

# **Fauntleroy Community Association Minutes**

## **July 10, 2012**

The July meeting about the zipline in Lincoln Park was held in the Hall at Fauntleroy. There was a standing room only crowd. Board members in attendance were; Bruce Butterfield, David Haggerty, Kim Petram, Amanda Lee, Carolyn Duncan, Gary Dawson, Marty Westerman, Vlad Oustimovitch, Phil Sweetland, Gordon Wiehler, Ann Dunbar, and Kathleen Dellplain. The meeting was called to order by President, Bruce Butterfield. Three representatives from the Park Department were introduced; Rebecca Salinas, Charles Ng, and Chris Small.

The Park Department representatives spoke first. Rebecca Salinas invited the public to a demonstration in Lincoln Park with the “chalked out” area that GoApe would require for their rope and zipline course. Bruce quieted the crowd. Rebecca Salinas stressed that no decision has been made yet. They will decide if it is feasible or desirable, and they are doing a SEPA checklist with their naturalist, but, they are interested in public opinion. It will be presented to the Park Board in October, and a recommendation will be made in November. Charles Ng spoke about the Parks Department need to raise money. They decided to invite private interests to set up “for pay attractions” in the parks. GoApe and Deep Forest Challenge expressed interest in building ropes and zipline courses in Seattle parks. Their courses in other areas of the country bring in a lot of money.

Kim Petram followed with a video presentation of Lincoln Park and the neighborhood environment. Lincoln Park is an Olmstead designed park, with shelters and seawalls built by the WPA. It has a heated salt water pool, a wading pool, a playground with a small zipline, quiet paths, ball fields and a lovely beach.

Barbara Webster spoke about the wildlife habitat and the birds of Lincoln Park. There are flycatchers, warblers, flickers, eagles, and barred owl. May, June, and July are the height of migration for birds on the Pacific flyway.

Amanda Lee spoke about due process. She asked the Parks representatives to cease the process now. It is at odds with the published Parks Strategic Plan. The use guidelines favor informal drop in activities, not an amusement park. There are also limits to food vending and concessions in parks. There should be a notice to the public early in the process, not visible in this case. Parks Dept seems to be opening a back door to for profit companies to exploit public parks.

Trileigh Tucker made an emotional plea for birds and environmental justice. She spoke of the value of green space and an open park for the enjoyment of all the people. Quiet spaces are important to physical and emotional health.

Kim Petram spoke again about the difference between sound and noise, safety and security, parking access, neighborhood parking and pedestrian access. GoApe looks to

urban parks to build their attractions, cuts more trees than expected, and takes more acreage than stated.

David Haggerty called citizens to speak. One citizen was in favor of a zipline. Forty citizens spoke of the love of a quiet park experience, trees, birds, picnics, walks, nature. They also spoke of the volunteer hours spent weeding, and grooming the park for the enjoyment of everyone. Some spoke about the current uses of the park and wondered how more users and more cars can fit in without ruining the park experience. A few citizens said ziplines are fine, but not here. Close neighbors of the park spoke about the noise and impact on the neighborhood with additional people parking and clogging narrow streets.

Bruce introduced Bev Barker of MOCA. Parks will have a presentation of their zipline proposal at the MOCA meeting on July 18<sup>th</sup>.

Rebecca Salinas spoke again for rebuttal. She urged Fauntleroy residents to visit the parks website for information about ziplines in city parks that they will provide soon.

Bruce ended the meeting, thanking everyone for coming, and urging all to join the Fauntleroy Community Association.

Submitted by,

Kathleen Dellplain

p.s. The Parks withdrew the proposal to build a zipline in Lincoln Park on July 11, 2012.