

## **CONSTITUENCY GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING**

**Tuesday, January 21, 2025, 6:15 p.m.**

### ATTENDANCE:

#### **Officers**

*In the room:* Jonathan Berner, Bob Braun, Gina Karaba, Emily Pike, Bruce Rutledge, Christine Vaughan, Babak Ziraknejad

*Online:* Russell Monroe

#### **Members and guests:**

*In the room:* Cynthia Askew, Michelle Catalano, Andrew Carroll, Craig Eidsmoe, Austin Godwin, Yoko Kuramoto-Eidsmoe, Rachel Ligtenberg, Gabriel Lowery, Bob Messina, Erik Pihl, Heather Pihl, Chris Scott, Chris Weaver (one person signed in only as "D")

*Online:* Linda Amesquita, Kaitlyn Bell, Zack Cook, Alana Crawley, EJ Griffin, Liz Hughes, Leonard James, Haley Land, Rachel Powell, Kim Ramirez, Jessica Shapiro, Rhonda G, Joan Paulson, David Steinbrueck, John Kelso, John Brink, Max Irvine

Chair Bob Braun called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

Agenda: Approved by acclamation.

Approval of minutes: December 17, 2024; December 12, 2017; March 19, 2019; August 18, 2020

Approved by acclamation.

Guest Speaker: Rachel Ligtenberg, PDA Executive Director

Rachel introduced her team online: Alana, Kaitlyn, EJ, Zack - now promoted to programs manager, Alana program manager - daystall arts, Kaitlyn - program manager on farm side, Madison Douglas is marketing director.

Rachel said she is excited about upcoming meetings/engagements related to the PDA Master Plan. First on are small group discussions Feb. 5, to be convened at Folio. There will be three breakout sessions: one on farming with Zack and Trice. Facilitated by Madison and Erica. Third session: What are the guidelines that help form a community? From 9am to 1 with lunch. Mr. D's providing lunch. Will use SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats). Master Plan is a North Star, but we need to listen and plan more first.

There will be a second session Feb. 19, from 9-2, for anyone who didn't get the chance to attend. Can have a curated conversation and a chance to weigh in. Capture reactions to questions. Chance to vote up concepts and initiatives.

On February 5th, the public can join virtually at the beginning and close. Last thing we want is to have an appearance that we are doing really important work behind closed doors.

Feb 27 is Council retreat. Will be at Perkins Coie offices.

The second small group discussion, likely March 5, focuses on crafts and small business support. Will invite John Turnbull. Rachel talked about the re-establishment of the Merchants' Association. She emphatically agrees with re-establishing it, to include all small businesses, including crafters, buskers, et al.

The third small group discussion, in April, will focus on the street. Then buildings, capital, sustainability. Rachel has talked with multiple stakeholders - Councilmember Kettle, Greenways, others.

Questions:

Erik Pihl: The term Food Life - he has never heard it before despite having a long experience in food-related businesses. Very vague, architect- speak jargon term.

Rachel: There's probably a stronger moniker.

Bob Messina: Explains how the term "Food Life" came to be. Talked about expenses getting higher than revenue. Restaurants and food bring the most revenue.

Christine: Street discussion will look different than the phases. How?

Rachel: Will bring together multiple stakeholders. SWOT framework may not work well for the street. May lean on urban designers who have tackled big, controversial topics.

Christine: In these sessions, if people could be in the room, better. Hope that is part of these sessions.

Rachel: These will all be in person. Retreat will have enough space to move around. Feb 5 is invite-only. Feb 19 is more broad: 9-2, drop in at any point, likely in the Classroom.

Chris Scott: At retreat, will there be any discussion of the new administration in DC.

Rachel: Not currently on the draft retreat agenda. Pacifica, legal counsel, has been advising on effects to social service spending etc.

Haley: Does Zack answer to Madison or you?

Rachel: Zack reports to me. Madison reports to me.

Haley: Curious about implementation of Master Plan. Any discussion between PDA and Council?

Rachel: Some parts of implementation may require resolutions. Farm Program (Produce on Pike, CSA Program, etc.). Some will be incremental and fairly organic. Others may be new and require resolutions.

Rachel said she will visit the Constituency meetings quarterly and that a member of the PDA leadership team will visit every month.

#### Old Business:

#### **Daystall Rules:**

Kaitlyn: Deadline for submissions to amend the Rules was 1/7. Putting together a package with all rule change proposals. Community meeting to hear feedback.

Alana: Jan 30 community meeting. Daystalladmin@pikeplacemarket.org for comments.

Rachel: Our rules packages available to be picked up in the office?

Alana: Absolutely.

#### **Budget:**

Nothing new.

#### **5-year term for online membership registration:**

Bob: How to pay for the financing charges?

Christine doesn't see any problem with \$5 and finance charges. Make it clear what we are signing up for.

Bob: Put disclaimer in bold letters.

Christine: Good to have an expiration date on form too.

Nick points out that this wouldn't replace the \$1 paper forms you can use.

Haley: Would there need to be additional language in the bylaws?

Jonathan: In our discussions, we haven't found anything that prevents us from doing this.

Bob: Washington code allows facsimile signature.

(?): Where does the membership fee go?

Bob: PDA

Babak: Convenience fee gets us merchants every time. Glad we are considering it.

#### **Pike Place - videos and discussion and photos:**

Heather shows videos of Pike Place from last summer to discuss challenges for farmers loading and unloading.

Discussion ensues. Gina and Haley discuss parking enforcement. Rachel echoes sentiment about enforcement. Gina mentions armored vehicle, which is always an issue. Certain vehicles like that one often block the street.

Jonathan: Some things happening on the street that don't help our community. No black and white issue.

Bob: Some people may not know about our beautiful parking garage!

Babak: Parking enforcement, what are we talking about? Some people stay in those spots all day.

Gina: Say we get control of our street. Could we give tickets?

Heather: No. Ticketing has to be done by SPD.

Andrew: Parking for free makes no sense. Make the whole thing a loading zone.

Heather: PDA comes before MHC annually to get approval to use parking places on the west side of Pike Place for farmer overflow.

Erik: Any small change in the Market has ripple effects. We didn't see liquor deliveries, emergency vehicles. Those are real needs. Greenways says we want to make a Market for the people, but the Market doesn't function with no cars on Pike Place. Has to go in front of the MHC too. We need to resist temptation to make changes.

Jonathan: Let's consider the impacts and the message. Greenways is part of our community. We should listen and look for positive ways to improve. Something in the middle.

Bob: Need to be careful here. We've taken a clear position that we support the PDA and MHC having a discussion.

Andrew: When there is overuse of the resource, you need to restrict it.

Nick, we are about 20 minutes behind schedule. Actual conversation in April with PDA.

### Standing Committees:

#### **Listening Committee:**

Jonathan: Ready to start interviewing buskers. New and improved version of last one. Reiterate our purpose. Two goals: Educate ourselves and our community. Reviews crafter interviews for newcomers at the meeting. Questions: how frequent do you busk, is it primary source of income, please classify your act, what's going well in PPM, what could be improved.

Gina says add me to the list.

Nick: How will we use and present this information?

Jonathan: Graham and Janis couldn't join today, but sure they have an eloquent answer to that question.

Question about reaching out beyond PPM.

Jonathan, quite a few buskers who have a permit but don't busk that much at PPM.

#### **Outreach Committee:**

Emily, hard at work on the brochure. Will circle back to Tip Your Busker campaign. New idea: Outreach with social service agencies? Don't see them as much at our meetings. Food Bank, Child Care, Senior Center, etc..

Chris: Great idea.

Bob: Ex Com should discuss. Put it on the agenda.

**Figgy Pudding funds raised:**

Christine, Figgy Pudding \$49,077. Con-sing-tuency \$1,758. We did OK, in the middle of fundraisers.

New Business:

**Constituency role in PDA Master Plan:**

PDA Council Retreat on February 27, 1-6, location TBD

Christine: Will be hashed out in part at PDA Ex Com on Jan 23.

**Constituency brochure:**

Nick: Final couple of updates needed. Will look at hi-res dropbox folder of photos offered by PDA.

Heather: Don't use the gumwall photo.

Nick: It's organic art.

Chris: Use PDA printer and it will be less than \$1 a copy.

PDA Council Committee reports:

Nick gives updates on Programs, FAM meetings.

Public comment:

Rachel Powell: Suggested providing Zoom link for Constituency meetings on website.

8:01 p.m. Adjourn meeting