

FINAL

May 10, 2016 MEADOBROOK COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

At 7:00 pm the President, Dan Keefe, called the meeting to order. There were 16 attendees, including at least 11 voting members in attendance.

Plant for the Planet/Trees for Climate Justice Group Two students reviewed their organization's goals, which are to plant 1 million trees per country in the next year. They have chapters in over 100 countries and global warming from excessive carbon dioxide levels is their concern. Trees take in carbon dioxide and break it down into oxygen and glucose. They said the average person in the U.S. emitted 20 tons of carbon dioxide per year, versus ½ ton per persons per year in Africa. Carbon dioxide in the atmosphere is currently the highest in the last 600,000 years and going sharply higher. Mike Foster said there are 3.0 billion trees on earth today and we need to have 4.0 billion trees, in addition to cutting carbon emissions. 38% of the carbon stored in the U.S. is in trees west of the Cascades. In a recent lawsuit against the Washington Department of Ecology in Superior Court, their organization won a decision that children have a right to have their environment protected by the state government. If upheld, this decision will require the Department of Ecology to issue regulations to reduce carbon dioxide emissions. He urged members to contact the governor to uphold the court's decision and order the DOE to comply. Climatechangeformfamilies.com is their web site.

Break Free/Anacortes Action Deejah Sherman-Peterson informed members there will be a march this Friday, Saturday, and Sunday by Anacortes at March Point to protest carbon emissions and urge climate change. It is sponsored by breakfreepnw.org.

Road Microsurfacing in Meadowbrook has been proposed by SDOT. It will take place from July to August. Microsurfacing is different than chip sealing or oiling the roads. It is a thinner, harder layer that goes over the top of the existing street. The paving will occur from NE 85th Street to NE 105th Street and from Ravenna Avenue NE to Lake Washington. SDOT will also be redoing all sidewalk access points on streets with sidewalks, to make them ADA accessible. Gary Sievert reported the SDOT website has more information about the proposal.

The concern with microsurfacing is it does not allow a berm to hold the water at the edge of the street to channel it to nearby storm drains. He believes this will result in increased storm water runoff throughout Meadowbrook. As a result, there is no solution to the increased water flow. Meadowbrook is at the bottom of the storm water system in NE Seattle. Daylighting of Northgate has contributed to increased water flow in Thornton Creek and flooding in Meadowbrook. He believes Meadowbrook residents should lobby for berms to convey water past their property to storm drains.

Mr. Sievert obtained a form from Seattle Public Utilities which homeowners can submit to document problems with the storm water system near their home. He believes this is a great opportunity for Meadowbrook to provide input to SPU about storm water problems and urged all residents to submit the form to SPU to document the storm water runoff problems. It will be sent via email to those on the MCC email list.

Thornton Creek Confluence Project Completion SPU and Thornton Creek Alliance are planning a party to celebrate the end of the Thornton Creek Confluence Project in the Meadowbrook Community Center parking lot Saturday afternoon, June 11th.

Sidewalk Committee The Committee submitted two pedestrian improvement proposals to the North District for lower cost projects and achieved two of the three projects approved by the ND Council from 13 competitors. The first was a flashing beacon at the pedestrian crosswalk across 35th Avenue NE at NE 105th Street. The second was a raised sidewalk crossing NE 110th Street near Nathan Hale High School at 34th Avenue NE.

The Committee is also lobbying The North District Council for three more expensive sidewalk projects costing between \$100,000 and \$1,000,000 to be funded by the Neighborhood Street Fund and other sources. The NDC just had a tour of 11 sites in north Seattle competing for the NDC's recommendation of five to be evaluated by SDOT for feasibility and cost analysis. Three were from Meadowbrook. One is along the east side of 31st Avenue NE on the west side of Jane Adams from 115th to Nathan Hale HS. The second is on the south side of NE 110th Street between 35th and 36th Avenues NE. The City is asking the State Department of Transportation for money to finish this section and Brian Dougherty of SDOT said neighborhood support would help the City get the \$1,000,000 needed to build a pedestrian bridge and sidewalk at this site. The third proposed sidewalk is on 39th Avenue NE from NE 109th Street to the entryway to the path on the east side of the Pond Park. The NDC will vote on May 24th for the five it will submit to SDOT for review of a total of 65 proposals citywide. Based on SDOT cost estimates, the ND will then rank their five projects. Normally each district such as ND will have one or two projects completed, so there is no assurance the Committee's efforts will result in new sidewalks. The members applauded the President for his efforts.

Greenway Terry Vogel proposed a Greenway along 32nd Avenue NE from NE 105th Street south, crossing 95th Avenue NE. The President has brought this up to Brian Dougherty of SDOT, who urged him to continue to lobby for this. There is now a Greenway up to 89th at Lady of the Lake. The desire is to advance the Greenway along 32nd through Wedgewood to 95th and then on to NE 105th Street. A Greenway has no restriction on parking and is just a designation for a walkway. The designation does not require curbs or sidewalks. The objective is to create a safe route for children to walk to their school along quieter streets.

Community Garden Richard Anderson reported the community garden took part of the first harvest to the North Helpline.

North Precinct News Meadowbrook is continuing to do well in police crime statistics. There was a major drug bust at 8248 38th Avenue NE where there was drug dealing and stolen property warehoused. One tipoff to drug dealing is cars that drive up and quickly leave. Neighbors documented the problem and the Police Department then raided the house. The City Attorney threatened to seize ownership of the house under Anti-Drug laws and the owners have corrected the problem.

Minutes The minutes of the March 8, 2016 meeting were approved. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.

By: Michael Reinhardt, Secretary