

West Edge Neighborhood Association Meeting Minutes April 25, 2016 at Friends of Seattle Waterfront Space

Meeting was called to order by Vice President Linda Mitchell at 6:13 PM.

Linda did introductions and thanked:

- Friends of Seattle Waterfront (including an update from Heidi Hughes of the Friends, on their upcoming programming)
- Etta's and Tom Douglas for food

Laurie Ames of the Department of Neighborhoods gave an update on upcoming events from DoN's recent email newsletter.

M/S/P approval of the March minutes.

Speakers:

- **City Councilmember Sally Bagshaw** (D7-Downtown/Magnolia) spoke about her focus on homelessness, including interagency cooperation, and looking to other cities for best-practices. She lauded programs including Seattle's LEAD and 1811 Eastlake programs, and San Francisco's Navigation Center, and called for cooperation between county and city agencies. She took questions about long-term care, measuring program efficacy, and the origins of the homeless populations. Councilmember Bagshaw also recommended support of for Sound Transit 3.
- **Lisa Daugaard** of the Public Defender Association discussed the LEAD (Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion) program, which she described as "a system by which people who are engaged in drug crime or sex work can be referred to 'guerilla social services' – often (but not always) as opposed to filing a criminal charge against them. She spoke to the program's effectiveness (recidivism reductions of about 38%); as well as challenges (communication to officers, intersection with other plans like the 9 ½ Block Strategy, public communication). She discussed the program's recent focus on the Waterfront and invited members to refer known drug dealers in the neighborhood to the program.
- **David Markley** with Transportation Choices Inc. shared the results of their recently completed study of 2nd Avenue alleys between Lenora and Pike that was commissioned by residents of the 1521 2nd Ave condominiums. The study recommends that the city consider mandating enclosed recycling/trash spaces, setback garage entrances, detailed sightline and pedestrian safety analysis, and policy changes around alley access and pedestrian safety.

Meeting adjourned at 7:44 PM.