



The Valley View

Newsletter of the Greater Madison Valley Community Council

Issue 98, November 2001

E-mail: madisonvalley@juno.com

President's View

by Gary Emslie

We hope that this newsletter finds you, family, and friends healthy and able to enjoy the beauty of fall in the northwest. Last year at this time I reminded us that those in need of food, shelter, and health care had increased in our county. Sadly, events of September 11th and the outpouring of support for those in need as a result of the terrorists' attacks have left us locally short of needed food and warm clothing. Please consider a donation of time, food or clothing, and/or money to help those in our neighborhoods in need. You can call Northwest Harvest at 800-722-6924 or Providence Regina House at 322-2107 and they will gladly accept your donations. Think and act both globally and locally.

By the time you are ready to fold this month's newsletter to fit the bottom of the bird's cage, many of our neighbors will have gathered to celebrate the 12th annual Spaghetti Dinner held at the Martin Luther King

Elementary School cafeteria. Many thanks to the volunteers who make this dinner such a positive (and low cost) neighborhood event.

In the good news department: the Seattle Department of Neighborhoods has awarded the Greater Madison Valley Community a grant to fund the plan/design process to renovate and reopen the fieldhouse located in the north east corner of the Arb soccer field. Next steps include renovation drawings and cost estimates. We are one big step closer to having a home for the community council.

In the "wish it didn't happen" category: the council members discovered this past month that the YMCA workers at the before and after school program (remember we worked as a community to get the portables for the working families whose children attend M. L. King) threw out all of the community council's historical files. Along with the files goes a great deal of history. The old cabinet and Spaghetti Dinner table decorations can be replaced but the history will be harder to recapture. Edgar Masmela, the YMCA Family Center Director, said

he would look into it and pay for the replacement of the table decorations and cabinet. Let's hope that he finds the files.

Over 50 and wishing you were back in school? Intergenerational Innovations has program for you. Presently they are looking for folks interested in working with children in the Martin Luther King school. If this is of interest to you, call Lynette Eugene at 252-2909. Volunteer in your neighborhood school.

SCAA (Seattle Council on Airport Affairs) has drafted a resolution which directs local, state and federal officials to adopt a moratorium on all airport expansion, and continues the night time flight curfews and advocates for a commission to determine a location for a new airport. Additional details can be obtained by calling SCAA at 763-7222 or talking with the council's representative, Jonathan Drachman.

Finally, I urge you to take a moment this fall to reach out to a neighbor. Communities gather strength from within during times of uncertainty and fear. Hope to see you at the next GMVCC regular meeting: Tuesday, November 20, at 7:30 p.m. ▼▼

Valley Notes

Washington Park Fieldhouse

The Washington Park Fieldhouse project is underway. With our modest grant we are planning to renovate and reopen the brick shelter house just off Madison. It will become a warm meeting place for many of us, and a classroom for the children in local schools who make field trips to the Arboretum. We are sending delegations to nearby councils, to the teams that use the playfield, and to the Japanese Garden Society. We learn from them how and when they would use the building so we can design proper facilities. The Parks Department owns the building and will once more

offer recreation activities there. We hope the programs will be year round for us to enjoy. We need volunteers to help us along: call Peggy at 325-6308. ▼▼

Stickerbush Removal

The major alley clearing job off Harrison near 30th will proceed. We talked to the neighbors concerned and got the go-ahead. One resident who did not want access restored to their place will be satisfied if the alley remains blocked part way. We are assembling a work party and will announce the date. This attention to alley affairs brought several calls to the council from voters who would like help removing trash, dead vehicles, crumbling

(Continued on page 2)

Correspondence

Dorffel Drive: A Madrona Issue Too

Dear Editors:

I believe the Greater Madison Valley Community Council has a committee that is studying the problem of the large traffic volume, particularly at commuting times, along Dorffel Drive. I'm wondering if the Madrona Community Council has communicated with them on this issue. As a Madrona resident, I'm concerned because I use this route regularly at all times of day both to go to the University district by way of Lake Washington Boulevard and to go to the Madison Park neighborhood. I think the Dorffel Drive route is the best and most legitimate way for people in my part of Madrona to reach these destinations. I would agree that out-of-area residents should not use Dorffel as a commuter route. I'm just hoping the Madrona drivers' point of view is being communicated to the GMVCC Dorffel Drive committee.

Betsy Darrah

An Open Letter from City Councilmember Heidi Wills on the Promise of Wind Power

There is some good news in the world. Something extraordinary is happening along the Washington/Oregon border. Four hundred wind turbines are rising up out of the ground that will soon generate enough electricity to serve more than 23,000 Seattle households. I am thrilled that my colleagues on the Seattle City Council joined me in voting unanimously to approve the largest public power wind contract in the nation. The State Line Wind Project is near completion and Seattle City Light will bring wind power to Seattle for the first time ever at the beginning of the New Year.

Bringing wind power to Seattle enhances our already green portfolio while allowing us to diversify by investing in a non-hydro and abundant renewable resource. Renewable resources have been very good to our city. Hydro electric dams on the Skagit and Pend Oreille Rivers provide more than half our energy at among the lowest prices in the country. Wind power will bring another affordable, efficient renewable resource to our region. At the same time, wind power advances our commitment to completely reducing greenhouse gases and protecting our beautiful environment.

Wind power has had a turbulent history in America. In the 1800's, windmills were used to pump water and turn sawmills that generated more than 1.4 billion horsepower hours of work. The New Deal Congress of 1935 passed the Rural Electrification Act to use federal funding to extend utility power lines into rural areas across the country. Urban power companies expanded their service territory into rural America and in 1959, the last major wind generator went off-

line. In the 1970's, a combination of an energy crisis and a renewed government interest in providing incentives for alternative energy sources prompted a revival of wind power. Wind farms started sprouting up all across the Southwest, particularly in California. In the mid-seventies, when the energy crisis waned, so did our country's interest in wind. Thirty years later, after wind generation shifted to Europe, wind is roaring back onto the scene again in our own backyard. The State Line project will be one of the largest wind farms in the world.



As owners of our own public electrical utility - Seattle City Light - we can be proud that it has a reputation as the "greenest and cleanest" public power utility in the country. This new wind contract will help us meet future load growth and satisfy our commitments to renewable energy and greenhouse gas reduction. This is a long-term investment that will better serve all of our customers and provide the power we need at the price we want, with the environmental values we must deliver to future generations.

Heidi Wills is Chair of the Seattle City Council's Energy and Environmental Policy Committee.

Valley Notes, continued

prehistoric garages and other eyesores. We have opened a whole new field of civic betterment. Please remember, citizens, that we are a very small crew on this paper, and things get done only when good-hearted volunteers come forward to do them.▼▼

Upcoming Neighborhood Academy Offerings

The Neighborhood Academy offers all kinds of practical forums and seminars designed to provide useful information and build community at the same time. The Academy also offers a book club. For Tuesday, November 27, the book is Sherman Alexie's *The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven*. Meet at 7:00 pm at 306 23rd Avenue South, Suite 202. This book was the basis for the movie *Smoke Signals*.

Past classes have dealt with everything from debt management to herbal remedies. On November 15th the Academy will hold a class on holiday decorating on a shoestring, and on December 11th a class on the art and craft beadwork – a great idea for holiday giving.

The Academy's phone number is 206/521-1100 – just give a call to sign up for the book discussion or classes and to find out about future opportunities. ▼▼

Community Council Minutes

GMVCC Meeting of September 19, 2001

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by acting-President Charles McDade. A quorum was not present.

Jonathan Drachman, who was appointed leader of the Dorffel traffic group in the last meeting, gave us an update on the group's project. While members were not able to meet in the summer, they are planning on meeting as soon as possible to resolve the issues at hand.

The biggest interest for revising the street is to install speed humps. Jonathan has found that a neighborhood can rent rubber humps and have them temporarily installed in a street in order to test the effects of the humps, should they eventually be permanently installed. This is a move that is particularly encouraged by Seattle Transportation as they often receive complaints about the noise caused by speed humps and then must remove them.

In regard to the recent incidents in New York City, the Community Council reviewed blood donation issues. We were informed that blood can be stored for only 35 days (5 weeks). However, donators can only give blood every 56 days (8 weeks). Therefore, since most of the blood that is donated in the U.S. comes from regular donors, in cases of major efforts, such as on the days following September 11, there can be a 3-week lag in which there is a severe lack of blood. While this would normally not make much difference, the Puget Sound Blood program has been overwhelmed with donations due to the attack, so please be advised on the best times for donating.

Also, in light of the attacks, there was a thought that a future newsletter should profile some of the firemen at the #34 station on 32nd. This would be featured as a follow-up to a past article on the station itself.

A resolution was passed for all profits from the Spaghetti Dinner, which will be held on the Friday, November 2nd, to go to the Red Cross Disaster Fund.

Regarding the third runway proposal for Sea-Tac Airport, it came to our attention that 20 to 30 Community Councils in the area of endorsed a resolution opposing the runway. In our own history, the GMVCC supported the SCAA's position concerning flight paths and other issues two years ago. For more information go to SCAA.org.

The Washington Park field house grant, for \$5,000, was approved. Contracts were signed on September 25th. The Madison Park Community Council has also expressed interest in the renovation of the house, which we plan to

use for our own meetings in the future. Use of the building will be coordinated by the Parks and Recreation Department.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m. ▼▼



GMVCC MEETINGS:

Third Tuesday of the month, 7:30 pm

GMVCC Meeting of October 6, 2001

The meeting was called to order at 7:30.

Sarah Trethewey began by bringing up the recurring problem of petty theft in the area. A member of the community police force answered our questions and gave us new ideas on how to deal with the problem. If there are any complaints of petty theft, the number for the community police force is 684-4370.

Next, Jerry Sussman informed us of progress on the renovation of the field house at Washington Park. Development of architectural plans for a potential renovation will probably continue through January or February .

The spaghetti dinner will take place on Friday, November 9th. Tickets are \$3.50 per person or \$12 for a family of four or more. A motion was passed to spend \$100 on decorations for the dinner. Don't forget to mark this event on your calendars, come and join the fun!

A cleanup day is being planned for the alley between 30th and 31st. Call Jerry to volunteer to help at 325-6308.

The Dorffel and Maiden Lane traffic meeting did in fact take place, and neighbors from that area are working on decreasing the traffic and increasing the sidewalks in their area. A motion was passed to form the Neighborhood Traffic Committee.

Grant Cogswell, who is running for position eight in the Seattle City Council came in to share with us his ideas on transportation and other ways of improving our city. We can visit his website at www.cogswellforseattle.org.

Lastly, it was voted that we adopt the SCAA (Seattle Council on Airport Affairs) resolution calling for a moratorium on the expansion of the Sea-Tac airport until issues regarding airplane noise are addressed. For more information, see the SCAA website at www.airportnoise.org.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m. ▼▼

Minutes prepared by Claire and Miranda Levy, GMVCC Co-Secretaries.

THE VALLEY VIEW

2802 East Madison St., Box 184
Seattle, WA 98112

Greater Madison Valley
Community Council

Member of the Seattle
Community Council Federation

Newsletter Staff

Cathy Nunneley

Miriam Roskin

Eli Stahlhut

Jerry Sussman

The Valley View is published 10
times each year.

Deadline: First of each month.

Your submissions are appreciated!

Mail to the address above.

2001-2002 Officers

President - Gary Emslie

Vice President - Charles McDade

Secretary - Miranda and Claire

Levy

Treasurer - Sarah Trethewey

Site Council Rep. - Adrienne

Bailey

E-mail: madisonvalley@juno.com



Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Seattle, WA
Permit No. 6873

Next Community Council Meeting

Tuesday, November 20, 2001, 7:30 p.m.
Martin Luther King Elementary School Portables
3201 E. Republican Street
(parking available on playfield)



CAFE FLORA

2901 EAST MADISON
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

98112

(206) 325-9100

(206) 324-9783 (fax)

**LESCHI
FOOD
MART**

SPECIALIZING IN
QUALITY MEATS
PARTY PLATTERS
HOMEMADE SAUSAGES
TEL: 206-322-0700
103 LAKESIDE AVE
SEATTLE WA 98122

SUPPORT THE VALLEY VIEW NEWSLETTER

Name: _____ Phone: _____

E-mail: _____ Address: _____

Donation Amount: _____ I don't receive the Valley View;
please add me to the mailing list.

Please contact me for mailing parties, writing, reporting, artwork,
or other. My interests are:

GMVCC ▼ 2802 E. Madison Street, #184 ▼ Seattle, WA 98112