

**Upper Maple Leaf Park (UPLM) Planning Committee Meeting**  
**Lake City Library - Monday, April 21, 2008**  
**Minutes submitted by Irene Schleicher**

Attendees: Donna Hartmann-Miller, Marjorie Rhodes, Laurel Kiichli, Suzanne Phillips, Peter Wagster, Ginger Van Ry, Willem Van Ry, Dale Marston, Gwen Wilson, Jeremy Johnson, Mark Rieder, Arden Hellman, Susan Harney, Irene Schleicher

Meeting called to order at 7:07pm

The minutes were approved with the following correction: Marjorie said although wind turbines would not be viable, windmills aren't ruled out.

Old Business: Donna and David Miller met with Tim Gallagher and Kevin Stoops and the meeting started cold. When they found out that we've organized a neighborhood park committee they warmed up a bit to the idea of working together on this project. Money is an issue. Kevin Stoops is meeting with the Mayor's Office and is trying to get money for a Master Use Plan for our park fast forwarded to be included in the 2009 budget. Parks is concerned about adequate outreach taking place and we will need continue pursuing doing even more outreach on the project and keeping a record of our outreach. Kevin Stoops is sending us a copy of the Public Involvement Policy and the Master Use Plan of Beacon Reservoir/Jefferson Park which we hope will be more than what is on the website and will help us with our planning. Donna suggested it would be great if we could be an example of how a community group successfully works with the Parks Dept.

Peter and Donna attended the Parks planning/strategic action plan meeting on April 19 at the Northgate Community Center. Both reported the meeting was poorly run and wasn't very helpful. Parks presented a 52-page document and asked attendees to comment on it during the two-hour meeting. Donna is writing up her comments and will email a copy to the committee. It's very important that every committee member send in comments to Parks by April 30. This document will set the standards the Parks Dept will use to make decisions over the next five years and this is our chance to influence it.

Fundraising: Wine Tasting Laurel and Dale volunteered to work on this event. If anyone has resources please contact Laurel. Raffle The raffle can be promoted at the Summer Social and other community events. Ideas for a gift included a quilt, Maple Leaf businesses contributing certificates, and a coupon book promoting volunteer services. It is important to be strategic in asking businesses for donations as we will likely need their support at a later date. Donna will draw up a list of ML businesses and draft a letter. The money we raise from the wine tasting and raffle will be used in part to hire a landscape architect. A volunteer to head up the raffle is needed.

Grants Research: Mark said that the list of questions sent out by Donna to use in researching grants was complete. He emphasized that grant applications require we have a plan and we need to consider grant deadlines for applying. Someone suggested researching the Inter Agency Committee for funds. Another possibility is the Seattle Parks Foundation. Donna spoke before to Woody Wheeler from the SPF. It would be useful to talk to someone who worked with the SPF to raise funds to find out their experiences. Susan and Jeremy will do some research on SPF and what resources are available and especially what SPF charges to do the fundraising. Donna encouraged all the committee members to do grant research and to ask at work if our companies make donations or matching grants. Donations can be made through the MLCC which is a 501c nonprofit organization.

Reports on Features: Labyrinth (Irene) showed some pictures of different labyrinths made of different materials. She will contact the organizations who built these labyrinths and find out more specific details. Play Equipment It was mentioned that additional play space for kids wasn't one of the features we were researching. We need to

be sensitive to the people who worked on creating the existing play area at MLP. A lot of the play equipment is outdated according to the Parks Dept. There are a lot of children that live near the park. We need to have more tables at the park. Arden agreed to look into expanding the playground features. She said that it was good for young children but the park needs more stuff for older kids. She will talk to parents in her area. Pathways (Ginger and Win) Win talked about different kinds of surface materials that can be used for pathways. He will look into the expense involved in each and get some pictures. Dog Park (Laurel) Laurel is in the process of visiting dog parks and will report back more. Ball Fields (Gwen) Gwen presented a map with a list of ball fields, etc. within a five mile radius of MLP. Open Space There was a discussion about open space being as important as ball fields at the park. The athletic groups have a strong lobby and they have money. We need to determine if consensus outside our committee is for no additional ball fields at the park? It was mentioned that on our first survey, ball fields wasn't highly popular. Rain Garden SPU may pay for a rain garden.

April Community Meeting: April 30 is the ML Community meeting. Donna will be give a short powerpoint presentation and bring people up to date on the park. She will talk about the need for fundraising. The committee reviewed the first survey which gives a brief synopsis of the reservoir lidding and formation of the UPLP Committee. The survey asked 1) about grant, foundation, and fundraising resources and 2) what features one would like to see in the future UMLP. The committee edited this survey and Donna will incorporate the changes into the survey and distribute it again for input. The survey may also be distributed through the ML newsletter.

New Business: View Protection Donna had some good news to report. The city council has a view protection ordinance in place on public property that protects the Space Needle, Cascades, Olympics, and Mt. Rainer. The ML Community Council is applying to have Maple Leaf Park added to the ordinance. Green Roof Research The Green Roof research is a study put forth by SPU in conjunction with the University of WA. Our reservoir will be a green roof so it could be included in the research study. It is unknown what this may mean, but it is speculated a structure may need to be built on the green roof to accommodate research. Urban Farms: There was a brief discussion of a new initiative supported by Richard Conlin to create urban farms around the city to address worldwide food shortages. The reservoirs don't seem to be identified as potential sites for these farms, but it is early in the process and we need to learn more.

#### Announcements:

- The 3rd Myrtle Reservoir Park meeting will be May 1 at High Point Community Center in West Seattle. Donna doesn't think she can attend but encouraged other committee members to attend. Gwen, Marjorie, and Irene were interested in going.
- David Miller is on the advisory committee working on the new ProParks Levy.
- The committee tour of the homes on 88th St will happen after the reservoir is refilled.
- We will tour the reservoir parks (Cal Anderson, Jefferson, Myrtle, and Magnolia) in May or June.
- We will try to create a standing committee meeting date. We will see how the 3rd Monday of the month works, starting in May.

#### Action Items

- Donna is writing up her comments to the Strategic Action Plan and will email a copy to the committee.
- Donna will research if BBQs are allowed at the park.
- Donna will draw up a list of ML businesses and draft a letter.
- Susan and Jeremy will do some research on Seattle Parks Foundation.
- Everyone is doing their research on park features and looking into grant opportunities.

Next Meeting: May 19 at the Stratford at Maple Leaf (7pm) The Stratford is located at 9001 Lake City Way (corner of 90th).

Meeting adjourned at 8:57pm