

Victory Heights Community Council Meeting Minutes  
October 16, 2018

Meeting called to order by President Ann Forrest at 7:00 PM. Twenty-one people attending.

Laura Jenkins, the Community Engagement Coordinator with the Seattle Department of Neighborhoods (DON), did a brief slideshow to show what DON does and the services available on their website. Among other things they put a newsletter every two weeks that highlight neighborhood news around the city and events (including ours).

A few months ago we attempted to win a city “Your Voice Your Choice” grant to fix up NE 104<sup>th</sup> Way. Alas we were outvoted. So the community council is taking matters into our own hands. We are hosting a “Blackberry War” on NE 104<sup>th</sup> Way on Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup> between noon and 3 PM to clear out vegetation and an old log along the road to make it safer for pedestrians walking between 23<sup>rd</sup> Avenue NE and Lake City Way. Ann is renting a truck, the neighbors have signed off, we just need volunteers armed with rakes and heavy gloves to help clear the blackberries and other obstructions.

In homelessness news: nobody has returned to the Knickerbocker site after last month’s clean up by the city, but the camp merely went upstream and are set up under the 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE bridge now. The city is aware of it and it’s in the “queue” to have the city’s Navigation Team come in as a prelude to another cleanup. Meanwhile, feel free to report it using the “Find It Fix It” app or call 911 if you see criminal or suspicious activity around there.

Brad Cumming updated us on the Lake City Neighborhood Alliance meeting. There is now \$11 million in funding to upgrade/replace the Lake City Community Center, although they really need \$16 million. Our representative, Debora Juarez has a new district director liaison person.

We might join forces with the Thornton Creek Alliance to make some sort of visual presentation that we could take to Councilperson Juarez (or her new director) to make her aware of the urgency of cleaning up homeless encampments that are around Thornton Creek, particularly from an environmental standpoint.

The Parks Department finally removed the fencing around the new pathway in Victory Heights Park.

New cork board has been installed (by us) on the park’s bulletin board to make it easier to post things, and a piece of Plexiglas will be put over it to protect notices.

The gingerbread house fund raiser last year was very successful, so we will probably do it again in December.

The feeling was caroling isn’t as popular as it used to be, especially having to walk all over the neighborhood going from house to house. Instead, it was proposed this year to just have a carol sing in the park, maybe with the help of some band kids.

Someone proposed doing a lumination around the walking path in the park some time this winter (similar to what happens at Green Lake).

After a talk with the Conservation Corp about repairing the wooden fence on the eastern boundary of Victory Heights Park, they estimated the cost at \$17,000! Apparently they would need 50 boards to do it, plus the cost of labor. For now we are going to put that project on hold until nice weather next year and maybe attempt to do it ourselves with volunteer labor if we can get someone to perhaps donate the wood or sell at a discount.

Meeting adjourned at 7:47 PM.

Submitted by Ryan Johnson  
Secretary, Victory Heights Community Council