



Greenwood Park
Public Meeting Notes
November 3, 2008
7 – 8 p.m.

Attendees: Donald Harris, Seattle Parks and Recreation
Karen O'Connor, Seattle Parks and Recreation
Belinda Gigliotti, Seattle Parks and Recreation
Laurie Ames, Department of Neighborhoods
Rich Macdonald, P-Patch Program, DON
45 community members

Introduction:

Donald Harris gave a brief history and introduction of the project. The community first proposed the Greenwood site for a neighborhood park in 1954. In 1999, property was acquired for the new park, and in August 2003 the new park opened for public use. In December 2003 the two properties that were targeted through this project were acquired to expand Greenwood Park. The combined properties are about 0.3 acre. The community has worked hard to bring the park to where it is today. This meeting is to gather public input and discuss future for developing the additional sites.

Introduction and explanations of opportunity for two parcels given by Loretta Vosk, Rich Macdonald, and Dan Pavlovic.

Summary:

- Senior Center and Boys and Girls Club have come together to discuss planning of P-Patch
- Trying to see if people are supportive of P-Patch idea.
- DON approached Parks to discuss use of space as a P-Patch
- This meeting is looking for community input.

Questions and Comments:

P-Patch serves both the seniors and the Boys and Girls Club. It is a great inter-generational use of the space

P-Patches come about through fundraising, then planning, then build.

This P-Patch would hopefully have raised beds for use by seniors
This site operation similar to Evanston P-Patch – volunteer managed, site leaders

The Greenwood area is under facilitated – when there is an opportunity for use of space everyone jumps on. Need long term planning process so the space does not look like patch work additions. Need a comprehensive plan

What would happen if a P-Patch was constructed in an interim location?

It is hard to move P-Patches – people get attached to land

Is there a standard plot size of p-patch? How many would this site hold?

The site is 7000 sq. ft – plots approx. 50 sq. ft. so approx 100 plots with additional room for composting and additional site needs.

Great idea to have intergenerational activity. K- 5 project is going on now at Boys and Girls club – they really enjoy the gardening. Older kids would appreciate seeing the community come together and being involved in the planning process.

It would be good to have activity for middle / high school age range – like basketball court.

Good reference for use of space is Jim Diers – for use of public space and integrating community.

Intergenerational gardening is fabulous for the community. Gardening is healing and creates ecological awareness.

Master Gardener agreed to volunteer. Gardens inspire and community celebrations can be created around them.

Puts eyes on the park.

Greenwood park in a unique situation – need to plan around what we have and land we may have in 5 – 40 years. Housing turns over every 7 years but acquisition financing may not be available.

Boys & Girls club disappointed that a basketball court was not put in earlier. They can not put one outside on their land because of liability issue. Also, it is better in the park because people walking past at all hours.

Lots of middle school/ high school kids looking for something to do.

Historically, basketball court comes up.

What other ideas are on table?

In long term possible community center if planned

Need long term plan

Beach volleyball

Lawn bowling

Planning and design is an organic process – all ideas go out on table – consensus on what would be best for community.

Need money for planning process. Need people to help with grant writing and process.

Please sign up on list going around if interested in helping to grant write for money for planning process.

How does this work? What is the process?

DON has Small and Simple grants that are \$15,000

The community needs to apply for these – it is a community driven process. Once this gained then can move forward in planning process.

Large grant for \$100,000

What about a bare bones P-Patch? Rich though community could do something for \$50,000 in the interim.

Next Steps:

There was no opposition to a P-Patch but everyone wanted to embark on a planning process. They did not want a P-patch to be put in without a long-term plan

Want to activate site because it is not safe.

Will get list of people that want to be involved and work on getting planning process underway.