

NOTES FROM THE DEC. 1, 2015 COLONNADE STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

Drafted by Chris Leman

Attending: Tyson Cecka (Parkour Visions), Shelly DaRonche (Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center), Karen Murray (Eastlake Community Council board member), Pam Kliment (Seattle Dept. of Parks and Recreation), Chris Leman (Eastlake Community Council, project administrator), Sharon LeVine (Citizens for Off-Leash Areas), Jens Madsen (Eastlake homeowner), Eliza Pan (Feet First), Nathan Pauli (climber), Robin Randels (Cascade Bicycle Club) Mike Sidwell (Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance), Kelsey and Taylor Sizemore (Eastlake renters), Art Tuftee (Community Design Liaison).
Guests: Nathan Arnold and Farley Harding (outdoor gym advocates), Judy Smith (Eastlake resident and editor of the Eastlake News), and Barbara Gordon (floating home resident)

The agenda was approved as submitted.

Budget and schedule. The main unexpended funds from ECC's \$24,525 Neighborhood Matching Fund (most of which goes to the \$21,000 contract with planning and design consultant J.A. Brennan contract) are \$3550 for J.A. Brennan (about 38 hours remaining of their staff time). The estimate from J.A. Brennan is that they will need 12 hours to do the cost estimates of various design features as required in their contract, plus a few hours to update their concluding memo; thus leaving a little over 20 hours for any final work on the schematic design and any needed consultations, including, if needed, a final presentation to the Park Department's ProView committee.

The Park Department's Pam Kliment stated that unless major changes are to be proposed for the long-range schematic plan from the version presented in July and reviewed at the Oct. 1 Steering Committee meeting, another presentation before the Proview Committee will not be necessary.

In order to conclude the Colonnade planning and design project to its best effect and to file all the substantial documentation on volunteers, in-kind donations, and finances required under our contract with the Department of Neighborhoods, ECC requested and was granted by DON an extension of the contract. This lengthened schedule allows input from today's Steering Committee meeting and further comments received soon; and enables continued work on subarea proposals for bouldering/climbing features, an all-ages outdoor gym/movement playground, and a labyrinth walk.

Labyrinth walk. A labyrinth is a flat maze of concentric pathways (traditionally a perfect circle about 35 feet in diameter, but could be an oval or other topographically adaptive

shape) that the walker enters from the outside and eventually reaches the center, combining exercise and contemplation. The new labyrinth walk at Seattle Center is popular, and these are becoming more common in parks nationwide.

The Colonnade Oct. 1 Steering Committee meeting was positive toward a labyrinth walk, but could not support the proposed site. Subsequently, Chris Leman and Art Tuftee searched the study area and suggested for discussion today a site for a labyrinth walk near Colonnade's NW entrance along Franklin Place E. near E. Newton Street. However, Steering Committee members were skeptical of this site too, given the limited flat land and the steep approach from the south.

At this point, Shelley DaRonche said that the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center would be receptive to a walking labyrinth location at the extreme south end of the possible Colonnade expansion area, near FHCRC and the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance. The Steering Committee members encouraged Leman and Tuftee to explore this site as preferred for a labyrinth walk. [They later did so, and found a workable site where DaRonche had recommended. Tuftee later produced a diagram of the proposed site, showing how it would fit in with the proposed multi-use pathway. The diagram was posted on the Colonnade project web site, and the link was circulated for the Steering Committee members' comments].

Movement playground/all-ages outdoor gym. A design was presented at the Colonnade Oct. 1 Steering Committee by proponents Nathan Arnold and Farley Harding and Steering Committee members were positive about this idea, but could not support the proposed site, which is needed for the mountain biking improvements. Since then, Chris Leman and Art Tuftee have identified a promising site along the proposed new east-west pedestrian corridor, and Nathan Arnold has donated a detailed design which was reviewed at today's Steering Committee. The site would be along the east-west stairs proposed for the Blaine St. axis, uphill from and just SE of the granite gathering area. The Steering Committee agreed that the design and site would fit in well with the schematic plan and priorities. Arnold and Harding also suggested that the framework could be topped by a sculpture, such as a legendary "kraken".

Bouldering/climbing facility. Such a feature was discussed in the original 2003 planning for Colonnade but at that time there was insufficient interest or funding to pursue it. The current planning process has received continuous and enthusiastic support for a bouldering/climbing facility. Steering Committee member Nathan Pauli arranged for a conceptual design personally donated by Ryan Spence, who works at the Elevate company, which makes and sells bouldering/climbing structures. The Steering Committee reviewed the drawing and approved the need and location.

