

CONSTITUENCY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING DRAFT MINUTES

Thursday, June 29, 2023, 6-8pm

Location: Meeting held by Zoom and in person at the Economy Building Classroom, 1435 First Ave, 3rd Floor

Officers (in person) Bob Braun, Russell Monroe, Bruce Rutledge, Gordie McIntyre (online) Jerry Baroh, Joan Paulson

Members (in person) Heather Pihl, Chris Gott, Skip Knox, Haley Land, Erik Pihl

6:34 p.m. Call to order

Vice-Chair Bob Braun called the meeting to order.

6:35 p.m. Approval of agenda

Agenda approved by acclamation.

6:35 p.m. Approval of minutes

May Executive Committee minutes approved by acclamation.

6:35 p.m. Public comment

Joan requested a correction to the minutes.

Haley: Spoke about “highest and best use” motion presented to the PDA Council.

Skip: Not only that phrase but anything that could be construed to say the same thing.

Haley explained his conversation, no comment, no feedback, agenda was very tight. Will follow up with Devin.

Gordie, harping on “create a tenant plan” (will it have “highest and best use” in it?)

6:41 p.m. Election update

Questionnaire distributed to potential candidates

Gordie & Bruce finalized membership list.

Bruce introduced Heather, who will be supporting the Constituency administratively.

Heather said she is looking forward to supporting the Constituency and helping to grow its membership. This is a time for the organization to be strong, due to potential threats outside the Market.

6:48 p.m. PDA 50-year plan update

Bob received email from Karin introducing Maddie & Allegra from BERK. They want to meet with us. Come to July Ex Com. 7/27. Asked BERK how they want conversation to go.

Russell, longer file on PDA Council meeting on DEI is on board-docs. Have had one all-meeting long talk with consultants. This one was on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. Talked about roles of Market. Members previously filled out a survey putting concepts on board with axis of impact and effort. Went through each one, some more than others. Talk about the Market as a food life destination. Heather asked what that means. Russell says it is because of the food destinations that draw people.

Conversation went well in terms of not a lot of blank spaces. To hear the nitty gritty, look at the video.

Heather: Where do the recordings get posted?

Russell: You may have to ask Karin. Didn't get to one of the topics. Back in meetings with us next month – July, August and September. Won't be as intensive as this latest one. Scenario developments is what is coming up next. Seems like the meet of what we are expecting from them.

Gordie: Joan quoted Councilmember Thomas Revelle's 1907 comments that the Market was dedicated to the citizens of Seattle. But council members kept harping on idea that we need tourists.

Bob says ask them to prove their point. Plenty of business happens when cruise ships aren't in.

Russell: Retail goes up in summer. One piece of the complicated economic puzzle.

Gordie: Running Athenian, fall was better than summer because the locals came.

Bob: Often see Market flowers in offices he visits.

Russell: JJ said the cruise industry may pull out. Not sure about that. Seattle is a city of neighborhoods and it is hard to pull them out of their neighborhoods. 70% more people live downtown than in 2010.

Bob: Mayor wants to bring people downtown.

Joan: DEI workshop, page 8. Concern that planning process will not be public but will be in bits and pieces. Asks about definitions of "short term" and "long term".

Gordie says they hinted that short term was between 2 and 5 years. Talked about how they graphed items based on how important they are and how hard they would be to execute.

Joan says we need more public debates on certain subjects to educate ourselves.

Skip, asking BERK Ex Com. Why not the GA. Chris agrees. Discussion ensues.

Gordie asks which specialty BERK is.

Russell says BERK is outreach and engagement.

August GA? Bob says maybe they could come to three meetings.

7:24 p.m. Speaker invitations for future meetings

Bruce, Nick mentioned we should invite speakers, perhaps from MHC, ID PDA, etc, Andrew Lewis.

Heather: Jim Margard would be a good speaker. Election Forum may be in the works.

7:27 p.m. Old business

7:27 p.m. New business

7:27 p.m. Public comment

Chris, Jan mentioned bringing in laundry soap to the Market. A business should be relevant to the neighborhood. We need to bring in businesses that satisfy a need. You can get laundry detergent at Target. Perhaps do an audit of the greater downtown area and see what is lacking.

Gordie mentioned a hardware store. But Chris says there's a hardware store on 4th.

Bob B. mentions kitchen stores. They could add a key machine.

Chris, office, storeroom. Gordie

Imagine printer – paste on sign for doors. Old office was walk-in closet and had black mold.

Municipal archives? Washingtona archives? King County archives?

Skip, not an ex board, it's an exec committee. Board has a different connotation. Not a money-making board. "Committee" has a different flavor.

Heather, board member of FoM informed her that PDA is under pressure from the mayor's office over Pike Place and the streetcar. We need to support them at this moment.

7:45 p.m. Adjourn meeting

