

November 29, 2018
Constituency Executive Committee draft minutes
6:00 p.m.

Attendance: Jerry Baroh, David Ghoddousi, Lori Johnson, Ali Mowry, Nick Setten, Betty Halfon, Mark Brady, Joan Paulson

Jerry convened the meeting at 6:21 p.m.

Newsletter and social media

Jerry thanked Lori for the newsletter. Lori said she was thinking of sending it to the email list, and mailing it out, and posting it on the website. Nick suggested that if the agenda were attached to the back, it could be mailed out as one mailer. Ali asked about the content. Lori said that she and Katya discussed reaching out to various people at the Market. David suggested the social services could provide information for the newsletter.

Jerry asked for an update on social media. Ali said she has created a template for a calendar and generating content.

Improving communication with the PDA

There was a discussion of better communication with the PDA, including signing up for PDA Council notices. Ali expressed a concern about the way the Constituency's role was described in a PDA letter recently, as having a "limited policy advisory role." Betty encouraged writing a letter explaining the Constituency's role so that there could be a discussion at a PDA Committee meeting. She thinks having the Constituency recognized is important, otherwise, it may disband as the Merchants Association did.

Streetcar

David made a motion to invite the Mayor to the December meeting to discuss the streetcar. Ali said it wasn't identified as a high priority in the survey and it's been stopped by the city for now.

Newsletter

There was further discussion about content for the newsletter. Lori gave some examples and invited submissions. Mark asked how much it costs to produce for the newsletter. There was a discussion about combining it with the agenda and posting it on the website. Nick suggested including highlights from the PDA's agendas as part of the newsletter. Joan noted that next year is Chinese Year of the Pig and that the Foundation's activities could be covered. Nick cautioned against creating reader fatigue.

Nick suggested reviewing next month. Ali suggested being mindful of content for the newsletter. Betty reflected on Joan's comment that it's a community, not a shopping

center, and suggested that the newsletter reflect that as well. There was a discussion about a splash page that says, "This Market is yours."

Mark asked about an editor. It was clarified that Lori would be the editor. Nick volunteered to be a backup editor.

Moving office; mold issue

There was a discussion of testing and hazards; cleanup. Joan discussed procedures for replacing documents spoiled by mold. She offered her time to help items to the new office. She explained that the mold spores can be vacuumed from the office before moving items. Nick suggested scheduling the move for December 2. There was a discussion about sorting documents from the office for retention or disposal.

Coalition to save The Showbox

Nick reported back from a Friends of the Market meeting he had attended. So far the coalition consists of Friends of the Market and two employees of the Showbox. The coalition will reach out to City Council. Friends will reach out to Mary. Right now the focus is on identifying who can support. Joan said the Downtown Seattle Association is not in favor of saving the Showbox.

Elections

Mark suggested clarifying election procedures. He felt that the 9-5 limit should be scrapped, because it conflicts with the craftsellers' schedules. Nick suggested that the planning for the elections start in January, and asked Mark for his help.

Product mix

There was a discussion about stores in the Market and enforcement of product mix. Nick wondered if the product mixes are changing as a survival mechanism, and if the merchants association could help. Ali spoke to the services that used to exist in the Market that are now gone. She said there's a disparity between what the PDA thinks is important vs. what the Market community needs.

The Committee discussed being more involved in waterfront planning. Mark said the PDA is going to be responsible for the new bridge down to the waterfront all the way down to the Aquarium. There was a discussion about attending the Friends of the Waterfront meetings and other meetings, including Friends of the Market.

Christmas events

The Christmas event held on the weekend brought a great increase in foot traffic in the DownUnder. Betty Halfon recommended a New Year's Eve event at the Market. Nick asked about having a minora at the Market. He pointed out that there are people at the Market who celebrate Kwanzaa. Mark suggested discussing it at the Programs Committee. Betty said that she wants brainstorming meetings. She said perhaps half an

hour in the Program meetings could be devoted to brainstorming. Mark agreed.

Nick reviewed agenda items for the next meeting.

Jerry thanked Constituency members for volunteering to help move the office.

Meeting adjourned.