

Our Vision

To steward a livable, vibrant, urban neighborhood supporting, a diversity of residents of all ages and incomes while driving an innovative local economy and providing rich, cultural community opportunities.

Our Values

Inclusiveness | Integrity | Respect | Transparency | Impartiality



SOUTH LAKE UNION
COMMUNITY COUNCIL

SLU Community Council Meeting Tuesday, April 4, 2023

General Meeting: 5:00-6:00 pm Board Session: 6:00 to 6:30 pm

Members Present: Julie Holland, Jacqueline Gruber, Paul Wohnoutka, Ross Leventhal, Renee Notkin, Von Perkins, Aaron Swain, Jill Wiggins

Members Absent: Geoff Eseltine, Rebecca Bryant

Guests Present: 1

Community Members Present: 9

Julie Holland
President
Mirabella
SLU Resident

Jacqueline Gruber
Vice President
Vulcan

Geoff Eseltine
Secretary
Cascade People's Center
(YMCA)

Paul Wohnoutka
Treasurer
Allen Institute

Rebecca Bryant
Member
Fred Hutchinson Cancer
Center

Ross Leventhal
Member
NBBJ Architects

Renee Notkin
Member
415 Westlake/Kakao

Von Perkins
Member
SLU Resident

Aaron Swain
Member
Weber Thompson

Jill Wiggins
Member
Fearey

GENERAL MEETING

1. Welcome (Julie Holland) (Quorum)
2. Meeting Minutes for January and March 2023. Approved
3. Treasurer's Report (Paul Wohnoutka) Balance is \$23,295 of which \$1,780 is restricted for website support. Approved. Detailed treasurer's report is attached.
4. Presentation - *Small Business Perspective* (Introduction Ross Leventhal)
Guest Speaker – Rebecca Kaplan, Glazer's Camera co-owner. Kaplan explained how a third generation SLU-based camera company, founded in 1935, has become Seattle's only camera store and the go-to provider of professional services and equipment for commercial photography, video, cinematography, film, lighting, grip, and printing. The unprecedented crime, shoplifting, break ins, graffiti and homeless encampments of recent years caused the company to seriously consider whether to remain in Seattle. Fortunately, after much discussion, a decision has been made to remain in South Lake Union. We all benefit from Glazer's Camera community collaborations. Last year it conducted 150 education and camera-related events. The next one is the annual Camera Fest, June 3 thru June 5: [PhotoFest 2023 — Glazer's Camera Inc](#)

Our priorities within the SLU Urban Design Framework & SLU/Uptown Mobility Plan

Equitable Housing | Design Review Collaboration | Public Safety
Equitable Community Engagement | Activation of Public Places | Sustainable Urban Mobility

Connect with Your South Lake Union Community!

SLUCommunityCouncil.org; info@SLUCommunityCouncil.org

5. Committee Reports:

- Policy & Planning Committee March 2023 Meeting (Matthew Curry).
 - i. Renewal of relationship with Seattle Parks and Recreation in preparation for LCIP funding moving from SDOT to Parks and Recreation in 2024. Parks and Recreation Senior Advisor, David Graves, introduced the new LCLIP project manager Rachael Banner. The initial focus will be updating the approved SLU Parks and Recreation project list, which is expected to start in approximately two months. (LCLIP funds are derived from a property tax assessment that allows additional building height in SLU in exchange for conserving farmland in King County and funding approved SLU-based projects.)
 - ii. Lake Union Park Updates (Matthew Curry). 1) LUP has been identified as needing improved maintenance and operations. Friends of Lake Union Park have made significant progress by working closely with Parks and Recreation to do so: inroads on geese removal, clarity of boat pond water, and beautification as witnessed by the planting of 10,000 now blooming daffodils organized by Friends of LUP. The Manager of Operations for Parks will be a featured speaker at the next Friends of LUP meeting. 2) Cascade Park's needed improvements have been identified as resurfacing the basketball court, repairing drainage of the playing field, and repair of restrooms.
- Design Review at 535 8th Avenue – Perkins and Will. The design team sought community guidance on meeting the design guidelines of the SLU neighborhood portal distinction at the corner of Dexter and Mercer. The design team is looking forward to returning to discuss their ideas at PPC's April 18 meeting.
- Mercer Stakeholders – ST3 Denny Station Update (Jacqueline Gruber) The Sound Transit Board delayed the Denny station decision for two months to give the ST3 project team time to further study the Terry location and develop an apples-to-apples cost comparisons with the Westlake option. One area of study will be considering leaving the Long-Haul fiber at Terry in place rather than assuming it must be moved. A final decision will be made at the May 25 ST Board Meeting. In the meantime, there is a need for continued advocacy.
- Communications Committee (Rebecca Bryant) Reported recent website updates have been made.



6. Public Comments/Calendar

- a. Karinda Harris. Senior Community Relations Manager, Vulcan. Update.
 - Block 59 off Dexter, two buildings are being demolished.
 - Block 57 at 300 Dexter, ally off Thomas undergoing communication duct work – 4 ½ months.
- b. Jonathan Kiehnau. Executive Director of SLU Chamber. The Chamber is supporting the Seeking Cultura event June 11. [seeking cultura \(google.com\)](https://www.seekingcultura.com/)
- c. Laura Jenkins. Seattle Department of Neighborhoods' Community Engagement Coordinator.
 - Neighborhood Day. Recognize someone in your neighborhood. Nominations need to be submitted by May 6. [Neighbor Day - Neighborhoods | seattle.gov](https://www.seattle.gov/neighborhoods/neighborhood-day)
 - One Seattle Day of Service. Sign up by May 20. [One Seattle Day of Service - Mayor | seattle.gov](https://www.seattle.gov/one-seattle-day-of-service)

7. Meeting Adjourned



BOARD SESSION

1. Fundraising status. Von reports response to support request letters going well.
2. ST3 Denny station decision - future advocacy needs. Jacqueline conveyed that there will likely be a need for advocacy at the ST Board meeting May 25 when the Denny station location decision will be made. Also, two progress updates are being scheduled with the design team during the two-month study period to update the community. Dates to be announced.
3. MID renewal. Agreed that SLUCC will testify in support of the renewal at the Economic Development Committee meeting on April 12. The program indirectly benefits SLU and directly in the regrade area as the MID/SLU boundaries overlap. Further testimony when City Council votes to be considered.
4. Parks Initiative
 - *Education component.* Initial goal is to educate the board and SLUCC participants on LCLIP. Matt Curry is compiling the “history” of LCLIP to support the effort. This will be used to identify meeting presentations and LCLIP updates for future meetings.
 - *Collaboration component.* A SLUCC board member will attend the scheduled meetings of Parks related organizations to identify collaborative opportunities. Target groups: Friends of Lake Union Park; Friends of Denny Park; Cascade Park; Seattle Parks Foundation; SLU Working Group; Seattle Park District Governing Board whose president is Councilmember Lewis.
 - *Engagement component.* Plan an event/meeting in late summer or early fall that focuses on parks and serves to build participation.
 - *Amazon Day of Service Initiative:* Jill Wiggins reported that Amazon is planning a Day of Service event at Denny Park on May 20. It will be an “improvement” project that could include SLUCC participants. As the event will be on Market Saturday, food trucks, a concert, and food for volunteers and guests are being planned. Jill and Julie will discuss how SLUCC might participate.
5. Board members were asked to think about how best to move to in-person meetings or a combined format of virtual/in-person. How and when. This will be discussed at the next Board Session. Renee Notkin offered to help host and organize the meeting at 415 Yale.
6. A neighbor that will be missed. Renee Notkin announced that the successful Lake Union Village is moving north out of the SLU area. The property it is on has been sold and is scheduled for development. It is a loss to the neighborhood. This tiny house village moved 75 people into permanent housing in 2023.