



**NW Universal Design Council**  
**October 27, 2011 Meeting Notes**  
**Quarterly Meeting**

**Attending**

|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| Andrea Yip, Planner, Aging & Disability Services                          | Tom Minty,<br>John L Scott/Able Environments | Jocelyn Freilinger, Landscape Designer |
| Rose Curran, King County Housing & Community Development                  | Emory Baldwin, FabCab                        | Michelle Molloy, Penates Design        |
| Janice Tufte, Low vision/Hearing consumer and Low Income Housing advocate | Scott Starr, SMR Architects                  | Katheryn Howell, CareForce             |

**Member Updates**

- Emory and Scott proposed that NWUDC apply for the Enterprise Green Communities RFP on UD. Enterprise already has a green checklist and is looking to create a UD standard to stand alongside the green one. Proposal is due Nov 4.
- Rose let the group know that there will be an RFP sometime in January on the design of some King County surplus housing. The project is called White Center Workshop and focus is modular, UD, green.
- Scott announced an open house on 10/29 for the Issaquah Family Village – a joint SMR/ YWCA project with 150 units for homeless, domestic violence, and workforce family. Scott also said next door are the zHomes. They are not very accessible and thought it would be a good case study of green, but not useable.
- Katheryn noted the Senior Care Coalition and the National Aging in Place Council have merged. Steve Neil, Aging at home showroom, is the Seattle Chapter Chairman. He will present at our January quarterly meeting.
- Janice gave us an update on her participation in the Sound Transit charrette. <http://www.seattle.gov/dpd/Planning/CapHillStationArea/Overview/default.asp>
- Michelle recently gave a talk on her low vision program at the Design Center. It was very well received.
- Jocelyn was involved in a landscape design charrette in Roslyn. Suncadia donated about 5 acres of public space and her group has recommended an interpretive center among other ideas.

**Steering Committee Update (Jocelyn)**

- Tom, Rose, Scott, and Jocelyn met with Jim Driscoll, a retired lawyer, about the articles of incorporation and bylaws. He suggested a list of revisions including clarifying “good design” in the mission statement and possibly removing “universal” from NWUDC.
- The Group Health tour has moved to 11/4 12:30 – 1:30

## **Aging Demographics (Rose)**

See powerpoint for more details: [http://www.environmentsforall.org/docs/10-27-11Growth\\_SeniorPopulation.pdf](http://www.environmentsforall.org/docs/10-27-11Growth_SeniorPopulation.pdf)

Main Points:

- In ten years there will be an increase of at least 6000 older households.
- The age pyramid now looks like a Christmas ornament.
- Seniors have lower incomes than the general population and there is less affordable housing.
- With the growth in senior population, there is increased need in housing, health, community.

## **Reconsider Senior Housing (Tom)**

See powerpoint for more details: <http://www.environmentsforall.org/docs/10-27-11ReconsideringSeniorHousing.pdf>

- The need is great – demographics do not scale to availability.
- 80% of elders want to stay in their home, but only 8% of the homes can adapt.
- Traditional senior housing cannot work for all. Need to look at alternatives such as multi-generational households, auxiliary dwelling units, and co-housing.

## **Aging in Place: What does it cost, and how will we pay for it? (Jocelyn)**

See powerpoint for more details: <http://www.environmentsforall.org/docs/10-27-11CostofAginginPlace>

- In King County, roughly 21,000 – 510,000 current housing will need some sort of modifications. The costs vary depending on need. For example, a ramp or lift is anywhere between \$2,500 - \$20,000. Door widening can cost about \$1000.
- Although there are financial assistance programs available, it makes more sense to build in flexibility of UD during the initial design.

## **Review of action items**

- Scott and Emory will put together a letter for the Enterprise proposal.
- Rose will send more information on the surplus property RFP.
- Andrea will begin work on education materials – need, cost, social cost.

## **Next Meeting Date:**

- Steering Committee – 11/17 9:30 – 11:00 SMT 4086
- **Quarterly Mtg - January 12, 2012; 9:30 – 11:30 SMT 1610**
  - **Theme: Assistive Technologies**

## **Contact for more information:**

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**Northwest Universal Design Council Web site:** [www.environmentsforall.org](http://www.environmentsforall.org)