

**PRCC Board Meeting**  
**Phinney Community Center**  
**August 13, 2013 Minutes**

**Minutes Prepared and Submitted:** Jan Satterthwaite

**Board Members Present:** Irene Wall, Diane Duthweiler, Susan Wagner, Ted Holden, Ron Siegle, Craig Satten, Mark Phillips, Carolyn Lee, Alice Pogee, Jan Satterthwaite

**Guests:** Officer Loren Street & Terrie Johnston, SPD Crime Prevention

**NEW BUSINESS**

- **Neighborhood Safety & Crime Concerns.**

Terrie Johnston is a neighborhood block watch and home burglary systems resource. She discussed the need for the community to consider using 911 for both emergency as well as suspicious behavior. 625-5011 is the non-emergency phone line for the Seattle Police Department to report parking complaints and non-suspicious or emergency requests. Terry discussed how Phinney Ridge is one of the few neighborhoods where the crime statistics have not significantly increased in the past few years. She suggested several strategies for homeowners and tenants to deter theft--installing surveillance cameras, motion sensor lighting and being proactive with block watch. Neighbors brought up several scenarios of residential theft. Diane Duthweiler recited a letter from a neighbor about a noticeable increase in homeless, drug dealers, and theft in the neighborhood. Terrie emphasized the success of neighborhood block watch strategies--telling neighbors when you will be on vacation, collaborating with neighbors about suspicious behavior, reporting graffiti, always talking to late night solicitor's through the door and not opening your door. Officer Loren wants to hear about suspicious drug dealing via email or phone call. Alice asked about half-way houses and how to avoid/be aware of them. Terrie suggested accessing the police blog where regular e-lets are sent about reported crime in the area. She also suggested carrying a charged cell phone and/or a dog when walking, and to choose safe routes to walk. Register your smart phone at smart911 to create a safety profile if you are unable to speak so that police can locate you when calling. Officer Loren suggested that neighbors should be most watchful of people living in cars vs. registered sex offenders. Irene asked about the officer patrol schedule (schedule varies.) Corey asked about bump proof locks (double cylinder with longer screws and bolts and reinforce door jams.) Both Terri and Loren suggested writing to our city officials about resource concerns. A letter written on behalf of the community council will provide an even stronger response from the council.

- **New PRCC Logo.**

Due to overtime of discussion on the Safety/Crime concern topic, Ted took an impromptu poll to determine if the board would consider the idea of a new logo re-design. The majority voted no.

- **Noise Level at Zoo.**

Mark Phillips discussed concerns from Zoo concert noise. Corey talked about the

fluctuations in concert noise levels. Ted had a conversation with a zoo official about city defined noise levels. He received the following response: no decibels exceeding 95 measured 50 feet from the source, and no decibels exceeding 57 average over 1 minute are allowed to cross residential property lines. He asked for the zoo official to send us a report of decibel measurements and scheduled measurement readings. Diane suggested contacting the zoo via their website to complain about the noise level. Ted will find the zoo's phone number to call for noise complaints and will publish it on the PRCC web site.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- **Zoo Updates.**

Irene discussed the parking expansion proposal. The zoo is proposing to move the admin trailers to the other ARC admin building behind the penguin exhibit, gaining 165 parking lots. The trailer move was estimated to be at \$2 million. Irene suggested a community based collaboration for a zoo parking management solution, one that doesn't remove trees to create large parking lots. Irene filed an appeal as an individual, but would like a council discussion to determine how we will address this issue as a group. A landmark hearing will be held Sept. 18th to discuss the pony barn preservation. Several members moved to join as a community council to create a community appeal, and to find additional alternative solutions. 11 voted to move as a council and 2 voted to abstain from being a co-appellant. Ted also mentioned the zoo is very supportive in creating an E-Line stop on Aurora and 50<sup>th</sup>. A lot of questions have been raised by the EIS.

- **5555 Phinney project.**

No new news about the proposed plans.

- **52nd & Phinney Townhomes.**

Occupant will not receive an occupancy permit until the Hornbeam trees have been replaced with the proposed Shore Pine trees.

- **Night out Magnets.**

300 Magnets were distributed on night out in a community outreach effort. The magnets have the PRCC website address for interested community members to stay in touch with what is happening in the neighborhood. Additionally, many new sign-ups for the PRCC email list.

## **OPEN DISCUSSION**

- What worked and what didn't for Zoo Lights? Carolyn, Mark & Ron will start a sub-committee to address ideas to the Zoo, and to discuss neighborhood ideas for future events.
- Carolyn Lee will create a community council letter addressed to the city council and mayor requesting more police presence in the neighborhood.
- John Bito asked if anyone wanted to work on street conditions issues with SDOT.
- Diane suggested inviting DPD representative to our next meeting to define neighborhood character, tree removal ordinances, and other relevant land use issues.

**Secretary Side Note**

Steep slope violations of the Critical Areas Ordinance and illegal cutting of trees in Seattle neighborhoods is considered felony malicious mischief under the current filing standards of the King County Prosecutor's Office. Violations should be reported to 206-615-0808.  
[source=Plant Amnesty]

**NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday September 3rd @ 7:30pm, Phinney Ridge Community Center.