



SEATTLE HOUSING AUTHORITY
**YESLER TERRACE PHASE II
CITIZEN REVIEW COMMITTEE**
MEETING MINUTES

MEETING NO.: 1

LOCATION: Yesler Community Center, 917 East Yesler Way

DATE: Tuesday, June 10, 2008, 5:00 p.m.

ATTENDEES: Committee Members

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Germaine Covington, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fatuma Mohammed
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ruqiyo Abdi	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mary McCumber
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elise Chayet	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Quang Nguyen
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brendan Connolly	<input type="checkbox"/> Kristin O'Donnell
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jim Erickson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mark Okazaki
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Fox	<input type="checkbox"/> Adrienne Quinn
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patricia Garcia	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michael Ramos
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fen Hsiao	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sue Sherbrooke
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Faduma Isaq	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> George Staggers
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kent Koth	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Linda Taylor
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yin Lau	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Julie West
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> M. Michelle Mattox	<input type="checkbox"/> Donya Williamson

SHA Staff

Judi Carter
 Virginia Felton
 Eddie Hill
 Brett Houghton
 Judith Kilgore
 Al Levine
 Andrew Lofton
 Leslie Stewart
 Stephanie Van Dyke

Community Facilitator and Consultants

Marcia Tate Arunga, Arunga & Associates
 Arlan Collins, Tom Hudson, Harold Moniz, & Steve Schlenker, CollinsWoerman

I. Call to Order

Deputy Executive Director Andrew Lofton called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m. He welcomed everyone to the meeting on behalf of the Seattle Housing Authority (SHA) Board of Commissioners and Executive Director Tom Tierney who could not be here tonight. Lofton thanked the Citizen Review Committee (CRC) members for their participation during Phase II of the Yesler Terrace Redevelopment Project. He said that the participation of the CRC is critical to the success of the project.

II. Community Comments

Lofton called for comments from the community. Mike Wold of the Rainier Valley Unitarian Universalist Congregation (RVUUC) stated that the church, as a tenant in the neighborhood, is concerned that the redeveloped community will meet the needs and respect the values of the residents. He said that RVUUC is sponsoring a forum on Saturday, June 28 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. for residents to express their concerns regarding the redevelopment project. No one else wished to speak.

III. Statement of Purpose and Introduction of the CRC Chair

Lofton reviewed the charge of the CRC for Phase II, noting that the function of the committee is different from the first phase, but its role is equally as important. He said that the adopted Yesler Terrace Definitions and Guiding Principles developed by the CRC and the community during Phase I will be used to evaluate the conceptual site alternatives developed during Phase II. As with the first phase, the committee will carry out its work with participation from the residents and other community stakeholders.

Lofton again thanked members of the CRC for their participation. He introduced the chair of the committee, former director of the City of Seattle Office for Civil Rights Germaine Covington.

IV. Comments from the CRC Chair

Covington stated that it is a privilege to serve as the committee chair. She said that she was persuaded to undertake the role in part because the values outlined in the definitions and guiding principles mirrored her own values. After briefly reviewing her background and interest in the committee, she asked that each committee member do the same.

V. Introduction of the CRC Members

Committee members introduced themselves, identified the organizations or communities they represent, and provided a brief summary of why they are serving on the committee. Covington stated that she appreciated hearing from committee members, particularly with regard to the commonalities expressed in the statements. She said that with these shared interests, she is confident that the committee will be successful in developing conceptual site alternatives consistent with the definitions and guiding principles.

VI. Introduction of Staff and the Consultants

Covington introduced Yesler Terrace Project Manager Judith Kilgore. Kilgore thanked the committee members and the community for their participation in this phase of the process. She said that she is looking forward to working with the committee, the community, and project consultants CollinsWoerman to develop the conceptual site alternatives. Kilgore briefly explained the process for selection of the consultants, noting that CollinsWoerman ranked the highest on all portions of the evaluation. Kilgore introduced key SHA staff attending tonight and CollinsWoerman Project Manager Tom Hudson.

Hudson stated that he is very excited to be a part of the team that is working on the redevelopment plans for Yesler Terrace. He introduced Harold Moniz and Steve Schlenker of CollinsWoerman who will be working closely with him on the project. He provided a brief summary of his firm's approach and the basic steps that will be followed for Phase II. He stated that his firm proposes to work with the residents by first listening and learning from the different community groups. However, he also noted that his firm brings a great deal of experience and useful tools to the process which will help to create the best community for the residents and will reflect the definitions and guiding principles. Hudson stated that his firm's approach to redevelopment will be based on several elements including health, livability, affordability, viability and sustainability.

Committee member John Fox stated that he wished to make a comment prior to his departure tonight at 6:00 p.m. He said that he was impressed with Phase I of the process because he felt that committee members had ample opportunities to express concerns and votes were taken on key decisions. Additionally, he said that those who held minority viewpoints were permitted to express these views in reports attached to CRC work products. He suggested that the committee follow this procedure for Phase II of the project.

Covington recessed the meeting at 6:00 p.m. for evening prayer. The meeting reconvened at 6:12 p.m.

VII. Overview of Phase II and the Community Participation Process

Development Director Stephanie Van Dyke stated that she appreciates the dedication and willingness of the committee members and other stakeholders to be involved in this process. She provided some background on the process, noting that it will be repeated in order to refine the feedback received. She said that in this phase, the conceptual site alternatives will be developed by taking into consideration many factors including sustainability, health, safety and financial feasibility. She said the alternatives will provide a conceptual model of how the community will appear, for example the mix of housing and retail space, the transit and pedestrian connections, and the infrastructure and amenities to be developed on the site. Van Dyke said that an important aspect to the success of the project is engaging the community and other stakeholders to get ideas that will be synthesized by the consultants. She stated that the alternatives will be reviewed by the CRC to ensure consistency with the adopted Yesler Terrace Definitions and Guiding Principles, and part of the CRC's work will involve developing the criteria against which these alternatives will be reviewed. She said that SHA staff will keep the CRC and the community informed about upcoming meetings. Additionally, the SHA Board of Commissioners will be kept informed throughout the process and will consider the alternatives at the end of Phase II. Van Dyke provided background on a Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) that will engage youth in the community. The purpose of the SYEP is to expose youth to the fields of urban planning and design and to obtain information for the redevelopment project.

Covington stated that the procedural issue raised by Fox tonight will be addressed at a future meeting.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6.28 p.m.