## **DRAFT Pike Place Market Constituency Minutes**

Meeting Type: General Assembly, Regular Meeting

Date: October 18, 2022

Time: 6pm

Place: Meeting was held virtually via Zoom.

Attendance of Officers: Bruce Rutledge, David Ghoddousi, Bob Braun, Jerry Baroh, Russell

Monroe

Members/Public Present: Bob Messina, Liz Hughes, Mark Brady, Heather Pihl, Haley Land, Erik

Pihl,

Bob Braun was having audio issues; therefore Bruce Rutledge began the meeting. The meeting was called to order at pm 6:08 by Bruce Rutledge. A quorum was present.

# Approval of the Agenda

Bruce Rutledge asked for any objections to the agenda. Hearing none, the agenda approved by acclamation.

## **Approval of the Minutes**

There were no minutes to approve from the August General Assembly.

### **Public Comment**

Heather Pihl identified herself.

#### **Budget Update**

Bruce reports that Bob Braun and Gordie McIntyre helped create a package of the 2023 Budget. They referenced a 1997 budget, included a cover letter, and delivered it to Mary. The ask was more than \$40,000. Some of the capital requested for furniture and fixtures, office equipment, was eliminated by Mary, with the offer to provide items from the existing PDA stock. Bruce did push back on office equipment for digitization of records and was able to carve out \$600 to get a high-end scanner/copier/printer.

Operating expenses that she did or did not preliminarily approve:

- \$1,000 for podcasts and elections
- \$5,000 proposed for internet/website was reduced to \$750, the actual cost
- \$1,000 archival budget was nixed
- Maintenance and janitorial can be provided by the PDA by request
- \$1,000 for office supplies was retained, out of \$2,100
- Postage expense stayed where it was
- Professional fees expense stayed where it was

- Salaries- there was long conversation, and the proposed amount was halved, to \$10,400 at \$20 per hour.
- The PDA would shoulder payroll tax, approximately another \$1,000
- Cellular phone for the office was denied

The end amount was \$16,500, not including in-kind items we can get from the PDA, such as furniture and equipment.

Heather Pihl asked if Mary has sole authority over the budget, or if it comes before the PDA Council.

Bruce replied that it goes before the PDA Council, and their conversation involved what she was willing to present to them, as our wish list. Bruce calls on David or Gordie for more information.

David Ghoddousi says that we present a budget to staff for them to analyze and make recommendations to the PDA Council. If the Constituency feels expenses are justified, they can make a case at PDA Council.

Haley Land asked about was there any definition or job description given for the proposed \$10,000 for staffing. Is that something still in negotiation?

Bruce replied that it is still in negotiation. This is where Bruce pushed back the hardest. At one point 5 hours per week was discussed. Bruce explained, at the time, what he saw this person doing from his personal viewpoint. This included updating the website and communications, re-establishing the newsletter, better outreach, maintaining the membership list. He saw this as bare bones. There is some wiggle room to use this person as we see fit within that 10 hour per week window.

Haley asks, has there been further discussion about whether this person would be sometimes in the office.

Bruce said that didn't come up in his conversation with Mary, but we had discussed in earlier meetings having this person in the office on a Wednesday or Friday or something, so we could establish office hours for people to come by.

Erik Pihl asked, how does the budget that Mary is approving compare to last year's budget.

Bruce said that last year's was unusual. It was approximately \$6,000. Before that, Bruce recalls it was around \$12,000. There was a willingness on Mary's part to bump it up a little.

David Ghoddousi says last year was unusual and seems to recall that we've never spent our total expenditure of our budget. We try as much as possible to not waste funds. All the money in the bank could be spent tomorrow on many projects for maintaining the property. To him,

he thinks it looks very generous. Bruce's negotiation to get a high-quality device is amazing and unprecedented. He welcomes the opportunity to show the PDA that we are professional and can allocate this money in a way that accomplishes our goals. Next year, we can hopefully come back again and work toward our aspirations. He thinks this is a start.

Haley Land comments that last year's budget was a reduction. At the time Mary said, if the Constituency has needs beyond the budget, to come and ask her. There were several situations during the election, and when we called in a parliamentarian that funding was provided. He doesn't think there was any instance when Mary turned down anything. There is still the issue of whether or not \$6,000 or \$12,000 is enough, and we've made our case. She did say if your requests are reasonable, bring them forward and I will do what I can to fulfill them. Haley thinks that happened more often than not.

Bob Messina asks if we have decided who or where the responsibility for meeting minutes is going to be. Will it be with the new office person or stay with the Secretary.

Bruce did mention that minutes taking could be part of the position. He adds if we have someone in here, the Secretary can do something, but what is it we want the Secretary to do. Maybe he could do the minutes, for example, if the other stuff was taken over by this new person.

Bob Messina adds, his main point is that Bruce is doing such a good job, and we don't want to get into a situation where minutes can't be approved because they are not there. An experienced board person who knows what the issues are, can more readily simplify and condense minutes, not verbatim. In his opinion, the newsletter time could be devoted to more of the office management, such as membership files updates, website updates. He's throwing it out there that maybe we can fly for a while without a newsletter. He never got much out of the newsletter. It was sometimes opinionated, and that caused problems. The information is elsewhere.

Bob Braun apologizes for technical issues and thanks Bruce for the great work. In response to Bob Messina, the thinks the newsletter serves over 400 people, and wonders if others would find our newsletter to be duplicative. He says our mission is really one of representing the public, and he suggests we need to stay in contact with our public. He doesn't know if the newsletter is the right way. He agrees that minutes recording is important. The reason we had such a large budget request is to cover clerical work. He doesn't want to just roll over on the issue, and comments that Mary doesn't run the place. Bruce knows we need more office time than we have. He thinks the minutes are important and need to be done. He doesn't know of an agency in the city that has a volunteer do clerical work. He doesn't know if we were designed to as a charitable organization that does its work on the backs of volunteers. The Secretary verifies minutes. Bruce is entitled to compensation and should get it. He's grateful for what we have from Mary but believes that she doesn't understand that if we are challenged by the voters to produce adequate voter records, that we're not going to be able to that. Another water event will make that very difficult. Hopefully additional education will get us

moving towards being an organization that will keep Constituency informed, that can adequately run elections, and adequately staff to do our minutes, record keeping, bank deposits. He's hopeful we can make progress this year, if not next. We are a voter organization that goes out and gets people elected to the PDA, and that's a pretty important mission when we are talking about a multi-million dollar PDA Budget. Our budget is about 1/15 of a percent of the PDA budget. Clearly, they could lose the amount of our budget through bookkeeping errors. Our budget would fall through the cracks of the PDA without even noticing it.

Erik supports what Bob just said. He thinks it's a case of making a business case. Communicating and engaging members is important. If the newsletter is not super engaging or newsworthy, then we need to do a better job with the newsletter. At the last PDA meeting he learned that the Market actually had a very good year, last year. It was great to understand the reduction last year. The business case should represent if the PDA invests money, what we will do with it. Keep in mind that the PDA is planning to do this strategic planning exercise and is going to need to do community engagement as part of that. The Constituency could play an important role. To the degree we can align those things together, it could change the conversation. He seconds the need for minutes. It's an onerous task. He notes MHC is behind in minutes and wonders how anyone can remember what happened. Minutes should be month to month. He congratulations Bruce in the getting the increase. Maybe Bob should attend the next meeting with Mary.

David Ghoddousi says the Secretary should be compensated. He asks if Bruce keeps track of time, but we should probably keep better accounting of how much time he extends to Constituency. That should be on top of the list of this budget. If we show the value provided to the Constituency and PDA, there might be a possibility.

Jerry Baroh agrees with almost all of the comments. We are behind on minutes. We need to let them know we need to get caught up. There were a lot of problems and legal dollars that went out. He agrees that if presented, we might get more.

Haley asks if there is another meeting? Does Mary expect another meeting? He thinks one of the best arguments to be made is how this helps them. Could this make things move smoothly, create good feelings, and smooth the operation. How this helps them should not be underplayed.

Bob Braun asks if this group has seen the letter. He mentions that we are in the 50-year planning phase, that we could assist, that we are the only elected members and have a duty to the public to keep them informed, and that we need a viable, legal organization in the state of Washington. We made a case, assuming it was close to what he sent, that in 1997 it was \$27,000, converted today it would be \$55,000, which represents a budget reduction. He thinks these cases were made to Mary, but that she's not paying attention and he's not 100% sure why.

Bob suggests that Bruce could post our budget request on our website so that everyone knows what it is. That means that we may need folks to send a polite email to Mary to reconsider the budget request. He agrees we don't need new equipment; we just need equipment that works. We need to have a high-speed, dual-sided scanner, one or two terabyte hard drive to back up. Reductions should be equivalent to that. She didn't want to hear it and we didn't make the case as well as we could. We were pressed at the time. We will continue to work on it a little further.

Bruce answers a few questions. The letter was sent verbatim. When he sat down to talk about it, she did have the 1997 budget, but not the letter, at front and center. At the end of the conversation, she did say, if you need more we can talk more. He doesn't know exactly when it is too late, but he does think there is a certain amount of money we can get by asking for specific needs.

David adds that at the last meeting, the budget agenda was shared. He believes, November 3<sup>rd</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> are two more meetings where there could be comments from the community. No public came to the last meeting.

Gordie interjects that he went to the last meeting.

David clarifies that Gordie is a Council member, but there was no public.

Gordie confirms the same.

Heather Pihl says she would have attended the meeting but didn't know about it. She thinks it's important to be clear with messages and get them out to people. For example, regarding tonight's meeting, she had to really search to find the zoom link for this meeting. With regard to upcoming meetings, we should forward messages to people. She would have attended but didn't know about it.

Bob Braun agrees that we could do a better job at getting information out to people. He thinks this is a perfect example of when we talk to Mary again, why we need clerical assistance with outreach. It is extraordinarily good news that Mary has left the door open to potential funds. We might want to write Mary a letter that we accept her decision on the budget with the understanding that if we have additional needs, she'll find a way to fund them. If we run out of money, we can go back. These are legitimate needs. We need a strategic decision, but Mary may have left the door open wide enough to go back if we run out.

Bob Messina responds to Heather's comment. When he sees the word contact, why does it have to be the word "contact". This may just be a technical issue, but just getting the Constituency name on the subject line, that would be nice.

Bruce thinks it's because the email comes from contact@constituency.org, but he'll look into that.

Gordie asks if Nick is present.

Bruce says he is not.

Russell Monroe reports that he's in the Foundation meeting and should be here soon.

Gordie wants to know who is chairing the meeting tonight.

Bob Braun clarifies that Bruce is filling in.

Gordie says that at the Finance Committee meeting tonight, which went overtime, they didn't address the fact that on November 17<sup>th</sup>, when we are going to have the big meeting with the people we paid \$30,000 to craft a 50-year plan, it is not going to be held in the Market. It's going to be held at the Perkins Coie tower. There will still be people able to attend via Zoom, but people here in the Market will not be able to attend in person. He confronted Mary about that. She responded that we don't have a venue that allow us to have Zoom people at the same time as physical people coming in. He told her he didn't think that was appropriate.

Haley mentions that the November 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting is where the public is invited in to talk about the budget. He mentions we could communicate about this meeting and wanting to increase our budget. Maybe tonight we could commit to the idea of telling the membership about the process and dates. Mention that this is the chance to weigh in and urge people to attend the meeting. This might allow people to come in and feel comfortable participating.

Bob Braun thanks Gordie for all his great information. He sympathizes with Mary having to orchestrate both remote and physical attendance. This meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> is another example of why we need staffing to get timely notifications out to our 400+ members as well as the public at large. Our newsletter needs to include a paragraph or two from each PDA representative to give their perspective. That's the purpose of our organization. People like Gordie are the only reason we exist. We sent an email blast about the Historic Commission. He doesn't know what kind of response we got. The piece he received look quite good. He thinks Bob Messina's point is a good one, that we need to do a better job identifying ourselves. He thinks can change the from in our emails, so it says Market Constituency, and make the subject line start with "Constituency Update" so our emails don't go to junk. Using the same letter head from the banner should help with the identity issue.

Heather Pihl mentions that the PDA retreat going offsite is a concern of hers as well, and it was a discussion at the Friends of the Market board. She thinks if it's one time only, that's fine, but as is the issue with MHC, people that work at the market may have a barrier to attend those meetings. The Inn at the Market did have conference space. They might be contacted in the future. Being a law firm, she hopes that doesn't create another barrier.

Bob Braun comments that it has a beautiful view and great space, but it is like Fort Knox. Having the meeting offsite increases Constituency value and need. Gordie's report about what goes on in our newsletter can be extremely important. Having the meeting offsite might not be avoidable, but it is not desirable. It increases the value of the Constituency in terms of keeping our public voters aligned with the interest of the Market. We can reduce the concern that there are backroom deals happening, etc. We can report out through our newsletter. We become the instrument for publicizing.

Mark Brady thinks it funny that Gordie is still banned from closed sessions of the PDA. He's being cut out of some of the main decisions that are being made, without cooperation from our organization. It's been over a year and needs to be taken care of. He adds that the reason last year we were "held hostage" is because we acquired a lot of legal expenses, that were never exposed. He's afraid this next round, this will happen again. He thinks we need to bring this up when we talk to Mary again. What was the actual amount that was charged to the Constituency? We don't know what was spent or where it went.

Gordie says that Bruce provided us with the document of what Jay said we spent. He wonders if we got what we expensed in the two years before that.

Bruce says he does not have that information in front of him right now but can definitely get it.

Gordie doesn't know if Jay would be allowed to give us those documents, but Mary has come around a little bit. The budget Bob Braun made should be entered into the Council budget, and at that point it would be .2% of the PDA's budget. He doesn't see why she won't give it to us, especially as she's the one who is responsible for us not having all the secretarial people that we had before. He'll be asking her more about that. His only confrontation with her today was that he doesn't think they should be holding these budget meetings offsite. It's enough that their holding them on a Thursday at 1:00 in the afternoon, when Market people cannot attend.

Russell Monroe adds a quick point. Regardless of Gordie's status and his ability to attend closed sessions of the Council, that information is 100% classified and private. There is never going to be a report to anybody on what is being discussed in closed session.

### **Department of Neighborhoods and Historic Commission Update**

Bruce says there was a sub-committee that Nick and Skip were charged with putting together. They had set up a meeting with DON, two weeks ago exactly. Nick wasn't available, so Bruce tagged along with Skip.

Bruce reports that they met with Sarah Morningstar and Patty Comacho, her assistant, Sara Bells, Community Assets Lead and Sara Sodt, Historic Preservation. They asked about the idea of leaving the Market out of administrative review. They pushed back saying they hadn't heard anything from the Market Historic Commission, despite Minh Chau's sending request for comment. Skip said it was a lie and it got heated quickly.

DON said the MHC hadn't commented at all on the current legislation and how to amend it. Bruce and Skip said they'd like to see the new legislation that is under consideration. They said it is "deliberative" and because of client-attorney privilege, they couldn't share it. They asked about the possibility of keeping MHC out of the legislation, and they said it was possible but mentioned several times that the pre-COVID situation will not hold, that we are not going back to that. They mentioned accessibility issue with WebEx to which they replied that had hear "hardly any" complaints. Skip offered to get them more complaints.

Bruce also reports that they wouldn't let them record the meeting. Bruce said it was his first time in the situation, but that they felt pretty dug in. It got to the point that Skip compared Sarah Morningstar to Vladmir Putin. Bruce brough donuts and said let's communicate in the future. He left with the impression that they didn't think we were doing our part in telling them what we would like fixed in the legislation.

Heather says that Skip isn't the only one that has made this comparison. She thinks we shouldn't continue to use that. DON used to engage neighborhoods, that is their role. Now, DON speaks the agenda for the Mayor. She doesn't even know what that agenda is anymore, because she hasn't heard what Harrell's stance is. She says WebEx is terrible. She is certainly capable regarding technology, and she has a hard time. FOM attends every MHC meeting and has since spring. People have stopped going due to difficulty with WebEx. She's aware that the International District used Zoom, until finally WebEx had the ability to do translation. The City Examiner's Office uses Zoom. Having the PDA retreat offsite is the same situation, where the "meeting room is not ready". The Council meetings are held there. The City insists on using WebEx. If they bent for the ID Board, certainly they could let the MHC use Zoom. That is something that the Constituency and Friends of the Market could push for. Perhaps not enough people know how to reach them.

Heather continues saying the Commission became aware of the legislation this spring, and the Commission had a letter ready to send the Mayor and City Council in May, but the Commission Chair pushed back. The Commission finally overruled the Chair and the letter was sent in August. Most of the Commission had not been serving prior to the pandemic. For DON to say that they didn't know there was opposition is completely false. DON was authorizing approvals in the Market that it did not have the approval to do.

Heather invites everyone to attend the Friends of the Market meeting on November 15<sup>th</sup>, where Jim Dears will be talking about historic preservation in the Market. It is a free event that will be held at Folio and catered by Pink Door. She invites all to attend.

Erik Pihl makes the observations that he has gone to a great number of MHC meeting since February, and he has heard MHC tell staff, on many occasions, that we do not want administrative review. In fact, when Greg Wong was director and came to a meeting, the MHC was explicitly clear in saying, we do not want this. For them to say they haven't been told this is disingenuous. The Chair has perpetually been trying to get them to agree, compromise, but the Commission has said no. As the ordinance is written, the DON shall support the MHC. It's not

as if the MHC works for DON. The MHC is the one that makes the decisions. He doesn't think DON likes that and will try to open the ordinance erode.

Erik adds that there is no way that staff and City Hall can make decisions with the same thoughtfulness and experience that an historic commission of 12 can make. That is the reason it was set up this way when the ordinance was created and when people voted on it. In his opinion, staff did not ever read the ordinances. They did overstep their authority and improve new businesses and renovations that they were not in the scope of what their entitled to approved. They apologized, but there were not any remedies. The decisions were not made publicly. There is disingenuous activity happening, including failing to read an ordinance that they were supposed to implement. They've demonstrated their inability to be entrusted with any decision making in the Market.

Erik adds, lastly, WebEx is a terrible product. As an adept technology person, he finds it complicated and clunky. On almost every meeting, staff even has trouble. As we think about equity, accessibility and inclusion and talk about DEI, having tools that are not accessible for everyone is a problem. He finds it very difficult to believe that no one has ever told them that. As he's heard Mayor Harrell say many times, "One Seattle". This is not One Seattle, but a group of bureaucrats trying to take over and expand their realm of authority. This message needs to get to the mayor, and he should be engaged in the discussion of what "One Seattle" means.

Heather adds that she cares a lot about this issue. DON seems to be using the rationale that administrative review will make it more efficient. The historic preservation system is insisting on electronic applications. That's a barrier. Friends of the Market has submitted twice and it had gotten lost in the system. They should be adopting alternatives. They are being strong willed about wanting to do it their way.

Nick Setten apologizes for being late. He thanks Erik and Heather. He reports that Constituency did read a letter into the record at an Historic Commission meeting in August.

Bob Braun says he's trying to connect the dots and believes this may be an opportunity for us to review. Is it appropriate for us to discuss Skip's recent decision? It has an impact on this committee we've created. He asks Bruce to make the announcement.

Bruce reports that Skip sent a note on September 13<sup>th</sup>, that he'd like to step away from the Constituency and have his name taken off the membership list. He's still active but is stepping away and is not on our membership list right now.

Bob says we may want to consider reconstructing the committee, the mission and methodology. The Constituency is a part of the City of Seattle government, in that we are part of the Pike Place Market, which is part of the government in the City of Seattle. This debate with DON is really an interdepartmental struggle. He agrees with Heather that one department should not be taking over the turf of another without the approval of the mayor. We have our own Charter within the City. How might we engage with the mayor? We should get access, as

we are one of the tertiary departments. They are supposed to be supporting rather than governing the organization. There is a failure to communicate and acknowledge facts. We might want to make a case statement and add that to our communication list. Communications is our weak point. He says we don't talk about, "what are we going to do about it?". We need a plan, such as the email that went out to all the members. How might we do another communication about the issues raised. Bob says he appreciates the information about the problems. The next step and real question is, what are we going to do about it?

Erik agrees with Bob that we should talk next steps. A meeting with the mayor is in order, with the right group of people. Lay out what is going on. He doesn't know if the mayor has been fully briefed. Launching a public initiative again can happen. He says we need to make it clear that this is not the will of the people, that DON is stepping out and acting against their ordinance.

Haley asks, is there an important date up ahead or timeline we need to know of so we are organized and effective?

Heather says we have got to get the Market out of the legislation. If we don't, this allows staff to chip away at preservation of the Market. The Constituency should send a letter to the Mayor and City Council.

Erik says that the mayor intends to end the emergency ordinance at the end of the month. There are then two months in which the city council and mayor have to act to extend administrative review. The time to act is immediate. A letter is easy to ignore, face to face is much more powerful.

Bob Braun asks if we have spoken about the Chair announcement.

Bruce says as of this afternoon, Adora Lopez has stepped down as our Chair. We do not have a Chair right now.

Bob Braun says that Adora said she needs to take a leave, he doesn't know if she's resigned. He thinks the Vice Chair temporarily assumes the role. Tentatively, he suggests that Bruce, Nick and he see if we can't get on the mayor's calendar for 20 minutes. Three, maybe four, people at the most, to ask for advice. Gather our points, get them into a case statement, and give him our elevator speech. Follow up with a public letter, a news release if appropriate, for communication to our 400 members.

Bob Messina says he thinks the Allied Arts sent a formal letter to the mayor. It was signed by many known people. This should be brought up with any meeting with the mayor. He also mentions the letter from former Commissioners. The current commissioners wrote letters. Bring those also as a show of support.

Heather provided info in chat that she will send all the letters to Bob Braun. She gathered signatures for the former commissioner letter.

Bob will give a call to a former colleague, one of the persons that help navigate the issues of getting the Space Needle built. We need to inform DON that Skip has resigned and deliver some of the letters that have not been received.

Bob Messina says he has been getting an almost weekly copy of emails from Skip. Skip says he's off the Constituency in the emails to Sarah Morningstar.

David comments that in his experience, letters are great resources to educate groups and entities, but he's noticed that a lot of times those letters end up in a desk drawer and buried. He asks, how can we come up with ideas that make sure these letters that have been sent by multiple members of the community are acknowledged and ratified?

Haley comments that there have been so many ideas presented, and he thinks we need to translate that into motions and decisions.

Erik adds to Bob Braun's points that letters alone are not going to get the job done, but they do demonstrate a pattern of communication from a broad constituency. He thinks Bob is on the right track and likes the course of action.

Bob Braun invites anyone on this call, would be kind enough to make a motion to designate a communication group to approach the Mayor.

Erik moves that, "we instruct and empower Bob Braun to appoint a select group to meet with the mayor and with any other city officials or city department necessary to convey the Market Constituency's concern about administrative review in the Market and other related topics."

Bruce calls for a second.

Bob Messina seconds, and adds to Erik's point, the phrase "Save the Market Constituency" (and later corrects it as) "Save the Market Historic Commission".

Bruce opens the topic for discussion.

Haley is for it.

Bob Messina says "Save the Market Historic Commission", and he's for it.

Nick makes a point of order that he appreciates the enthusiasm, but voting has not begun. This is just the debate.

Bruce asks for more comments.

Nick asks if the Friends of the Market had yet to have an opportunity to get in front of anyone at the city.

Heather replies that FOM contracted with a pro bono lawyer and did attempt to set up a meeting with Director Wong, which got waylaid. It was then decided that DON couldn't meet without their lawyer present, and then Director Wong moved on. Then Skip set up this meeting. She sees no reason meeting with DON at the point. It has been made abundantly clear by various groups, and there's nothing more to say to DON at this point. She likes the idea of going to the mayor.

Jerry Baroh calls to question.

Bruce asks if there is any objection. Hearing none, the motion is approved by acclamation.

#### **Old Business**

Bruce calls for Old Business, there is none.

#### **New Business**

Nick reports that October 29<sup>th</sup> is the Harvest Festival from 11-4. Friends and the Foundation will be there.

Heather goes back to what Bob Braun said. She thinks it would be good to have clarified at the next meeting, that the MHC is not part of the city. It is a quasi-judicial body. They are officers of the City and have to abide by the ethics rules. She asks Bob to clarify by the next meeting. The PDA is Chartered by the City but is not part of the city. She would like us to not get too far ahead with the idea that Constituency is part of the city.

Bob Braun addresses by saying we are not part of the city governance, but we are part of the PDA and the PDA is a creation of the City. Absent the will of the public, we could be disbanded by the city. He doesn't believe we are a department such as DON, but a child of, or appendage of city government in one form or another. He says whatever they create, they can uncreate. We are advocating for those things that are important.

Heather is still confused that the city can do away with the Constituency. She's not sure that is the case.

Bob said the city created the PDA, and if they created it they could uncreate it.

Heather would like more clarity and thanks Bob for the answer.

#### **PDA Committee Reports**

Nick reports that at FAM, the initial 2023 budget proposal was made tonight. Mid-November is the vote. A few lease proposals were passed: renewals for Rotary Grocery and Jasmine Thai.

# **Public Comment**

Bruce says it has been a great meeting and very productive.

Nick mentions that there has been concern following PDA Council meetings. There have been questions from PDA leadership about Constituency members who have latched on to unfounded rumors, not just in public comment in PDA meetings, but also generally in the community, which undermines the faith and trust in the PDA. Nick suggested that PDA Leadership come to an Executive Committee meeting to give more context.

Bruce Rutledge adjourns the meeting at 8:05.	
Bruce Rutledge, Secretary/Treasurer	