

**Friends of Magnolia Manor Park Steering Committee**  
**Wednesday, June 10, 2015, 7–9 p.m.**  
**Magnolia Manor Park, 3500 28th Ave W, Seattle, WA 98199**  
**Meeting Notes**

**Attending: Susan Casey (Chair), Inger Beecher, Larry Bosi, Jim Keller, Carla Kotila (Magnolia Queen Anne District Council), Marilynn Sheldon, Alex Reynolds, Laura Osterbrock (P-Patch Liaison), Toni Imfeld (OLA Steward), Carol Burton (Treasurer)**

7:00 p.m.     **Introductions:** Jim Keller from Site Workshop (SW), the landscape architecture firm that is working on the next stage of developing the park, attended to present SW's updated plans for the park.

**Minutes of April 16 meeting:** Susan Casey would like to review the minutes from our previous meeting more carefully before they are submitted for approval.

7:10 p.m.     **Treasurer's report** Carol Burton

The P-Patch Memorial Day barbecue raised about \$650. The P-Patch total is about \$3555.91.

The Off-Leash Area (OLA) currently has about \$1130 and there is about \$93 left over from the art project.

7:15 p.m.     **Opportunity Fund project**

Jim Keller presented Site workshop's current plans for the next phase of development in the park:

**Project:**

A new retaining wall will be built close to the northern border of the park. Fill for the park-side of the wall will come from leveling the mound near the circular seating area in the northwest corner of the park and from the new path to be built along the southern border of the park. This will make the current sloped area on the north side flat and useable. A picnic area may be added later.

In the OLA, add a plaza, keep the trees, add a new entry to the small dog area. Move the south border of the OLA to align with Grover St.

Jim hopes they will be able to extend the fence line on the east side of the park but are not sure if funds will permit it.

On the south side, a new path will be built below grade, and earth that is removed to create it will be moved to north side to be used as fill. Site Workshop (*or Parks?*) will work with neighbors to preserve views. The path will be 8 feet wide and will have a removable bollard at its end.

At the P-Patch, the ADA parking space will be made level.

**Process:**

Site Workshop has turned in a preliminary site plan to the Seattle Department of Planning and Development (DPD). The DPD will complete a Pre-Application Site Visit (PASV) and ask for permits, which will be for grading and the new wall.

Site Workshop is waiting for comments from DPD, a review from Seattle Public Utilities (SPU), and one person at Parks.

**Timeline:**

Because most contractors are already booked through the building season for 2015, the Parks Department plans to ask for bids in the fall. Then construction can begin promptly in the spring of 2016. Work must be done before 10/15 in any year (the wet weather window). Planting will be done in June of 2016, which will necessitate some irrigation. The north planting buffer will need a steward to look after it.

*Question:* Is there a plan to include motion-sensitive lights for security along the path? *Answer:* No, that’s not in the budget and may be a nuisance for other neighbors. Neighbors can put up their own, or apply for a Small and Simple grant.

*Question:* Can the planting be done in the fall of 2015, to take advantage of winter rains? *Answer:* Possibly, but an escort from SPU is required for any work that is done behind the current position of the fence, and the escort is expensive.

*Question:* Are any benches included in the plan? *Answer:* One will be relocated, the one in the OLA will stay, and there is space in the OLA for more.

*Question:* Will there be any topographical features for dogs in the OLA? *Answer:* Maybe a Small and Simple grant could cover those.

Possible actions: Should the Steering Committee draft a letter to DPD if no action is apparent in the next month? Jim suggests giving them more time than that, since this is a busy period for DPD.

The committee supports building another OLA in Magnolia, possibly either in Smith Cove Park or in Fort Lawton. Toni Imfeld will help Susan Casey draft a letter to the city expressing this support.

8:00 p.m.

**Website and Facebook pages**

Prior to the meeting, Carla Kotila sent the committee a link to Joe Villarino’s draft of a new website for MMP. The new website should emphasize the entire park. The park site plan should be prominent on the website. Perhaps Alex Reynolds can work on content?

The new website design will allow us to add new content more easily.

Carla Kotila would like to display the organization overview for the park on the website.

Eventually we will be charged for the website design (at less than market rates). It’s not certain which fund the payment will come from, or perhaps more fundraising (grant writing) will be done to cover this cost.

8:15 p.m.

**Off Leash Area and P-Patch**

Toni Imfeld sent out an electronic survey regarding upcoming changes to the OLA in May. There have been about 200 responses to the survey so far. About 78% of respondents prefer a larger space, and about 8% prefer more amenities. There were many requests for OLA surfaces that are easy on the paws of its users. All agree that working more on getting chips for the surface of the OLA is important.

The MMP P-Patch held its third annual Memorial Day fundraiser, with salmon provided by Metropolitan Market. A good time was had by all, and about \$650 was raised. The P-Patch has also begun weekly donations of fresh produce to El Centro de la Raza, where the produce is used for a mid-day meal and, if any is left over, El Centro's food bank.

8:30 p.m.

**Other**

**Goals for 2015?**

Raise money to move the fence on the northeastern side of the park.

A graduate student from WSU is working on a pollinator study in several areas, including Magnolia Manor Park. This may lead to installation of a pollinator buffer strip in the park.

Consider a large project grant for the park that would create access to the park from the multi-family buildings on the eastern border of the park (26th Avenue West).

Consider planning a second birdhouse open house.

**New members for Steering Committee**

Diane Kennedy will join the steering committee as an OLA steward.

The committee seeks greater representation from the neighborhood, including those who live east of the park.

8:50 p.m.

**Adjourn**

**No date was set for the next Steering Committee meeting. The date will depend on progress made on the draft plans.**