

Belltown Community Council
General Meeting
Wednesday, April 10, 2013

Minutes

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM.

2. Approval of the Minutes

The minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

3. Neighborhood Reports

a. BCOP - Keith Kentop

Went on walk last night and hung new posters. Next time they'll bring a stepstool.

b. MID - Brian Scott

i. Proposal is moving forward. 65% in favor. Before City Council. Public hearing is Tuesday at 5:30 PM.

ii. Cleaning safety marketing and events. 17 new cleaning staff just for Belltown to clean every street every day. Targeted police patrols. Assessment would go into effect on July 1st. First bills would go out in July.

iii. Question: how much support do you need? City Council wants 60%.

c. Belltown Wine Share - Justin Rush

i. Last Friday. 80 people came

ii. Next one at Ellington on May 3rd.

iii. They're on Facebook.

4. Walton Lofts Project - Mark Walsh, COO of Schuster Group

a. Have been through Early Design Guidance

b. Getting Master Use Permit now

c. Based in Belltown. This is their 3rd project here.. Built Mosler Lofts, finishing Joseph Arnold Lofts on Cedar & Elliott. Several employees live in the neighborhood.

d. They have had several meetings with other community groups. Excited about project.

e. Two EDG meetings in January and February. Submitted for MUP in early March. City is doing technical zoning review. Can't schedule Design Review until done.

f. Also under review by SDOT for Street Use.

g. If you go on DPD's design review website, you'll find all the materials presented in design review meetings.

h. Interest tonight is to hear community interests in this project that connects the beckoning cistern to the P-Patch. Hear to listen to questions and concerns.

i. Question: what is there now? A parking lot. Immediately across the alley from the P-Patch.

j. Question: just that corner? Yes, from Vine Street to Millionair Club, Western to

alley.

- k. Question: how tall? 12 stories. Height limit is 125 feet. Same height as Joseph Arnold and Mosler Lofts. Because sloping site, two height limits.
 - l. Question: apartments or condos? Apartments, rentals.
 - m. Question: how do you protect the P-Patch? Discussing with contractor how to minimize impacts. Paving the alley.
 - n. Question: parking. 1.5 stories underground
 - o. Question: can become condos? Not by Schuster. Market wants more rentals right now.
 - p. Question: is there a value add to the P-Patch? Yes. P-Patch protects the view. Vine St is Seattle's iconic green street. Building a green building that interfaces with the green street.
 - q. Question: can you describe the Green Globes program? Third-party certification started in Canada, administered from Portland. Joseph Arnold Lofts have also been submitted. Why Green Globes vs. LEED? Considerably less expensive. Greater certainty. Built Mosler for Gold, but missed it by one point. Work with Green Globes throughout process. Less actual paperwork, more online. Green Globes is more international, LEED very American. Lots of developers build to LEED standards but don't pursue certification. Russell Investments Center is one example. Seattle Municipal Code requires building to green standards.
 - r. Question: given building's density and parking per unit, what is the target audience? Afraid it will become a frat house. Pretty high-end rental product. Upper quartile of income spectrum. Not a frat house, nice homes. Downtown code does not require any parking, and market asks for less and less. Putting in lots of bike parking in a neighborhood where lots of people walk. What is average size of units? Average size is just under 700 sqft. Low 600s/high 500s to 1400 sqft penthouse units.
 - s. Question: what is the completion date? Hope to begin construction in late fall. Completed spring/summer 2015.
5. Belltown-Uptown Transit Improvement - Jonathan Dong and Donald Cheng, SDOT
- a. Denny Way Trolley extension, Metro 1,2,13. Use SB 1st to EB Broad, SB 3rd. Challenge is that travel time is slow and unreliable. SDOT is trying to improve speed and reliability.
 - b. Meeting with adjacent businesses about changes. No parking changes. Travel time is reduced about 2 minutes which can be reinvested.
 - c. Completing design and outreach this spring, construction this fall.
 - d. Question: what about NB buses? Would need a signal at 3rd and Denny. Trying hard to achieve. Because of angle, would need a large pocket for a bus. Still looking at it, but very difficult.
 - e. Broad Street - peak period 30 bus trips in corridor. Having a lot of trouble making the right turn from Broad to 1st.
 - f. 1st change is channelization change - making lane wider so buses have easier time turning.

- g. Also creating BAT lane on Broad. Originally considered all-day, now 7-7. Some parking removed on south side of Broad and east side of 1st Ave.
 - h. Transit highest mode share in downtown. Bike is growing fastest.
 - i. Changes with Viaduct demolition, Seawall replacement, Mercer project.
 - j. Lake-to-Bay trail
 - k. Bike lanes are not the facility people want to use. Prefer separated facilities.
 - l. Envisioning that Broad Street will have a protected bicycle facility.
 - m. Question from Tom: Broad Street is one corridor that BBA and BCC have considered for improvement. If want Lake-to-Bay on Broad, need to do more outreach around the cycletrack.
6. Waterfront Seattle - Marshall Foster, DPD, and Tatiana Chouluka, James Corner Field Operations
- a. The Viaduct is coming down in 2016. Many Belltowners were a part of the push to reconnect with the waterfront.
 - b. This will open up 26 city blocks from the stadiums up to Belltown.
 - c. With Viaduct removal, Battery Street Portal becomes an opportunity to provide open space in Belltown.
 - d. Viaduct will come down, portal will be closed.
 - e. Concept released July 2012.
 - f. Bell Street Park goes to 1st Ave, opportunity to extend West.
 - g. Elliott Way on surface in footprint of the Viaduct.
 - h. Several parcels will be opened up.
 - i. Question: what happens to Alaskan Way? Same north of Piers 62/63.
 - j. Question: where are you in the process. Been in it for 2.5 years. Framework plan adopted by city council in August. About 2/3 funding in place. Design is going from concept to engineering.
 - k. Question: how do we submit comments? Figuring that out - want to have a broader community walkshop, have a hands-on session. More to come on that.
 - l. Question: when is the start date? Still a ways out. We're probably talking about 2018.
 - m. Question: what about being taken over by homeless people? You need to make a place that many people want to be. Bigger problem when you have a place that is out of the way and doesn't have much natural activity. Try to activate, and have community ownership. No silver bullet.
 - n. Tom: Cal Anderson Park is a great example. Used to be terrible. Now a great park, has a community group that supports it.
 - o. Ayres: San Francisco demolished a freeway and built a great place in its stead.
7. Asset Based Community Development - Eric Likkel
- a. 33 people came.
 - b. Very positive. Several sectors of the neighborhood.
 - c. Taking a breather. Going to get back to the neighborhood with projects undertaken.
 - d. Great day for Belltown.

8. WestPAC - Dean McColgan
 - a. Chief Diaz retired. Cops on the street seem to trust Jim Pugel.
 - b. Consensus is that best to leave search process until after the mayoral election.
 - c. There will be more opportunities to get involved.
 - d. Predictive policing - data-driven approach to policing. Very successful in Los Angeles in predicting where certain crimes are likely to occur.
 - e. May Day - took a lot of heat for how they handled it last year. Will have stronger presence and tracking groups that may cause trouble. Realized they could have had a better plan last time.
 - f. Afraid that groups may demonstrate on the days leading up to May Day.
 - g. Hempfest - in police opinion, park not safe for police. Wedged between water and railroad. Strategy to police the outside. Want to move it, but so far unsuccessful.
9. Hempfest people have offered to come out to a meeting.
10. Announcement - Christa Dumpys
 - a. The City is accepting applications for People's Academy for Community Engagement. More information and application online.
11. Motion to amend bylaws to add 3 non-officer positions on the Council Board made by Justin Rush. Seconded by Ann Marie Hitchcock.
 - a. Lisa Kentop - for, would be useful for Social Media/communications.
 - b. Approved unanimously.
12. Motion to have staggered terms for new positions made by Greta Fagerland.
 - a. Approved unanimously.
13. Need ad-hoc committees for bylaws. Dean volunteers for bylaws. Justin too.
14. Nominating committee: Matt, Eric, Keith.
15. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM.