

## **CONSTITUENCY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Tuesday, January 30, 2025, 6:15 p.m.**

### Attendance:

**Online:** Jonathan Berner, Nick Setten, John Kelso, Babak Ziraknejad, Alex Rasmussen, Emily Pike, Olga Sagan, Rachel Powell

**In Classroom:** Bruce Rutledge, Chris Scott, Skip Knox, Christine Vaughan, Janis Jordan, Davin Stedman, Gina Karaba, Heather Pihl

Secretary/Treasurer Bruce Rutledge called the meeting to order at 6:22 pm.

Agenda: Approved by acclamation.

Approval of minutes: October 28, 2021; December 30, 2021; November 21, 2024  
Approved by acclamation.

### Public comment

#### Old Business

Christine on Council Retreat – will be held @ Perkins, 1201 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave Floor 49. Thursday, Feb 27. 12 – 6pm. All attendees need to check in with security. No rsvp needed.

#### New Business

Davin reports – Simon, a Kenyan Artist, has been invited to throw a festival of Sept 6 – 7, Davin will be headlining (?). This guy has a vision for an African restaurant in the Market, and wants to do a fundraiser and event at the Atrium with Traci Calderon. He wants to promote the first African owner to own a shop in the Market. Not sure which shop.

Nick suggested he refer his friend to the PDA website if he is indeed interested in starting a restaurant/shop in the Market.

Haley recalls Johnson's Shoe Repair in the 1980s near Jack's.

Skip plans to introduce a motion at the next General Assembly meeting to amend voting procedures to be back to in-person only.

Outreach to Social Services: PDA is happy to send us speakers. Emily has suggested we invite some folks from social services.

Chris says it's not complicated, just reach out to the people we want to invite, and invite them. He thinks the clinic hasn't ever really come to the meetings. But the Market Commons, Senior Center, Food Bank have all come. They have spoken about what they do, their budgets, what it costs, where the budget comes from, and did a Q & A.

We do not yet have confirmation from PDA about who will join us in Feb, but we are hoping to have a PDA speaker then.

Chris points out that Zack is coming to speak about daystall rules, so those two conversations should happen together.

Some conversation about daystall rules review deadline:

Response deadline is 5pm on Feb 25. If the next GA is 2/18, then this could be a long discussion possibly. There will be another packet available on March 4.

Action item:

Reach out to Social Service providers – cc Bruce, Bob, Jonathan, Alex

Prioritize: Preschool come visit us in March!

Christine suggests the Secretary send a memo to PDA leadership about what we plan to cover when they come in. Bruce says he will try to confirm in the coming days.

#### PDA Committee reports

FAM – we are solvent. There are some retail space openings coming up/open.

PDA Council retreat will be on 2/27. A fair amount of time in full council was devoted to how that time will be spent. Christine points out that the best reference can be found on BoardDocs. [Featured - Pike Place Market Preservation & Development Authority BoardDocs® LT](#)

Gina mentions some of the farmer concerns, Place Pigalle windows that need to be replaced.

Nick says that Feb 19 from 9 – 2pm will be an open opportunity to weigh in on the Master Plan topics covered Feb 5 in small group discussions (invitation only).

Heather asks about Gina's comments about the MHC denying window replacements earlier.

Nick reports on the Programs Committee.

#### Public comment

Skip says he doesn't watch TV, and thinks we're missing the boat, and wonders why we don't use TV-W or local access stations to spread the word. He plans to bring this up at the upcoming GA.

Jonathan – re Local Love Day – the PDA frequently shares emails with residents and tenants. He realized that this would apply to the Constituency and is curious if at some point we can have a discussion about making ourselves and our email list available to PDA to share.

Nick agrees that it would be nice to be able to connect with PDA to get an outreach table at the locals-oriented events they do, and that it is up to PDA Council reps. to share information about ways to engage that come up in PDA meetings.

Christine suggests we link to daystall rule changes.

Gina suggests that when a QR code is used, we need to have some oversight and regular checks to make sure they haven't been subverted into scams.

Chris says there is a group in Portland that bought a historical building with plans to open the James Beard public market.

He also says that instead of chess tables on the MarketFront, there should be better utilization of the Atrium with chess tables there.

Gina says that people sit under the roof of the pavilion in extreme weather conditions and would like to see people being able to eat out there if vendors aren't using it.

Davin likes the chess table idea.

Heather talks about technology problems with the MHC application process. The video platform used by the MHC, Webex, is incompatible with PDA equipment, resulting in delays during meetings and other problems related to audio difficulties. DON has insisted that they use that platform. Heather asks that we support the MHC's request to use a platform other than Webex, citing the use of Zoom by other city offices.

Chris suggests a letter in support – Christine suggests putting this on the agenda

Jonathan asks why DON insists on using Webex. He's curious to hear the other side, there may be some good reason. Christine suggests there be an inquiry from the Constituency to look into why this tech is being used.

Janis says that for city tech, Webex and Teams are the pre approved forms of software. We could probably put in an IT request to DON or something similar.

Chris says that since other city depts use zoom, it seems to him like an arbitrary decision. He suggests inviting someone from DON so we can grill them.

Babak says that this has been an ongoing issue, and so many things have gotten misunderstood and sidetracked. He suggests as a workaround that if we mute ourselves from our own tech that might help. But this has been a sore point for months.

Skip agrees with Christine and others. Says he's been asking DON for 15 years why they use Webex.

Babak says it's nice to have Skip back.

Rachel asks about quorums and if things should continue to be an issue and if they're in the bylaws.

Chris clarifies that if there's no dialogue or back and forth in emails, why would it be controversial?

Chris asks about Facebook and Instagram accounts.

Sounds like they don't really exist anymore.

Davin talks about his own bad experiences with Meta.

Rachel says she would be concerned about handing over our membership's email addresses to the PDA.

Skip says he's been in and out of the Constituency since 1990. He's tickled to see how well the group is working right now. With regard to the membership list, he's pretty sure it's a public record. He's not aware of there ever being a misuse or mishandling of the list.

#### Set agenda for next General Assembly meeting

Confirm speaker (Zack? Daystall?)

Daystall rules

Chris wants there to be a discussion around how the Constituency is involved with the Master Plan, how we want to be involved and what our priorities ought to be.

Skip noted that in the minutes from the last GA meeting, there was no roll call taken. He thinks there ought to be a recognized piece of business at the beginning. Says we ought to start taking a roll.

Bruce says we have a sign in sheet but we should make sure to take roll.

Resolution from Skip about voting.

Online registration report

Report on Feb 5 meeting & discussion

Standing committee reports, standing committees

Vote on final version of brochure

7:40 p.m. Adjourn meeting