. Lassen said she has received many complaints about the car. The neighbor who contacted LCC has been in touch with Seattle Children's as the car owner is a Children's tenant.

14. Parked car: A neighbor across from Laurelhurst School reported a parked car with an extension cord that has been there for several months. Children's owns the house, and rents it out.
15. Work crew: Colleen McAleer talked to a work crew digging in the street which seemed to be working without a permit.

#### ADMINISTRATION

Minutes: The board postponed review of the December 13, 2010 minutes.

#### Treasurer's Report:

Monthly report: The board reviewed the monthly treasurer's report that was included in the agenda packets. This month includes the final \$50,000 from our settlement with Children's Hospital. The Newsletter finished 2010 in the black by a few dollars. Landscaping in the 41<sup>st</sup> St median went a little over budget.

Discussion of possibly running a series of articles promoting local businesses. Kay volunteered to do some interviews for the Newsletter.

The dues statements and security letters cost \$1200 and \$1800 respectively. If we combine the two, we would save \$350 in postage. The committee will take another look at it.

1. NE 41<sup>st</sup> Street/Mary Gates median maintenance: On December 28, the UW wrote to LCC about its maintenance responsibilities for the Mary Gates/NE 41<sup>st</sup> Street planted median. After 16 years, in 2005 under the leadership of UW president Mark Emmert, the UW finally agreed to share in maintenance responsibilities for the median. A series of neighborhood matching fund grants from the city many years ago stated that the UW and LCC would share in maintenance of the medians.

In a letter to LCC in July 2005, the UW stated, "... because the University does have property on both sides of a portion of this strip, it would appear reasonable that the University share in a portion of the maintenance of the area. For that reason, the President has asked me to let you know that, beginning this summer or fall, we **will** share in the cost by assuming the weeding responsibility for the section of the landscaped strip that begins adjacent to Laurel Village and ends at 36<sup>th</sup> NE."

Now, the UW has decided that because of budget cuts, they will no longer be able to continue to do the maintenance. LCC has asked Heath Landscaping for a bid to add the UW's portion to our current contract with either twice a year or quarterly maintenance. In the meantime, LCC will continue to work with the UW to ensure that they fulfill their maintenance responsibilities.

2. History book reprinting and logistics: Barb Ragee who coordinates distribution of the Laurelhurst history book reported that she is exploring other outlets for sale of the book. For many years, Miller Pollard sold the books. Now that they are going out of business as U Village did not renew their long term lease, Ragee suggested contacting Mrs. Cooks as the owner is a Laurelhurst resident. She also suggested that Maggie Weissman might be interested in distributed the books as she is the Laurelhurst representative at Windermere Real Estate.

The board previously approved up to \$5,000 for reprinting of the history book. Ragee will be in touch with Jet City Printing for an estimate.

3. Dues statements/private security project renewal: It has been suggested that LCC combine the annual dues statement mailing with the materials mailed out for renewal subscriptions to the private security project. Combining dues and security letters would save about \$350. The Crime Prevention Co-chairs have the renewal letter and tips handout ready for mailing for the private security project. Dexter has put together the figures for mailings of the dues statements and the security project. Sorscher has been asked if the Click&Pledge online form can be modified to include secure emergency contact info for private security subscribers.

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. Children's SAC Meeting: The next SAC meeting is Tuesday, January 18, 6-8:30 p.m. at the Sound Café on the 5<sup>th</sup> Floor of the hospital. The agenda includes an update on the construction management plan, a presentation on the livable streets workshop and a presentation on the Addendum to the EIS regarding relocation of the helistop. The focus of the meeting will be development of SAC comments on the helistop MUP and EIS addendum.
3. Addendum to EIS for Proposed Relocation of Existing Helistop: The deadline to comment on the EIS Addendum for this MUP application is January 20. The proposal would allow the relocation of existing on-grade helistop on the Seattle Children's main campus to a new on-grade location on the same campus. Included in the work is the grading for the new pad, the on-grade helistop pad, the pathway to the building including the bridge connector, canopy, and exterior entry door into Level A of the Phase 1 building. Copies of the EIS Addendum have not been made available to the public nor is the document posted on the master plan website, but Children's did provide copies to LCC's committee upon request with two extra copies to take to the Northeast District Council meeting.
4. Celebrations: Wu Hsing Tao School place is celebrating Chinese New Year in February. University of Oregon's football team is playing in the championship game tonight. Go Ducks!
5. The comment period of the Supplemental EIS comment period. We have a few copies of the Supplemental EIS, but no copies are available for the general public, and the Children's web site has no electronic version, either.

REPORTS/ACTION:

Crime Prevention: Linda Luiten summarized the Northeast Precinct meeting. Chief Diaz' first priority is fighting crime. He wants to improve investigation procedures. Another priority is reducing tensions and fear between residents and the department. Diaz would like to see more "community policing" in high crime areas. The third priority is building and strengthening community. Police make about 500,000 stops per year. Training and assignments should help build a sense of identity and connection to the community.

Older police officers are not retiring.

Crime statistics were very quiet for our area, stolen packages, being an exception. Women were accosted jogging in parks, but no one has been arrested.

SR 520 Update: Tolling on 520 is scheduled to start in the Spring. Tolling is designed as a traffic management tactic. The idea is to modify behavior while collecting tolls. Peak toll will be \$3.50 each way, if you have a Good-to-Go transponder. If you are billed at home, the costs would be higher.

The bridge transponders will be in the middle of the bridge. Crews are installing the equipment over a series of weekends. The Attorney General ruled that the Legislature must set the tolls, which brings I-1053 into the picture.

Tolls will be charged both ways. A Good-To-Go account can be used by the whole family, using multiple transponders. When you setup the account, you can get a transponder at the same time. Other states have agreed to supply Washington State with home addresses so out-of-state cars can be billed.

I-90 will not be tolled, because it is under Federal jurisdiction. I-90 and SR 520 may be declared a "corridor" which may lead to tolling on both bridges.

Activity on 520 will move the traffic issues onto I-5. Colleen passed out a traffic analysis, which showed slow-downs and backups on I-5 north- and south-bound at different times of day. The express lanes on I-5 will be modified to connect to SR 520. This will remove one lane from the express lanes.

The 520 interchange at Montlake currently calls for two Bascule bridges, although the Montlake neighborhood objects to that. City Council will recommend that WashDOT hold off the second bascule bridge until certain triggers are met. The triggers have not been identified.

The pedestrian cross-over between Husky Stadium and campus will be the subject of a meeting on January 12 at MOHAI.

CleanScapes Update: Maggie Weissman and Kay Kenny updated the board. As part of the CleanScapes program, LCC has begun a cork recycling program in partnership with University Wines (formerly La Contina) and CorkReharvest, a project of the Cork Forest Conversation Alliance. Neighbors are asked to save their corks and turn them in at University Wines.

Recently First Lady Obama hosted three celebrity chefs to the White House for a "cook off". All of these chefs are also partnering with CorkReHarvest. As a result, CorkReharvest has invited the White House to participate in the cork recycling program.

It takes a cork oak tree about 25 years before the cork can be harvested from it. After that, cork can only be harvested from the tree every nine years, but only cork from the very first harvest is suitable for wine corks. Wine corks cannot be used again as wine corks because of bacterial concerns, but they can be recycled into many other useful objects such as push pin cork boards, coasters and flooring.

Other?

Wedgwood Park Acquisition: The Wedgwood Community Council would like support from other neighborhoods for the acquisition of the decommissioned Morningside Substation at 8605 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE. The site is approximately 14,000 square feet and would be purchased with funds from the 2008 Parks and Green Spaces Levy.

The Parks and Recreation Department sought sites at least 10,000 square feet that were available for sale, and would not take up an inordinate percentage of the total funding available for all acquisitions citywide through the Parks and Green Spaces Levy. The Levy allocates funding for the acquisition of properties in areas that have been identified in the Seattle Parks Department 2006 Development Plan and Gap Analysis as being deficient in open space.

Wedgwood and the Parks Department also looked at the Jewish Community Center property, but the market price was over what the Levy would fund. They also looked at the Hunter Tree Farm site and the Wedgwood Presbyterian Church parking lot across the street from the church. Those properties are located outside the gap usable space map and are not for sale and will not be for sale in the foreseeable future.

**Motion** by Emily Dexter, seconded by Colleen McAleer to support acquisition of the Morningside substation in Wedgwood for a small park. **Motion passed** unanimously.

Designation of Sand Point Naval Air Station as an Historic District: The board reviewed and discussed informational materials included in the agenda packets about this issue. Lynn Ferguson from Citizens for Sand Point Naval Station Historic District made one correction on the handout in LCC's agenda packet. It should be Jefferson not Jackson Park Golf course the Army pilots landed on before we had an airfield near Seattle. This is on page one, paragraph 4. Ferguson added that it is important to note the touchdown by Charles Lindbergh on September 13, 1927. Regarding criteria for local historic designation, Ferguson said that buildings must be at least 25 years old and those at the Sand Point Naval Air Station are all over 50 years old. The Seattle Municipal Code for Historic Preservation is SMC 25.12.305 Each district has its own ordinance that is set up after the Department of Neighborhoods talks with owners and establishes guidelines. The city council needs to pass the ordinance. Councilmember Tom Rasmussen will sponsor the ordinance.

On November 5, 2009, the Sand Point Naval Station received listing on the state's Washington Heritage Register of Historic Places. On July 2, 2010, the site received notice of listing in the National Register of Historic Places due to its importance to aviation and military history. LCC supported these efforts. Now, Citizens for Sand Point Naval Station Historic District—"Saving the Past for the Future"—are seeking designation of the site as an historic district at the local level. This would mean that the appearance and historical integrity of structures and public spaces would be regulated by a citizens' board and/or the Landmarks Preservation Board in accordance with processes and criteria established by city ordinance.

Part of the site is owned by UW and is used for education. Part is owned by the Parks Department and is used for recreation. The rest is used for housing. The park is slowly being commercialized.

Designation by the City is important because City rules and resources would enforce consistency of new designs. The Parks Department supports the designation.

**Motion** by Emily Dexter, seconded by Leslie Wright, that LCC support designation of Sand Point Naval Station as an Historic District. **Motion passed** without objection. Colleen McAleer abstained to avoid the appearance of a conflict of interest.

Community Center Advisory Team: During the recent city budget process, the Council passed a statement of legislative intent (SLI) calling for appointment of a Community Center Advisory Committee to study:

1. Increased partnerships for the management and operations of the City's Community Centers,

2. Increased partnerships for planning and fundraising for the City's Community Centers,
3. Alternate management, operational and staffing models for the City's Community Centers.

Hale submitted a letter of interest that is included in the correspondence packet. At this morning's City Council briefings meeting, Councilmember Bagshaw who chairs the Council's Parks and Seattle Center Committee stated that there have been many applications to fill the two spots for representatives from the community. Because of the volume of applicants, it is unlikely that Hale would be appointed.

Executive Session at 8:45 PM