

## **Pike Place Market Constituency Minutes**

Meeting Type: General Assembly, Regular Meeting

Date: August 16, 2022

Time: 6:00 pm PST.

Place: Meeting was held virtually via Zoom.

Members Present: Adora Lopez, Bruce Rutledge, Jerry Baroh, Gordie McIntyre, Nick Setten, Russell Monroe, Joan Paulson, Zekarayas Gebrkidan, Bob Braun, Christine Vaughn, Heather Pihl, Skip Knox, Bob Messina, Liz Hughes, Randy Dixon, Haley Land, Erik Pihl.

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 by Adora Lopez.

### **Approval of the Agenda**

A public comment period was added to the beginning of the meeting.

Nick Setten notes tomorrow is the 115<sup>th</sup> Birthday of the Pike Place Market.

### **Approval of the Minutes**

Joan Paulson notes for the record she did not get a copy of this month's agenda and was not able to read minutes from July and has asked for the list of people being sent the agenda be checked.

Russell Monroe states that the agendas and links to the July meetings and minutes were sent out on Sunday, and he assumes it went out to the entire body.

Christine Vaughn makes Motion #08162022-1 that we postpone the approval of the minutes.

Skip Knox seconds.

### **Public Comment**

Haley Land hopes we discuss tonight having an office administrator.

### **Old Business**

### **Election Report**

Secretary/Treasurer, Bruce Rutledge reports the results of the July election:

- PDA Council- Nick Setten (re-elected)
- Vice Chair- Robert Braun
- Officer at Large- Zekarayas Gebrkidan
- Officer at Large- Jerry Baroh
- Chair- Adora Lopez (re-elected)

There were two provisional ballots cast by people who thought they were members but were not on the list. Bruce and Ernie checked and agreed they did not count. There was some confusion about the April 30<sup>th</sup> cutoff. Karen Cane had trouble with Election Runner, and called right at the end of the election, and she was not able to vote.

Adora Lopez thanks Bruce Rutledge for his hard work, and thinks it ran smoothly. She is thankful for feedback.

Bruce Rutledge also thanks Joan Paulson and Haley Land for sitting with him on Friday, and Jessica Ness for helping on Tuesday.

Jerry Baroh thanks Bruce Rutledge, and states that he thought it ran smoothly. He notes for next year, that Bob may not be familiar with the procedures and suggests discussing on a future agenda.

Bruce Rutledge notes that he followed as closely as possible, the guidelines from the year prior, and feels it covered just about everything he could think of. It can be shared with Bob when ready.

Christine Vaughn notes that there is a timeline in the Bylaws for the procedures document to go before the Constituency for approval by the membership. She's hoping Bruce can take the outline and add whatever notes from what he learned this year, to be passed onto Bob. It can become a living document to be approved annually ahead of the election. The detailed document that is passed on should make the whole election process easier and understandable.

Adora Lopez notes we will be reading the Bylaws as a group, to be helpful to new people.

Zekarayas Gebrkidan heard about the election committee, thanks Bruce, thinks it ran smoothly, and asks in the future that we document both the negative and positive feedback about the election.

Nick Setten adds that when he ran the election, he hoped that there was a lessons learned, feedback, discourse discussion.

Adora Lopez asks how to document that.

Nick Setten says doesn't think a document like that needs to be memorialized on the website, but in an uploaded to a set of minutes. What he did in 2017 was write a debrief- what worked well, what didn't work, etc. Nick thinks building that feedback document into future elections, as part of the election monitor's role. The election monitor could give a report, just like we did today, then open it up for public comments, to be shared with future election monitors/committees.

Bob Braun joins the meeting.

Bob Braun says he's hopeful we can have a faithful election for the membership.

### **Department of Neighborhoods/Historical Commission Update**

Adora Lopez calls on Skip Knox or Nick Setten.

Committee Member Skip Knox reports several issues with the Department of Neighborhoods, including a lack of consultation, collaboration or information sharing with the Commission. He notes a withholding the results of the survey and language of proposed legislation. He reports that the Commission authorized a letter to be sent to DON. He notes the importance of vigorously pursuing the interest of the public. Six of the seven commissioners, except for the chair, were in favor of sending the letter. The letter should be going out shortly. He reports that the department head, Greg Wong, has been elevated to Deputy Mayor, and in his place is Sarah Morningstar. Skip has requested a meeting with Morningstar and Sodt, both who are on vacation simultaneously during the next few weeks. Bruce Rutledge has agreed to attend with Skip Knox. He has asked the PDA for meeting space.

Skip Knox clarifies the crux is to make sure the Pike Place Market is excepted from any legislation. He summarizes a progression of legislation through various departments.

Adora clarifies that Tammy Morales is the Chair, Kshama Sawant is Vice Chair, and Andrew Lewis and Sarah Nelson are members of the City Council subcommittee.

Bob Braun submits that Andrew Lewis is the Council person responsible for the Market and would be a key member in talking to. He believes next year Andrew will give up this jurisdiction during redistricting. We might be getting a new representative. He recommends asking for help on how to communicate our message. He says it's important to note that the three options discussed in the pipeline report and summarizes as, "Option 1, we take over everything at the Department of Neighborhoods, Option 2 is we take over everything except the Pike Place Market, and number 3 is do nothing and allow the COVID administrative procedures to expire." He thinks our interest is to try and point people as much as possible toward option 2, and that we believe that is the best option. Personally, he is not opposed to going with someone to talk to Greg Wong.

Skip Knox adds that a network of folks, and contacts at other commissions wouldn't hurt at all. He notes per Bob B.'s comment, that he hopes we can restrain energies, and decide as a committee how and when visitation happens. He calls for a coordinated effort.

Adora Lopez asks Bruce Rutledge to take over Chair at one hour and thirteen minutes into the meeting. Bruce assumes the role as Chair.

Bob Braun agrees with Skip that other groups "need to motivate themselves". The other commissions in the city don't have the same Charter as the Market. He thinks we need to

emphasize the paraphrased, “upon request” aspect. We have a different argument than the other districts and different enabling legislation.

Conversation continues with members Christine Vaughn, Heather Pihl, Bob Messina, Bob Braun and Joan Paulson contributing.

Bob Braun reiterates that the enabling legislation is quite clear, that the historic commission needs to request help, and they are in fact saying, “stay out of it.” He asks for people to stay focused and support the Historical Commission and their message in their letter.

Skip Knox mentions the press and hopes that if the press approaches anyone regarding this issue, that they will defer, and will not speak on it yet. When a clear position is made, there should be a spokesperson.

Adora Lopez returns and reassumes the role of Chair.

Jerry Baroh adds that he is proud of our organization for moving forward and trying to get something accomplished.

#### **Constituency Goals for the Fiscal Year**

Adora Lopez asks for thoughts.

Discussion ensues with input on board education, community involvement, advocacy, administrative assistance needs and formulating a budget proposal from members Nick Setten, Bob Braun, Adora Lopez, Jerry Baroh, Bob Messina, Skip Knox, Erik Pihl, Haley Land, and Christine Vaughn and Bruce Rutledge.

Christine Vaughn makes Motion #08162022-2, “I move that the General Assembly of the Constituency direct the Executive Committee to prepare a budget based on specific tasks to present to the PDA with all due speed, with a report to be made to the General Assembly at the September meeting.”

Bob Braun seconds the motion.

Adora asks if anyone objects.

Hearing none, Motion #08162022-2 is approved by acclamation.

The motion maker Christine Vaughn and motion seconder, Bob Braun, speak about the motion.

Conversation continues with Adora Lopez, Gordon McIntyre, Christine Vaughn and Skip Knox contributing.

## **PDA Committee Reports**

### **Programs Committee Report**

Gordon McIntyre reports on the Programs Committee. It was short meeting, focused mostly on The Night Market, which was “extremely successful”. He notes years prior when there were multiple Night Markets, and his disappointment with the inability to have multiple night markets.

### **Finance and Asset Management Committee Report**

Gordie McIntyre reports on FAM, that “all of our revenue is up”. He adds that, “of course the garage continues to be our major source of income, except for the fact that were making a ton of money off of the people in the Market who have to pay percentage rent. So, normally, your rent is your rent. And then you have to pay 60% more of your rent to cover the cost of security and garbage and everything else. So, you pay your rent, you pay 60% more to take care of that, and then you have to turn over your financials to the PDA, and they charge you- if you make more than a certain amount- they charge you percent rent on that. And that was one of the biggest things that they made the most money on, because all of the big restaurants, like the Pike Place Bar and Grill, made a bunch of money and they had to pay percentage rent.” He says that was “probably their biggest money maker in the last month.”

### **Nominations Committee Update**

Russell Monroe reports that the Nominations Committee has completed the work of filling the open Council-originated seat. He encourages all to all to attend our next Council meeting. If the resolution passes, there will be a new council member. Gordie McIntyre notes that he asked to be allowed to attend the nominations committee meeting, and “got a negative on that”.

Adora Lopez adjourns the meeting at approximately 8:18pm.

*Bruce Rutledge*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bruce Rutledge, Secretary/Treasurer