

Special Events Committee Meeting Minutes

February 9th, 2023

VIA WebEx Meeting

Member and Partner Representatives in Attendance:

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Representatives</b>	<b>Noted in Minutes As</b>
Citizen Representatives	N/A	Citizen Representative
Department of Construction & Inspections	Dean Greenleaf	DCI Structures
		DCI Noise Abatement
Department of Neighborhoods	Erin Chevront	DON
Finance and Administrative Services	Toner Eren	FAS
King County Metro Transit	Jonathan Rose	Metro
Mayor's Office	N/A	MO
Parks and Recreation	Carl Bergquist	Parks
	Orlando Carter	Parks
Seattle-King County Health Department	N/A	Health
Seattle Center	Gretchen Lenihan	Seattle Center
Seattle Department of Transportation	Mike Minor	SDOT
Seattle Fire Department	Cptn. Nicholas Crosser	SFD
	Lt. Kieth Wyatt	SFD
Seattle Police Department	Sgt. Gregory Fliegel	SPD Operations
	Officer Ryan Keith	SPD
	Karma Clark	SPD
	Lt. Bryan Clenna	SPD Traffic
	Diane Lalor	SPOC
Seattle Public Utilities	Pat Kaufman	SPU
Special Events Office	Randy Wiger	Chair
	Hannah Tyo	SE
WA State Liquor & Cannabis Board	Robert Rieder	WSLCB

Additional Attendees:

- Kimberly Flin – Seattle IT
- Abigail – observing, working with SEO on IT project
- Doc Wilson – Event Applicant

*Note: As always, these are "raw minutes notes" based on the discussion of the 02/09/2023 meeting and do not include every word spoken - not a literal transcript - merely a summary of ideas.*

**Roundtable announcements**

- Mike Minor has accepted the SDOT position he has been in OOC. Hooray!
- WFEA – Permitting 101 Panel Wednesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, about 10 AM – 1 PM – the vision is a 90 minute workshop/panel where the first 25 minutes are a brief overview and highlight on different

departments. Maybe FAQ style. Also, some thought we could do breakout tables.

- Would make sense for us to be a part of the WFEA events.
- Welcome to Captain Nicholas Crosser (who will be replacing Ted Powell)

### **Meeting Minute Approval**

- Vote to approve January minutes and edited November Meeting Minutes
- No changes or edits to the minutes
- Meeting minutes approved; All in favor, none opposed

### **Other Voting Topics**

- Discussion on no longer accepting permits less than 30 vs. 45 days – please see data pulled comparing 30 days vs. 45 days.
  - We will provide a grace period (i.e. if this is the first time they have heard of this time limit we will work with them)
- Discussion of 45 days as a firm cutoff –
  - We can look into a 2 tiered system in the future if we find that we can educate and come up with clear distinction between the 30 and 45 day, but maybe this is where we start.
  - Seattle Center: 45 days across the board sounds great, esp with the grace period available this year and we can re-evaluate in January. I think that's super fair and reasonable given current resource constraints on the City and our partner agencies.
- CHAIR: Is anyone opposed to voting on a 45 day cutoff?
  - No opposition.

### **Other Committee Discussions**

#### **Applications Review / Discussion**

**Event:** Columbia City Night Market  
**Date(s):** 3/18/2023, 4/15, 5/20, 6/17, 7/15, 8/19, 9/16, 10/21, 11/18, 12/16  
**Location:** 37th Ave South between South Hudson and South Edmonds Streets  
**Organizer(s):** Doc Wilson

**Event Notes:** This event has grown in Columbia City after occupying a Safe Street Closure. Now that the Covid measures have reduced, we are working with the Special Events Office to keep this thriving market going. As their numbers continue to grow, there is a focus on safety and following permitting guidelines.

#### **Committee Discussion:**

- CHAIR: For some background: this event was permitted through the PSM group in SDOT, but has grown beyond the parameters that their program permits for and so we are bringing them into the Special Events Program. Thank you for joining us! Brief overview of the location, and if anyone has any direct questions, comments, or concern. Please ask.
- SDOT: Do you have street closure signs previously since this was a safe street closure?
- EVENT: We did put out no parking signs 3 days before the event and SDOT provided some signage that informed people of the closures.
- SDOT: Was Ferdinand open?
- EVENT: Yes.
- SDOT: In the future, if your event continues to grow we may want to close Ferdinand to keep people safe while crossing at that intersection. May need to move booth 21 a little south to keep that roundabout clear. Happy to talk offline more about that offline. Thank you.
- CHAIR: It may also be worth mentioning having a volunteer with a bright vest to assist at crosswalks may be a good safety measure.

- FAS: We do request vendor lists, but it looks like in the past you have been on it, but I will reach out with my contact info and help determine guidelines.

#### Special Events Forecast

- CHAIR: This is a new agenda item where we bring up things coming down the pipeline. We will review what events we are inviting to Subcommittee meetings and touching on events that need some attention
  - o Subcommittee meetings upcoming
- METRO: We are aware of the changes to Queer Pride festival and concerned about the change in footprint and how that will affect transportation.
- CHAIR: I am considering filling that Subcommittee meeting on February 16<sup>th</sup> with a pride meeting to address all of these street closures that are creating a potentially unsafe situation with all of the fencing and closures. We could have this meeting to address concerns and talk about public safety (and also talk about the 3 day closure of 11<sup>th</sup> and pike that was requested)
- SEATTLE CENTER: what is the situation with Day In Day Out because of the impact on the city as a whole (transportation/impact)?
- SDOT: we will be working with them on transportation/scooters/etc?
- SEO: they have been given a preliminary permit for their event.
- SFD: Do we have more information on Bumbershoot?
- SEATTLE CENTER: Yes, it is happening and we are in contract negotiations.
- SFD: What about the Bite of Seattle?
- SEATTLE CENTER: Yes, we are also seeing this event return this year.

#### Post Event Review/Comments:

- Wing Luke Museum Lion Dance Blessing Celebration AND Lunar New Year
  - o SFD: Both of the events required more staff to maintain that 15 foot perimeter for firework safety.
- Ethiopian Annual Epiphany March:
  - o Last minute change to route
  - o SPD: went well. SPD adjusted and escorted successfully
- Lunar New Year
  - o CHAIR: we received an email from Lt. Bailey that a group not affiliated with the event impacted traffic and did not stop performance which effected the event.