

**Belltown Community Council
General Meeting
Wednesday, October 19, 2011**

I. Call to Order

A motion to call to order was made and seconded, and President Campbell called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

II. Approve Minutes

Gina Alexander moved to approve the minutes from the September meeting. Daryl Bunce seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

III. Mary's Place - Marty Hartman, Executive Director

- The Women with children have very difficult time finding emergency shelter - up to 12 weeks
- Turned 9 families away in past week

IV. Neighborhood Reports

PBR - Daryl Bunce:

- PBR found a bunch of needles two weeks ago, but none last weekend.
- The rats are coming back at 1st & Bell.
- PBR cleanings move to 3 PM Sundays in November.

Belltown Citizens on Patrol - Gina Alexander:

- The next walk is tomorrow night at midnight.
- They have had good participation lately.
- Walks will be on Wednesdays in November.

LEAD - Chris

- The start date was Oct 1st.
- Things are moving slowly because the West Precinct has had its hands full with Occupy Seattle. Both green-light nights so far were cancelled as a result.
- There have been three referrals so far.

NATS - Elizabeth Campbell

- NATS is in the process of developing a work plan.
- The police are conducting emphasis patrols from 6-9 AM.
- The City's Human Services Department is coordinating with social service agencies in Belltown.
- City Light is going to convert many more streetlights to LED.
- SDOT is currently trimming trees to unblock the streetlights.
- If you notice any hot spots for drug dealing or prostitution, let Elizabeth know.

Bert

- The Ride Free Area is ending next October.
- The City is looking into funding a free downtown shuttle.
- Elizabeth asked if there was interest in having a speaker from Metro.

Disaster Preparedness - Matthew Loar

- Submitted application for Small & Simple grant

V. Ron Harris-White from Department of Parks & Recreation

Mr. Harris-White spoke about the challenges facing Belltown. Belltown is home to "dysfunctional populations," many of whom are not indigenous to Seattle. He was very interested in gathering opinions from residents on what "broken windows" there are in Belltown - things in the built environment that send the message that there isn't a strong

community and invite crime. He promised to return for the next BCC meeting.

VI. Steven Jones for the Families & Education Levy

Mr. Jones spoke in favor of renewing and doubling the Families & Education property tax levy. He pointed out that the state constitution stipulates that education is the paramount duty of the state, yet over the last few years Olympia has made severe cutbacks in education budgets.

The levy is administered by the City's Office of Education and pays for student health centers, after-school and summer programs that provide wrap-around services to help students succeed.

The cost is 27 cents per \$1000 of assessed value, which for the average Seattle home is \$5 per month.

VII. Adjournment