

In attendance

Officers: Bruce Rutledge, Alex Rasmussen, Jonathan Bremner (online) Jerry Baroh, Gina Karaba

Members: Heather Pihl, Chris Scott, Kathryn Bremner, Chris??? Bookstore, Emily Pike (online) Liz Hughes, Jacob Abrisz, Joan Paulson, Bob Messina, Christine Vaughan, Ben Adlin, Rachel Powell, Orna, Rayana, Haley Land, Claudia Cerrato, Jack Whisner, Max Urban, Fanny Andrews, Cindy

## **OCTOBER 17 CONSTITUENCY GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING** **Tuesday, October 17, 2023, 6-8pm**

Agenda:

6:04 p.m. Call to order

6:04 p.m. Approval of agenda  
Approved by acclamation

6:04 p.m. Approval of minutes: January 16, February 14 & March 20, 2018; August 15, 2023; September 19, 2023 [Minutes | constituency \(pikeplacemarketconstituency.org\)](https://www.pikeplacemarketconstituency.org)  
August 2023, Minutes approved. Jonathan says to be more specific with the listing of approved minutes.

6:08 p.m. PDA Master Plan update  
Chris, no significant updates until tomorrow, market as hub of downtown area. PDA meeting, 4pm?

Bob M, Next Thursday is the big one, the retreat where three scenarios are unveiled. At Perkins Coie, Daytime thing for in-person and Zoom. 3-4 hours long.

Rachel, at retreat, they will break into smaller groups. Meeting might be confusing for remote participants.

6:14 p.m. Inviting guests to speak at future meetings  
Bob apologizes about not being able to get a speaker from the PDA for tonight's meeting.

Rachel, we should push for increased signage indicating that the north arcade is for handmade items. Market manager Bethany for daystalls has quit after not being there very long. Exit interview to learn why these people are leaving? A lot of people are leaving within one area of the market.

Alex says we lost three or four daystall staff.

Chris says invite Amy.

Rachel says Erica in HR would be good to hear from.

Emily, said the recent Seattle Greenways survey had some interesting results.

Chris, HR won't be helpful because of privacy. Get Dept. Head. Urbanist had an article about the Greenway pedestrian survey.

Christine, downtown Greenways survey, Ask them to speak, but be aware that they have an agenda. One-size solutions don't work. Need to keep decisions about the Market in the Market.

Emily, Market Charter stipulates that Constituency membership is open to everyone.

Gina hopes members will come to the PDA retreat. Crafters aren't very represented or very visible in the new plan.

Jacob, get someone from King County Metro to talk about the streetcar.

Chris says that would be SDOT, not Metro.

Gina says we could pedestrianize Pike Place but only on summer weekends. It would be a relief to know the cars aren't coming through on those days. People complain about the crowds and that there is nowhere to sit.

Heather, asks who controls those bollards? Who is paying for someone to control them? Discuss how it would be handled. PDA temporarily closes the street from time to time.

Emily says she doesn't want to litigate the issue, but Greenways did an interesting survey.

Bob M. says Greenways asked UW students to come down and do a survey. They talked to 60-70 merchants. Five said they want to keep cars in the Market. Fox 13 doing a story on cars in the Market (that featured comments from Bob M.).

Joan, If Steinbruck park construction was completed, it would be heavily used as always, but it's been closed all year.

Heather says the original Hahn Bldg predates the Market. The 2019 Landmarks Board designated it historically significant. Need to come to agreement with owner. Owner wants no controls or incentives. Same thing is happening with the Showbox. Protecting immediate community is within the intention of the ordinance. Friends, Foundation, etc. Let Ruth Danner give a presentation.

6:47 p.m. Old business

Jonathan talked about the framework for the listening committee. They will start with the crafts community, Alex, Emily & Jonathan comprise the committee. They are being proactive, getting feelers out, building relationships. They plan to speak individually with each crafts business owner. Drop off info at Jonathan's business or Alex and Emily. The committee would love to have your help.

Bob B. says we can send an email to the Constituency soliciting volunteers.

Jonathan says about 10 people would be ideal.

Alex talks about goals for the subcommittee.

Jonathan, what could Pike Place Market be better at? Get answers without judgment. Offer a description of the Constituency. Jonathan talks about goals. Touch all the Market, maybe divide into Quarters.

Heather says the committee's activities offer a great outreach opportunity. Let's make sure people can join without hassle.

Jonathan says all volunteers will have membership forms in hand: That's very important.

Gina asks for more signage by Le Panier so we don't whack people with the door.

Chris says it would be good to use the Constituency office. We used to be able to use the PDA office. We should have our own equipment. He asks what kind of time commitment the committee expects from volunteers.

Jonathan says it depends on the number of volunteers, but 10 vols and 200 crafters, 20 for each vol. Half hour conversations, 10 hours of listening. Another several hours of arranging meetings. 10-20 hours to make it happen. Paper and clipboards or Google form on our phones? Have to figure that out.

Gina recommends Google sheets.

Jacob says When2Meet is free and functions well for setting up meetings.

Next topic: Streetcar walking tour, Greg Spots, director of SDOT, and three of his staff?

Bruce talks about the walking tour

Heather says the equity person at SDOT was invited but suggested the tour happen with Greg Spots. The Showbox is facing an existential crisis if the streetcar comes in.

Jacob says we should have more people come in to talk about this hot-button issue.

Chris says that overall it would be four years of construction, with different areas impacted at different times. Many places are having deliveries daily and throughout the day. Can't make owners come in at 5am to get shipments.

Jacob discusses BAT, says businesses, emergency, govt would be able to use the street but other cars would need to turn off after a block.

Jack W. says he was part of the team that invented BAT – business access and transit. He convinced Shoreline that it was appropriate. Jacob is conflating BAT with SDOT restrictions on 3rd Ave.

Heather reminds everyone that the City Council votes on the budget on 11/20.

Gina says the streetcar is squeally and high-pitched.

Bob M. says the Culture Connector was paused in 2018. What SDOT wants in the 2024 budget is a new study to see what the updated costs are. Spots is weaselly on this, trying to keep it alive and see how inflated it has become.

7:27 p.m. New business

Emily says every week, people come into bookshop where she works asking for jobs. We should consider building a Bulletin Board with job listings, tied into the PDA offices, offering an immediate access point for new faces.

Gina says there are job listings on the elevator near Stewart House or by tenant housing.

Alex says it would be good to have a universal option – those options are pretty much for crafters, farmers.

Jonathan suggests a webpage on the PPM.org website

7:32 p.m. Public comment

Gina says she was banned from setting up her booth because of sign-in issues. The sign in process used to be spontaneous but is rigid now. She's upset about it.

7:35 p.m. Adjourn meeting