Pike Place Market Preservation and Development Authority (PDA)

Executive Committee
Meeting Notice and Agenda

Wednesday October 21st, 2009
7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.
Goodwin Library

7:30 a.m.  I. Administrative
A. Approval of Agenda
B. Approval of September 16th, 2009 Minutes
C. Announcements and Community Comments

7:40 a.m.  II. Council Chair’s Report – James Savitt

8:00 a.m.  III. Executive Director’s Report

8:25 a.m.  IV. Executive Session – Union Negotiations
A. Closed Session (RCW 42.30.140 (4)(b))
B. Open Session

8:40 a.m.  V. Public Comment

8:50 a.m.  VI. Concerns of Committee Members

9:00 a.m.  VII. Adjournment

Enclosures: Minutes from September 16th, 2009
Executive Committee
Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 16th, 2009
7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.
Goodwin Library

Committee Members Present: James Savitt, John Finke, Ann Magnano, Gloria Skouge

Other Council Members Present:

Staff Present: Carol Binder, Anita Neill, James Haydu

Others Present: Ernie Sherman

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 a.m. by James Savitt, Chair.

I. Administration
   A. Approval of Agenda.
      The agenda was approved by acclamation.
   
   B. Approval of August 19th, 2009 Minutes
      The minutes were approved by acclamation.
   
   C. Announcements and Community Comments
      None

II. Council Chair’s Report
Jim noted that the items to be discussed in September’s full Council meeting included the Budget planning for 2010, cost control for the Capital Projects and an update from the Preschool regarding their funding process and renovation progress. Additionally the expectations between both parties should be discussed.

Future agenda items for the committee to contemplate included underutilized spaces in October’s full Council meeting and the composting program and street closures to be further discussed in October’s Operations and Communications.

John F. questioned what expectations the Preschool had of the PDA. Carol noted that she was not sure, but expected it to be increased financial support. Construction to the Preschool was to begin in January or February of next year however they did not have all of their funds raised and would possibly be looking towards the PDA for a bridge loan if they did not receive the New Market Tax credits. The construction could be delayed if they did not receive the funds which in turn delay any progress in activating the underutilized spaces in the third floor Downunder. Additionally the Preschool was concerned about the emissions from the new electrical vault that would be located under the playground. After extensive research by PDA staff, there were no requirements or standards for location or shielding for electrical vaults and there were no conclusive studies found indicating that the EMF’s were harmful. There was a long discussion about the Preschool funding and playground EMF issue and where the PDA should stand on these issues.
III. Executive Director’s Report
Carol asked committee members if they felt there should be an annual retreat this fall. There was some discussion and it was decided that a retreat would be scheduled for February or March of 2010. The topic would be discussed and decided on before December. John suggested the food festival program as a topic for the retreat. Carol suggested that at some time a retreat should be held to discuss the impact of changes to the Market after the completion of the renovations.

Carol noted with the upcoming mayoral elections there was a possibility that the newly elected mayor would be opposed to the tunnel as a replacement for the Viaduct and derail the project. Carol felt that it was important for the PDA Council to state their position in favor of the bored tunnel and the PDA involvement in the decision making process. John suggested a letter be sent to the Governor before the election. It was decided that a resolution in favor of sending a letter would be drafted and presented to next Thursday’s full Council meeting.

Carol noted that the Market charter was built on public interest groups but lately there was a lack of participation from these groups. She wondered if there was a way to generate more interest towards being proactive participants in the Market processes and functioning or if it was ok and or desirable that these groups were phasing out. The Constituency was still somewhat active but the other groups are rarely heard from. Ann questioned if it was possible to change the charter. John replied that it was difficult but possible and required a lengthy process by the Council and the City. After some discussion it was agreed that the level of participation was not disconcerting.

IV. Other Reports and Action Items
A. Follow up on issues raised by Public Comment
   There was no further discussion on issues raised by Public Comment.

V. Executive Session – Union Negotiations
Jim noted that he though he recalled a resolution that permitted Ernie Sherman to attend closed sessions. He felt that Ernie had some valuable input for discussion but until the document was found and reviewed by a lawyer he should not attend. Jim requested a copy of the documents as soon as possible.

A. Closed Session (RCW 42.30.140 (4)(b))
   Went into closed session at 8:27 a.m.

B. Open Session
   Went into open session at 8:40 a.m.

VI. Public Comment
None

VII. Concerns of Committee Members
Ann requested an update on the compost program. John replied that it was on the agenda for discussion at the October OPSCOM meeting and there would be no change to the program for the remainder of the season. Ann noted that research should be completed on the laws of composting on the King County flood plans and follow up with farm landlords regarding their opposition to composting on the farm land. John noted that statements made from the compost public hearing were being researched for validity.

Ann noted that all options should be researched and presented to Council members before the next OPSCOM meeting and before a decision on what to do with the compost program was made. She felt that regardless of the outcome there was a way to make a positive change.

VIII. Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 a.m. by James Savitz, Chair.

Meeting minutes submitted by:
Anita Neill, Executive Assistant

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