

Victory Heights Community Council Meeting Minutes
February 20, 2018

Meeting called to order at 7:08 PM by President Ann Forrest to wait for stragglers. Eight people in attendance.

Robin and Kelly from the Ryther Center for Children & Youth gave a presentation. What's the Ryther Center? It's that campus on the south side NE 95th Street just east of Lake City Way. Named after Mother Olive Ryther who in 1885 opened the first home for children in Seattle (<http://www.historylink.org/File/546>), at the Ryther Center they "help children and youth overcome trauma, mental health and substance use challenges," according to their website, <http://ryther.org/>. Considering how many angry kids are in the news these days, places like this give them a place to get treatment and help when nothing else will work. They are always looking for volunteers, from "Best Buddies" to just working in their thrift store in Ballard.

At the Lake City Neighborhood Alliance, they had their big District 5 meeting with city council member Debora Juarez in an unheated Mennonite Church in Lake City.

At the North Precinct Advisory Council Meeting, Mary Amber, the crime prevention coordinator talked about how you can better secure your house, and she will do a free assessment of your place. We did a walking tour around the neighborhood with her last summer where she pointed out potential problems at various houses along the way.

On February 10th, the playground at Victory Heights Park was opened to a large crowd, including local TV news. Since then, kids have been using the new equipment, although some minor damage from the installation has been noted already.

The grant we received from the Department of Neighborhoods has been used to buy plants for the traffic islands (which are starting to bloom) and the temporary signs we put in the islands to announce the meetings.

Ann said that Peter Nielson will be helping install pedestrian flags on 15th Avenue NE with her soon.

An upcoming poll on Doodle will ask if anyone is interested in a mega neighborhood-wide yard sale sometime in the spring, coordinated on the same day.

We're still waiting for the final word from the Park Department about installing our emergency communication HUB box. A drill is planned for Saturday April 28th which will simulate a power outage.

We're looking into whether a kid's overnight campout can be arranged in the park. Apparently this happens in other parks around the city. We'd have to find out about liability, pottys, trash, etc. More as we gather information about feasibility.

We nominated improving NE 104th Way down to Lake City Way as one of the projects under consideration for the city's "Your Voice, Your Choice" grant program. Essentially we have to compete

against other projects around the city. Between February 23rd and March 28th there will be five community meetings open to the public (probably during the day) to narrow down the projects to 8-10 for final consideration by the city. Attending one (or more) of these meetings would greatly improve our chances to improve this pedestrian unfriendly street. Stay tuned!

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, March 20th when Sound Transit will give us a general overview of our mass transit system, what's up with the light rail, and maybe even a pedestrian bridge update.

Meeting adjourned at 8:02 PM.

Submitted by Ryan Johnson
Secretary, Victory Heights Community Council