

Seward Neighborhood Group – monthly Community Development Committee
November 12, 2024 | 7:00 - 8:20pm (Second Tuesday)
via Zoom

Attendees

- **CDC members:** Lisa Boehlke (SNG Board), Rebecca Blumenshine, Winston Calvert, Carissa Hansen, Sheldon Mains, Steve McCauley (SNG Board), Philipp Muessig (secretary), Sara Rothholz Weiner (Chair), Michael Sedki (Zooming in from Peru!).

Meeting Notes

1. **MOTION: that the SNG Board reappoint all CDC members (currently 9, listed above) to serve during the January through December 2025 term.**
 - a. Reappointment leaves open 2 seats, should one or two others wish to join the committee.
2. **Neighborhood Leadership Mingle**
 - a. Tuesday, December 10th, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. at Redesign's offices (2619 E. Franklin Ave.).
 - b. Beverages, desserts, some savories, Sara will spend up to \$200 and be reimbursed by SNG.
 - c. CDC members will have name tags, be hosts, encourage minglers to consider volunteering for CDC and other neighborhood groups/efforts. Sara & Philipp will start set-up around 5:30.
 - d. Sara will send an invite to CDC members for forwarding to individuals and groups. Philipp will send to block club members, and to 36th ART & SNG History & Environment Committee chairs so they can forward to members. Sara will invite the SNG Board, Redesign, council members, our MPRB commissioner, key visitors to CDC meetings.
3. **Homeless Encampments**
 - a. Carissa, who lives on 22nd Ave., described several tents on Seward Cafe property that also partially blocked the public sidewalk. In the last few days they are gone, the Cafe having placed more bike racks in their place.
 - b. Michael described his experience during covid with the Greenway tents between 30th & 31st Avenues: calls to 311 resulted in no City action other than documentation; City & police action was very slow; neighbors retained an attorney to deal with the private property owner who was violating the City law of no camping on private property; public camping is more a political vs. a legal issue. Only after dangerous and violent incidents was the encampment disbanded by the City.
 - c. The 23rd & Evergreen block club met with Shun Tillman, Seward's long-time community crime prevention staffer, to discuss alley tents and a fact sheet on how neighbors can deal with tents.
 - d. A future meeting of the block club with CM Wonsley is scheduled and CDC will be informed.
 - e. Philipp will follow-up with the block club, Shun, and see if fact sheets from other neighborhoods exist.
4. **SNG Newsletter / Web Articles**
 - a. Useful topics discussed were (1) guidance for neighbors who experience tents on private/public property, (2) issues on which CDC can assist neighbors, (3) household environmental issues including lead service pipes, indoor radon, soil lead, and (4) information (picture, sketch, data, timeline) on new development projects as they break ground.
 - b. Philipp will gather information on tents, draft a CDC article, and discuss environmental topics with the SNG Environment Committee chair. Lisa will help with new development articles.
5. **Updates / Announcements:**
 - a. **SNG Board:** Is working on a 2025 action plan.
 - b. **Redesign:** 2025 focus on small business loans and assistance. Wadaag Commons on track to open in 2025. The Indigenous Food Lab has closed on the Creamery building purchase.

- c. **Seward boundary & bylaw change:** Though the SNG Board voted to change its bylaws, the City is waiting to see revised bylaws before it will change its map/definition of the neighborhood. Philipp will resend bylaw text to the SNG Board for its vote and posting on the SNG web site.
- d. **Hub of Heaven:** An annual report should be sent to the SNG Board, the CDC felt, due to the garden's financial/legal connection to the Board.
- e. **CDC charter:** Philipp will send the SNG Board, for approval, final text with amended language regarding CDC sending letters on behalf of the Board.
- f. **Next meeting:** December 10th Neighborhood Mingle in lieu of a CDC business meeting, the next of which will be January 14, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at which Normanna Park and transportation issues will be on the agenda.

END