#### MADRONA COMMUNITY COUNCIL, October 1, 2013

**PRESENT:** Paul Gomez, Barney Mansavage, Bill Mahoney, Susan Minogue, Kim Herber, Casey Losh, Mary McDaniel (Madrona K8 Principal), Deirdre McCrary

SHELTERHOUSE UPDATE: Susan, acting President in Holly's absence, reported on the progress of the shelterhouse remodel. Current MCC meeting is being held at Madrona K8 library because shelterhouse floors are curing. Stacey is working with Masvita to implement the design for remodel. Bill and Stacey cleaned out the storage room, took what wasn't salvageable to the dump, and packed tables and chairs into the new bathroom. Both bathrooms are now ADA-compliant. Stacey is working on framing the art. Masvita wants to use the shelterhouse for drop-in toddler care later this year. Earliest access to the shelterhouse will be next week when painting has been completed, and Susan has requested receiving sufficient advance notice for future work so that she can re-route scheduled MCC meetings. Tuck-pointing the building after Mayfair remains to be done.

# INTRODUCTION OF MARY McDANIEL, NEW PRINCIPAL AT MADRONA K8:

With enrollment projected to be over 320 students and with 20 or 21 newly hired staff, some new to education, Principal McDaniel is extremely busy. Just hired are a new administrative secretary and a reading specialist. She emphasized that finding the right individuals to staff the school is extremely important because the fit must be right--the staff and teachers need to know what they are doing and be interested in the school's specific population. She looks for rock-stars rather than trainees. She is working on changing the culture of the school, which has not always been seen in a positive light, but the parent body is happy, and she looks for growth in student academic achievement. She has the advantage of having been at the school last year as assistant-principal and so knows the school and students well. Council members are invited to make an appointment and tour the school with her to meet the staff and see classrooms in action.

Susan summarized the online book drive for the school library, which was sponsored by the Council. Award-winning books were suggested by the school librarian for purchase and sent directly by Amazon to the school. The goal was 60 books in 60 days, with the total reaching 65 at last count. Susan suggested the possibility of inviting the community into the school in a special event, planned by MCC and the school together, to show-case the newly added books. Currently there is no librarian at the school, but once a librarian is hired, such an event might move forward.

Barbara suggested involving the community in the school's spring musical or play, and Principal McDaniel agreed that the new music teacher might work with the Council to coordinate that event.

**HALLOWEEN EVENT:** The October 31 tradition starts at the shelterhouse and includes a scavenger hunt, with the businesses giving out candy and awards, though BOOM is no longer coordinating the hunt. Susan described a planned costume-swap in which people can drop off unwanted costumes from previous years on Wednesday, and on Thursday people can come and take what they want. On Halloween something will

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likely happen at the school as well, but Barney hasn't found anyone to run the school's last stop. Bakers for cookies and treats are needed for the event, which runs from 4:30 to 6:30, with scavenger sheets available starting at 4:30. New decorations for the shelterhouse are needed, since most old ones went to the dump in the clean-up and remodel. Kim offered a mannequin from her basement for decorating. Those present voted unanimously to spend \$20 for new decorations.

**WINE EVENT:** Scheduled for November 2, 44 tickets have been sold as well as 22 glassybabies. We need to sell 24 more glassybabies in order to receive free rental of the space. Stacey needs volunteers for the various shifts. Bottlehouse is hosting a party afterward. Aegis will provide food for 100, and one of the Italian wine importers will also provide food. There will be 60 wines from 12 distributors. Kevin will provide linens, etc., as he has done previously. Nikki will create a playlist. Susan urged councilmembers to invite their friends and neighbors.

**WREATH SALE:** There will be a large ad in Madrona Newsletter (deadline October 15) promoting the sale. Distribution will be on December 7 in concert with *Merry in Madrona*.

**NEWSLETTER:** Barbara reports that Girlie Press is printing much faster since we switched printers and then switched back. There will now be a regular provider of Madrona K8 news for the newsletter. Barbara suggested that children's writing be included as well. Susan wondered whether the new school librarian could share expertise in the newsletter around Holiday season about suggested books for parents to buy. Principal McDaniel offered that each grade-level teacher could also include lists of appropriate books along with the math and reading guidelines that they publish.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Casey suggested that the Council get into the habit of looking at the bank statement each month and noting balances as a way of keeping everyone honest, now that we have balances to check. Currently we have \$27,000 in checking, and Kraus Fund has \$21,423. Expected monthly costs are mainly the newsletter (\$430 for mailing and \$900 to print) and the monthly gas bill, which ranges from \$30 to \$100.

**BOARD POSITIONS:** Susan urged members to keep thinking about ways to recruit so that the board has members in reserve before major offices need filling. Kim said she will likely leave the board, and Casey suggested that next year might be his last. He urged recruitment of a person who could learn the job for a year with Casey before his replacement would have to be on his/her own. Bill will work with Stacey on some sort of flyer to recruit members. Susan remarked on the importance and success of simply inviting people.

**KRAUS FUND:** Bill has looked through existing documentation regarding the Kraus funds remaining to be spent. He drafted and distributed a possible timeline and format for application, to happen between the wine event and Mayfair. The goal is to fulfill the specification of the Mrs. Kraus's will and get rid of the funds. Kim brought up the issue

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of maintenance, one-time versus ongoing, with regard to the application. Members suggested moving the pertinent dates to February for the application deadline and April for the decision. Bill will work further on the draft with examples of awards given in the last round, and get the announcement into the November newsletter.

## **FINAL NOTES:**

- •Barbara congratulated Kim for the success of the brass rings and bench, which is well used. Kim regretted that she hadn't completed the printed history for a "Brass Rings Walk," but Susan will see whether that is something Nikola might pursue along with her book exchanges.
- •Barbara will send the by-laws to Paul. The by-laws specify geographic boundaries as well as the range of connections to Madrona that board members must have. Paul suggested enlisting a couple of AP students from Garfield to learn about community service by serving on the board, but Garfield is outside of Madrona.
- •The October Art Walk is not sponsored by BOOM but seems to be spearheaded by a business owner, who is asking for student art from the school as well.
- •Barney will talk with the owner of Studio 216 about working with the Council.

Adjourned at 8:30

Submitted by Deirdre McCrary, Secretary