

Belltown Community Council meeting minutes

May 13th, 2015

Belltown Community Center, 415 Bell Street, Seattle, WA. 98121

Meeting called to order by Liz Campbell, President.

Minutes for April, 2015 meeting were approved.

Announcements and Neighborhood reports:

1. May 14th is a public event for 'Public Realm Study' at Cornish University.
2. David Levinson (Friend of art on Pier 86) presented an update on the Silo Mural Project. They have a grant to do the feasibility study which is funded to go through to March 31st 2016. UW Art and Landscape/Architecture classes have contributed ideas for the mural. Information sheets were passed out to everyone in the meeting regarding frequently asked questions about the study. Please contact David if you have any questions.
3. A huge thank you to 'Biscuit Bitch' for providing the fantastic food this evening from their location at 2303 3rd Avenue. 206- 728-2219 <http://www.biscuitbitch.com>

Elections:

Liz Campbell, outgoing President, thanked Keith Kentop for organizing the elections.

Keith Kentop, Council board member: Marketing and Branding thanked Liz Campbell for her dedication and boundless energy as President of the BCC and for helping to ease the process.

Copies of bios for all candidates were distributed to all at the meeting. Directions were explained:

1. Can take nominations from the floor, in addition to those who have already submitted bios and goals.

2. No secret vote. Those eligible will raise their hand to vote and the Secretary, Tracy Roberts will count the votes.
3. Charles Green, Treasurer, will time keep. All candidates will have the opportunity to talk for 2 minutes. Charles will raise cards indicating time left: 60 seconds, 30 seconds and time up.
4. After each candidate talks, there will be the opportunity for them to be asked up to 3 questions.

President vote:

Dean McColgan was nominated by David Levinson. Dean is on vacation and unable to attend elections. He prepared a statement which was read out by David Levinson.

No questions were possible due to his absence.

The President job description was read out by Liz Campbell.

Keith Kentop was nominated for president by Charles Green. Keith declined the nomination as he feels he has more to learn before taking on that role.

Vote was opened for the President position. 15 votes were counted by the Secretary. Dean McColgan was elected President and will be notified when he returns from vacation.

Vice President vote:

Vice President job description was read out by Liz Campbell. The Vice President position is a 1 year interim position and open to the floor for nominations. Lisa Kentop nominated Keith Kentop and it was seconded.

Keith Kentop spoke for 2 minutes. On completion, it was open to the floor for questions.

His main focus is to increase numbers attending the BCC meetings, using www.nextdoor.com, networking in person, online and with businesses in Belltown. He was asked about strict timekeeping at meetings and he said that he will strive to ensure meetings start and finish on time as he does already. His primary focus for Belltown is brand awareness and making sure that people know they are in Belltown.

No more nominations from the floor.

Vote was opened for the Vice President position. 16 votes counted by the secretary. Keith Kentop was elected Vice President.

Secretary vote:

Secretary job description was read out by Liz Campbell.

Tracy Roberts spoke for 2 minutes. She has been acting secretary for 2 meetings now and wants to continue to improve in the role, to organize paperwork so that it's easily accessible, to work with the communications officer to add pertinent links to the website and the facebook page. She wants to encourage more people to become involved with the BCC and has made flyers advertising the council and it's meetings which she plans to distribute to businesses and residences. In a non secretarial role, she wants to organize collection drives for groups that serve Belltown and it's residents.

She responded to a question about the PBR group she is part of.

No more nominations for the position.

13 votes were counted by Charles Green. Tracy Roberts was elected as Secretary.

Non officer seats #1 and #3 votes:

Liam Hallihan, Communications, Seat #1, is standing for re-election for this position having finished a 2 year term. He spoke for 2 minutes. His focus is on transportation, safety issues, economic development and attracting the film industry to Belltown, which he has already been part of.

There were no questions for Liam.

Comments made from Keith Kentop that they have similar interests and have worked well together on these and Charles Green stating that Liam is an asset to the board.

Andy Peck spoke for 2 minutes about identifying problems to be solved within the community.

Questions from the residents about what his ideas and projects were for Belltown. He responded that he's interested in LEAD program but has no agenda on that. He's also interested in Bike safety and personal safety in general. He was asked about homeless people in the area but had no specific answer about how he would tackle that.

Anisa Ishida spoke for 2mins. She stated that neighborhoods matter. She's focused on residential parking, safe streets and fair housing. She wants to be the voice of Belltown Council as well as the community.

Questions: About housing: Housing needs to be regulated with low income residents as well as providing them with good places to live.

Residential parking: If you are a 2 car family, you have to pay to park at home. Belltown is not zoned which would allow residents to park on the street a lot easier. Some new buildings do not provide parking either.

Projects: None in Belltown. She works with the Junior League in Seattle, volunteers with them. Homelessness - single women, women with kids, families: we do not have enough beds/places for them. There were two comments, both positive about Anisa.

Chase Craig. Spoke for 2 minutes. He's from Alabama, via NJ and moved to Seattle a year ago. He joined Denny Triangle politics to do something about building in that area. He loves the area.

Question: Asked about as he's new, how does he represent Belltown. He responded that he wants to be more involved, has been to one meeting since arrival. He's learning about the neighborhood and promoting change. There's a difference between rent control and being affordable (economically evicted). He's a proponent of a resolution of new developments to have funds go towards affordable buildings.

Matthew Fei did not show for the elections.

Terique Scott. Spoke for 2 minutes. He believes that the middle class are being priced out of Belltown and there's a housing crisis in Seattle. He stated that the middle class tend to contribute to the community a lot.

Questions about how he will represent Belltown if he's focused on the middle class housing issues. He said that he would have to look into that as his focus is on the middle and sometime lower class.

There were no more questions. There was a positive comment about Terique.

Voting was opened, counted by the Secretary and results are as follows:

Liam Hallihan - 17

Anisa Ishida - 9

Terique Scott - 9

Liam was re-elected as Non Officer Seat #1.

Anisa and Terique were asked to talk again for a run off for Seat #3.

Anisa re-iterated what she talked about prior. Terique also briefly talked about what the position was and added about LEAD being something of interest to him too.

Voting was opened and counted by the Secretary with results as follows:

Anisa - 7

Terique - 12

Terique Scott was elected as Non Officer Seat #3.

Keith Kentop, on being elected as Vice President has vacated his position as Non Officer #2. Per BCC By-Laws, the position cannot be filled for one month, but will be open for election or appointment at that time.

Meeting was adjourned.