

April 25, 2019  
Constituency Executive Committee draft minutes  
6:00 p.m.

Attendance: Jerry Baroh, Joan Paulson, Mark Brady, Nick Setten, Betty Halfon, David Ghoddousi, Ali Mowry, Russell Monroe, Laurie Johnson, Skip Knox

### Committee Reports

Elections Committee: Nick reported that he and Ali and have been working on a candidate questionnaire. He explained that it was based on the elections handbook with regard to commitment and attendance, definition of roles. He went over the six questions they had drafted.

There was a discussion about the process of officially becoming a PDA Council member after the elections.

Nick went over deadlines and planned outreach efforts. Betty suggested doing outreach for the elections and membership at the same time. David agreed and suggested a tent. Ali said that she and Nick have been walking up and down in the Market to encourage people to sign up. Mark suggested an ad in the Market News. Nick said that he had contacted her about it. He also sent it to the Seattle Times, and for inclusion in the Market Insider.

Russell asked how potential candidates would learn about the questionnaires. He suggested sending them immediately to give people time to complete the packets. Nick said that he could provide the questionnaires as he finds people that are interested.

Joan said that the statements should include a date so that people are not left guessing.

### Budget Committee:

The Committee reviewed a draft. Jerry went over the items - phone, lighting, membership, newsletters, archiving, podcasts, liability insurance, office improvements, computer. It was clarified that the PDA's attorney is available to the Constituency to have legal questions answered. There was a discussion about whether or not it would be a conflict of interest.

Betty asked how the budget figures were determined. Discussion ensued.

### New Business

Nick proposed that there be signs for the elections, to be ready by mid May. Ali

suggested getting a price quote, and volunteered to get one. There was a discussion about business cards for the Constituency.

Nick asked for volunteers to help with the Nominations Committee.

Ali reported back on a survey of Exec Committee members about five issues: viaduct demolition, streetcar project, Showbox, Merchants Association and MarketFront activation. Four of seven rated viaduct demolition as the #1 issue. Additional feedback included prioritization of: revitalizing the Market, finding our consumers and building community, historic preservation, how much will the Market pay for the LID, PDA needs to do more preservation than development, politicization of the Market boundaries, getting locals back to the Market. Ali asked if there are any more suggestions to add.

Mark was concerned about the PDA Council looking at performance measures for businesses in the strategic plan. Betty asked more about it and David said that it's being dealt with in closed sessions. Ali asked, is the PDA measuring a business's success based on revenue and not based on other factors that contribute to a business's success? Mark confirmed that it is. Betty read from the strategic plan and said that "sustainability," does not necessarily mean money.

Mark wanted to know why further details could not be discussed. Ali went over the Open Public Meetings Act requirements, and then it was clarified that items discussed in the PDA's closed sessions could not be discussed in public. David explained that specific leases were discussed in closed session, and that could not be discussed at the Constituency's meeting.

Joan pointed out that businesses are also selling through their websites. There was a discussion about measuring performance. Betty stated from her experience as a small business owner and also former Exec Director of the Pike Place Merchants Association that it's usually been a matter that when a business has lower income for a few months, the PDA will work with that business to set some goals, working together with the Merchants Association. Joan said that there has been a trend for businesses to grow so that more are able to pay most of the expenses. She said that the amount of PDA staff has grown also.

David pointed out that there isn't support from a merchants association anymore.

Ali returned to asking the Exec Comm about priorities for the Constituency to focus on. Mark suggested heaters on the crafts line. Discussion ensued. Mark reminded the Committee that the costs would be prohibitive. Ali said that City Fish has them. Betty said that there may be insurance issues, too. She noted that this is an open air market. Ali countered that there has been a drop in attendance during the winter.

Joan asked about the Orca card program. Ali said that she wasn't able to get anywhere with the PDA, and said she would contact the Foundation to ask about it. Jerry suggested bringing back the ride free area.

Skip suggested surveying the general membership. He advised caution with surveys. Discussion ensued. Ali suggested asking the membership to present concerns at General Assembly meetings.

There was consensus to prioritize the cherry trees on Pike St.

Ali said that board members and people that are regularly attending meetings will be surveyed.

Ali said that City Fish is being kept from selling merchandise. She said that the Constituency should advocate for them. She wants to invite their general manager to the next meeting. Discussion ensued about whether or not the Constituency should advocate for businesses to sell hats and T-shirts. Mark spoke to the specialty nature of businesses in the Market.

May General Assembly agenda

Mark suggested a discussion of leases and what's being sold in various shops. David suggested a report from the Merchants Association. Betty suggested getting information from Gary Goedecke organized. Jerry suggested asking Megan Lee to attend.

Betty suggested voting on the bylaws. Skip suggested taking another look at "public" in the bylaws. He feels someone needs to be reminded that the Market is a public market. Ali explained that the word public was eliminated to be consistent with the PDA's charter, which says Pike Place Market, not Pike Place Public Market. Discussion ensued and it was suggested to add "public" back to the bylaws. Skip suggested polling Constituency members.

Mark made a motion to accept the bylaws as written, with the exception of section 1 Line a "Public" and also to return to discussion around nomination process. David seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Items to be discussed at the next meeting to include finalization of the budget, and the section on nominations in the bylaws.

Meeting adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

