

Constituency General Membership Meeting April 16, 2024

In attendance:

Officers: Chris Scott, Nick Setten

Members: Heather Pihl

6:15 p.m. Call to order – tech issues led us to start at 6:28

6:20 p.m. Approval of agenda

- AMEND agenda to cut Café Street Discussion

6:25 p.m. Approval of minutes: March 19, 2024

[Minutes | constituency \(pikeplacemarketconstituency.org\)](https://www.pikeplacemarketconstituency.org)

6:30 p.m. Opening remarks by the Chair

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6:35 p.m. **Cafe street discussion**

- **Action Item: Coordinate Mary/Zack coming to our General Membership meeting next month Deadline: ASAP**

6:55 p.m. Old business

- Jonathan reports on listening committee
 - It is happening!
 - Have done 45 interviews, half dozen volunteers working with us at this point. put together a short sheet with links to docs to do the interview and a sheet to track who interviews have happened with
 - It's been well-received on the craftline. Excitement that the constituency is listening.
 - Alex says it's moving a lot more quickly than he thought it would.
 - Agrees that people are excited about
 - Interviews have been very open ended, with the hopes of being able to track trends

7:00 p.m. New business

Reviving Roundtable

- I read from the roundtable doc
- **Action item: scan/print copies of this doc and the Agenda for the 90s to share with Market Constituency through newsletter DEADLINE: ExCom Meeting this month**
- Bob suggests that there was a specific need for this for a while which dried up so we may not be right in reviving it.
- Chris suggests that there is still valid need for this. It could help spur the recreation of a Merchant's Association. He says its about having a group of people who can effectively counterbalance the PDA's juggernaut.
- Christine says that the Hildt Agreement was coming up for renewal, and at the time th MHC came out with the recommendation that there be a sunset clause for crafters, which caused a great deal of concern for crafts (some want to stay on the craftline). She says

the Roundtable was a year or two before she came to the Market, and by the time she was getting here it was winding down.

- She also says, if we do a round table, there's no authority – it can make strong recommendations. So she would hope that a round table would include the PDA. Doing a consensus thing with the PDA involved would be good.
- Jonathan says today: There's no DTA, no Merchant's Association. He says that for the round table to exist we would need an org that would speak with authority on behalf of merchants/crafters/etc and without those things there may be less value in this, and a more productive focus would be to rebuild those orgs through us.
- Heather says that Conrad Steinbreuck is interested in rebuilding the Merchant's Association, and the Round Table would be good in time of crisis, but we've been able to weather some storms of late without such a body. And that we should somehow support the revitalization of the Merchant's Association
- Chris thinks we could work toward both of these goals. But bringing all the stakeholders together would be a good thing.
- Kettle's amendment today stresses the importance of the PDA managing the Market, and I think there's a real and fresh opportunity for coalition building and use the listening committee as a means to this end
- **Action item: Share the roundtable docs with Constituency, and continue to bring it up and explore it in Executive Committee until we're ready to present it to General Membership**
- Kristopher Martin – the way we communicate is so different from how it was in the 80's and 90's and there are so many gaps between the two things.

Elections

- We are still looking for volunteers for on 7/19 from 8am to 6pm. One- or two-hour shifts are welcome. We need:
 - Setup 8-9am
 - Election table 9am-5pm
 - Ballot counting 5-6pm
 - Election table volunteers will help with both paper and electronic ballots.
 - Interested? Send us an email at marketconstituency@gmail.com
- Motion:
 - hold the 2024 election in the same way we held the 2023 election, using Election Runner as our electronic voting system in addition to our in-person processes.
 - Christine moves, Johnathan seconds, passes by acclamation

Outreach Committee/Chair

- Chris presents a motion – any time there's an opportunity to have outreach, we just do it!
 - We move for the Constituency Chair to create an "outreach chair", who may or may not form a committee, in charge of identifying opportunities for outreach to the market community through PDA event structures and execute those plans, in order to provide recruitment and increased membership.
 - Jonathan moves
 - Bob seconds
 - Discussion

- Heather warns against signing up loads of people who wouldn't respond
- Vote:
 - Passes with acclimation

7:30 p.m. PDA Council Committee reports

- I talk through Programs
- Gordie talks FAM
 - Gordie adds some things about FAM today: most of the discussion was about our insurance. Because we exceeded our expected insurance quotes by 170% this year, so our insurance next year will go up 20% to \$3/4m/year – this was put on hold, Chris says.
 - He also says the Market's net proceeds are coming in above average but not as much as has been over the past few years. This might be because we were anticipating less money in the last couple of years. Thinks things have slowed down a bit because our projections were higher.
 - No new leases this month.

7:35 p.m. Public comment*

- Bob Messina – calls out the activity happening at 1st and Pike. Says it's becoming harassment on account of the noise. SPD says we can file an anti-noise harassment form with SPD, and in the past they've been able to get rid of people like that because of the pressure from many people.
 - Bob Braun says there is a form you need, and to download a decibel app to take a photo and screenshot to accompany the report. SPD is understaffed.
 - Chrissitne suggests we append the noise complaint form to the upcoming newsletter.
- Andrew – worked at Lowell's for 2 yrs, excited to organize where he works. He also shares Bob Messina's concerns, and suggests these forms and information be shared with Delaurenti, Info Booth, Pike Place Flowers, etc
- Karen asks if people have ever asked if him to just quiet him down.
- Heather – says there is an application outside kitchen & market for a 40ft long outdoor seating area – not a PDA-controlled building, but it would be tacked on to the other areas.

7:45 p.m. Adjourn meeting