

**Pike Place Market Constituency
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
January 29th, 2026**

Attendance:

TO BE ADDED

Opening

Bob Braun opened the meeting by calling for approval of the agenda and minutes. Janis Jordan requested adding a tenant alert under new business as the first item. The agenda was approved with this addition, and the minutes were approved without objection.

PDA Council Reports & Discussion

Gina Karaba reported on the PDA committee, highlighting the recent John Turnbull show and confirming the upcoming retreat on February 26th at Perkins 13 on 2nd Street. Christine Vaughan detailed the retreat agenda, including budget discussions, the master plan, nominations, governance updates, breakout sessions, and public time. Alex Rasmussen updated on the SOM courtyard remodel and emergency sewer repairs on Somsdun, noting the work would be done at night over three nights to minimize disruption. Christine Vaughan previewed upcoming events: a full street report in March and guest speakers in April, with the executive committee managing the street report. Gina Karaba added that "The View" was selected as architect for the market front pavilion project to expand seating. Most reports are now available on the website due to time constraints.

Solutions to Survey's Critiques

Graham Marmion reviewed survey results from the previous meeting, summarizing 54 unique, actionable comments grouped into categories such as accessibility, agenda changes, and hybrid moderator roles. He proposed discussing solutions by category to identify quick wins and items requiring General Assembly (GA) approval. Christine Vaughan suggested pausing after five categories to assess progress, supported by Jonathan Berner. Bob Braun clarified that process improvements should be handled by the Executive Committee, with final decisions resting with the GA, as Skip Knox emphasized. Some solutions, like agenda restructuring and trialing a hybrid moderator, could be tested by the Executive Committee. Jonathan Berner raised concerns about

volunteer availability for the hybrid moderator role, suggesting administrative support from Emma, the temporary admin, contingent on her availability.

Bob Braun noted the temporary status of an item had been extended for scheduling. Gina Karaba requested clearer Zoom hand-raising indicators and distributing meeting materials as PDFs to avoid formatting issues. Graham Marmion explained the original spreadsheet format but agreed to reformat if needed and supported breaking agenda items into smaller groups. The group planned to contact Emma about serving as hybrid moderator or seek alternatives and discussed adding an auditory alert for online hand raises.

Bob Braun addressed a proposal to make meetings in-person only, stating GA approval is required. He opposed the idea personally but acknowledged differing views. Christine Vaughan suggested including this topic in future discussions. Braun recommended sorting agenda items by those requiring GA approval and those within committee authority.

Austin Godwin proposed a yellow hand prop to represent online hand raises, managed by a hybrid moderator. Alex Rasmussen argued the chair and attendees typically monitor raised hands adequately, cautioning against overcomplication. Graham Marmion cited survey feedback supporting a dedicated monitor for hybrid participants. Gina Karaba noted that participant unfamiliarity with Zoom hand-raising might limit moderator effectiveness. Jonathan Berner shared frustration with being unrecognized online and supported dedicated assistance. Bob Braun welcomed help managing both in-person and online participants. Skip Knox raised scalability concerns for large meetings, and Gina Karaba suggested using chat queues as an alternative. Braun concluded the issue is resolvable and proposed experimenting with approaches. The consensus was to pursue assistance for meeting moderation and participant recognition.

Christine Vaughan noted difficulty without printed materials for the Executive Committee. Graham Marmion said materials had been distributed two weeks prior without responses. Heather Pihl praised the constituency executive committee's functioning and increased in-person attendance, cautioning against overcomplication while supporting ongoing efforts.

Bob Braun acknowledged a printing oversight, which Christine Vaughan intended to address by providing paper copies for the GA. Janis Jordan clarified PDFs cannot be attached to emails but can be linked on the website, similar to City Council practices. Graham suggested hosting PDFs via a blog post. Christine expressed concern about executives' access without physical copies. Bob questioned email system limitations, and Janis agreed to add this to the IT list.

February's Open House

The discussion shifted to open house planning. Austin Godwin reported the RSVP invitation needs sending; Janis offered to embed content directly into emails due to PDF issues. The PDA is printing 300 high-quality invitations for distribution in the market. Twenty-three RSVPs were received, mostly from unfamiliar individuals. Attendance is capped at 75-120 due to catering and fire code limits. Austin raised managing attendance if the cap is reached. Emails were sent to the busker community for volunteer performances, with a random draw planned. Emily Pike reported five busker inquiries. The event schedule includes two to three 30-45 minute busker sets with tip jars and merchandise encouraged.

Jonathan Berner outlined the run-of-show: opening remarks, Executive Committee introductions, a speech by Christine Vaughan on PDA representatives, a presentation by Graham Marmion on the Engagement Committee, expressions of gratitude, a call to action, and mingling facilitated by Emily Pike's game. Austin emphasized the event's goal to foster constituency and community connections. Alex Rasmussen praised the planning and volunteered to deliver Christine's speech if needed.

Skip Knox raised concerns about reaching all constituency members and managing attendance limits, questioning first-come, first-served policies. Austin explained fire code limits attendance, not budget, and suggested streaming Jonathan's speech via Zoom for remote attendees. Christine noted the invitation clearly states space limits and referenced a survey with 54 responses.

Austin Godwin mentioned accommodating occasional visitors flying in for meetings could be considered next year. Alex Rasmussen inquired whether invitations were limited to constituency members or included plus ones; Austin confirmed broad invitations to neighborhood boards and committees, allowing guests. Jonathan Berner estimated about 10 neighborhood associations among roughly 20 invitees.

Website Proposals

Bob Braun transitioned to new business. Janis Jordan presented three proposals for a website refresh project divided into phases: Phase 1 developing a style guide covering colors, fonts, tone, voice, and imagery; Phase 2 updating website elements; and Phase 3 engaging a proposed digital manager contractor for development, accessibility, SEO, and engagement strategies. Janis shared that a new domain was secured but not yet accessible and described logo concepts inspired by Pike Place Market signage, incorporating feedback from the Executive Committee. The timeline aims to finalize Phase 1 by April.

Jonathan Berner supported bold, colorful logos and emphasized having color and black-and-white versions. He suggested a reveal and vote at the March meeting, with Bob Braun noting SurveyMonkey could facilitate feedback without large in-person attendance.

Janis proposed involving Emma, who has contributed to SEO improvements, to support ongoing updates and collaboration. Bob Braun supported this and noted the organization's transition to PDA servers for coordinated efforts. Austin Godwin praised the professionalism of the proposed work based on his marketing experience.

Janis proposed forming a six-month committee from GA members to help execute the website refresh, with her as sponsor. Bob Braun asked about selection; Janis suggested recruiting volunteers at the open house, including newer members interested in modernization and engagement. Bob agreed and noted committee formation procedures would be followed.

Jonathan Berner moved to form the committee and establish Janis as sponsor; Alex Rasmussen seconded. Bob Braun confirmed no objections and declared the motion passed by acclamation, allowing volunteer recruitment with objections to be raised at the GA.

Tenant Alert

Under new business, Janis introduced a tenant alert. Jonathan Berner explained the PDA had sent a tenant alert outlining its position and federal law enforcement practices and proposed forwarding it to the membership. Bob Braun asked for objections to sending it as a separate communication; none were raised, and he approved proceeding.

Public Comment

During public comment, Skip Knox cautioned against using personal pronouns like "our" or "my," suggesting editorial alternatives to avoid division. He announced his intention to introduce a motion at the next GA meeting to rename the committee, describing it as more administrative than executive, responsible for routine tasks like opening mail and paying bills.

Bob Braun moved to set the agenda for the next Assembly meeting. Jonathan Berner proposed adding 15 minutes to future meetings to accommodate often-contentious end-of-meeting discussions. Bob expressed no objection, emphasizing the importance of public input.

Gina Karaba raised concerns about the closed captioning system, describing it as "funky" but important for records. Graham Marmion encouraged careful review of

minutes, explaining the new process uses transcripts and large language models to produce summaries, significantly reducing time but potentially introducing errors.

Bob Braun concluded by thanking everyone.