

October 25, 2018

Constituency Executive Committee draft minutes

6:00 p.m.

Attendance: Jerry Baroh, Nick Setten, Joan Paulson, David Ghoddousi, Ali Mowry, Mark Brady, Betty Halfon, Katya Landau, Todd ____, Russell Monroe, Lori Johnson, Peter Bassiri, Skip Knox

Jerry called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

Liability insurance for Constituency

PDA confirmed that the Constituency doesn't make the decisions and that the four people from the Constituency on the PDA Council that do make decisions would be insured. They will do a little more followup on it.

Market Constituency Office

Help is needed to move more items to the new office. Two recorders have been found in the desk of the new office. There was a discussion about inventorying and documenting the materials from the old office. David asked if the Constituency will ask the PDA to do mold testing. Nick further discussed archiving. He said the deadline to move is a month from now. Joan suggested creating a list of contents in the boxes. There was a consensus to ask the PDA for funding to clean up the office. David suggested documenting the costs.

Survey Results

Ali reported back on a survey she sent out to most board members on issues at the Market. She said the top three were MarkeFront, Viaduct demolition and Streetcar. Also, Showbox and Park issues.

Increasing Constituency Membership

Katya said she met with Ali and they discussed the survey results, and their generation. She said an online presence makes a huge impact. She felt that an Instagram account would be the best platform for getting people to the Market. Ali suggested using Facebook for events. There was a discussion about various outreach methods.

Russell Monroe Internship

Nick introduced Russell Monroe, a student at the UW who is seeking to establish an internship. Russell explained that he is a Constituency member and that he would like to establish an internship as a link between the Market and the UW School of the Environment. He has created an executive summary about the internship. He said it can be tailored to how the Constituency could have a social media presence. It is a 15/hour a week position for ten weeks. He said he would try to do an honors level internship, which would extend it for two quarters instead of one, or 30 hours/week for one

quarter. He said it would be during winter quarter, so he would engage the use of social media to get people down to the Market in the off season. He would also engage people that live and work in the Market.

Ali said they would need to look into whether or not the Constituency could give him hours. Russell explained what would be required of the Constituency. Jerry said they could talk to Mary about it.

Russell provided an executive summary and a proposal to the Committee. He explained that there is an application process. He said he would like to know by the next week if the Constituency is interested. Ali said that she could make a motion to approve the Constituency as a host. The specifics would have to be set up by January.

Ali made a motion to apply to host an intern. Seconded by Katya. Approved unanimously.

Constituency Social Media - Facebook

Katya is going to put together a large photo album of the Market to put on Facebook. Before she shares the photos, she will show them to the Constituency for feedback.

Nick made a motion to create an online presence for the Constituency, including but not limited to, Instagram and Facebook, to create continuing engagement with the Constituency. Any content will be reviewed by the Executive Committee prior to posting. Ali seconded.

Nick asked Katya how she would stay on track for deadlines. Jerry asked if it could be tied into the website. Lori introduced herself and said she administers the website. She confirmed that the Facebook page could be linked to the website. Katya said she could have the content ready for the next meeting.

Nick made a an amendment to the motion to have the content delivered at the General Assembly meetings. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda for next General Assembly

Support for Showbox

Nick shared a letter from Friends of the Market asking for support on preservation of the Showbox. He explained that the Friends, Historic Seattle and musicians are forming a coalition. He noted that the Constituency's charter and bylaws talk about paying to attention to the neighborhood around the Market. Ali asked if they could make a motion to start a liaison committee with Friends of the Market. Jerry asked for a straw vote on the issue.

Joan spoke in support of helping the effort to protect the Showbox. Mark said that the Constituency should ask the PDA, because it is part of the PDA. He said they could take positions individually but he didn't think the Constituency could take a position. Betty Halfon said her understanding is that if the Constituency agrees to take a position, it can be brought to the PDA Council to step it forward. She said she is concerned about insurance liability for the Constituency - the PDA Councilmembers are covered, but not the Constituency.

Joan said that Mary has made it clear that the PDA is not going to take a position, and is going to wait for the issue to make its way through City Council. Joan said it has not been taken up for a resolution at the PDA Council. Nick read from the PDA Charter, where it says that the PDA shall be concerned with the surrounding neighborhood because it may affect the character of the Market.

Ali said the PDA Council is not supporting the expansion of the historic district to include the Showbox, because it thinks that would be outside its charter. PDA Council can say it supports saving the Showbox, however.

Discussion ensued about the PDA's jurisdiction and expansion of the historic district, and preserving the Showbox, and the Hahn Building.

Jerry asked if it should be brought up at the General Assembly meeting. Nick agreed. There was a discussion about whether or not Constituency members on the PDA Council would have to abstain on voting. Mark said that PDA Council had been told it couldn't do anything about the Showbox. It was decided to place the issue on the next agenda.

Market Podcast Project

Nick suggested discussing the project at the next meeting and the ways to tell the story of the Constituency.

Bylaws

Nick referenced the recent review of the bylaws and said he would like to do something with the notes. He volunteered to write amendments to the Bylaws. There will be a draft first. Mark suggested forming a committee to review the elections procedures, citing that it is difficult for business owners to vote during a voting period that is only 9-5.

Budget

There was a discussion about whether or not the existing budget is sufficient, and if there should continue to be mailings, which currently cost \$250/month. Jerry asked where there could be savings. Ali cautioned against including moving costs for the office as a regular budget item. Discussion ensued about options for a sign.

Public Comment

Skip introduced himself as a former Chair of the Constituency. He talked about the relationship between the PDA and the Constituency, and said that the Constituency is a fragile democracy that needs to be preserved.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.