

CHARTER PROCESS

In Mrs. Lamphere's report to the Seattle Board of Freeholders, she tried to impart to the freeholders the importance of their understanding of the "time in history as it bears on your charge". Mrs. Lamphere has been a major sponsor of the freeholder process from the outset. Once again she spoke to the inconsistancies of the present charter - how the many amendments to date allow only for inconclusive and not substansive change. Amendments, she said, are unable to generate the kind of organizational changes needed for modern city government.

This is a critical period of government demanding an organizational framework reflective of the changes developed in the urban situation over the past twenty years. Since the Fifties cities have been developing a stronger mayor system. From the Great Society to the New Federalism, there has been an increase in the power of the executive branch of government. And now government has once again reached a turning point. This has been caused by the present crisis in government, the lack of credability, accessability and the question of partisipation. The New Federalism seems now an irreversable trend due to decentralization, revenue sharing and legislation like the Better Communities Act. Responsibility is being transfered to the local level. As a result, local governments must analyse their own responsibilities and establish priorities in non-traditional areas, as well as in fundamental services.

The ways in which we shall attempt a solution are many facited. Mrs. Lamphere noted in her remarks that local governments should attempt to see the trends developing and respond with a fitting reorganization. What are the relationships forming with other levels of government? If consolidation or two level government seems to be a realistic possibility, then let the charter, as Mayor Uhlman said, provide plenty of leeway for that eventuality. The participation of Seattle in METRO, PSGC as well as our future cooperation with King (Pierce, Snohomish) County should be established with clarity so that we can work more effectively to see to our needs. The mayor grandly stated his desire for more accountability for the execu-

The mayor grandly stated his desire for more accountability for the executive. This would be accomplished simply by increasing his base of power - his ability to appoint and thereby to depose of department heads and other responsible. But consentration of power in the executive, said Mrs. Lamphere, "must be matched with greater strength in the legislative branch". Here Mr. Chapman couragously outlined his lengthly proposals for a "System of Direct Responsibility" in city hall. His system would "unite policy-making and provide for a straight line of authority to the administrators of policy , thus giving the local government a clear program, adequate tools for implementing decisions and, therefore, maximum accountability for those decisions...grounded in the popular base of the neighborhoods". Copies of his presentation will be furnished by his office.

ROLE OF COMMUNITY COUNCILS IN FREEHOLDER PROCESS

In reply to a gentleman's accusation as to the relative activity of Community Councils, Virginia Gunby, a past county freeholder said, "presently participation is at its lowest ebb". If community councils are asked to participate formally in the charter process, she recommended that the item be placed on the September Calendar. In the interim, she said, the freeholders should solicit letters from the councils "asking what is to be in the charter". Mr. Rodosovich suggested the freeholders devise a questionaire on areas of concern and general attitudes. Bill "letters is - and what items of governmental structure are charter items; as opposed to those regulations which are better placedby ordinance. Only then, he said, should the freeholders take their presentation to the public or communities. Gunby added they should get the word out through the media. Get everyone, she said, "who ever wanted to participate into it". Ruby, as usual had the last word: "Develop a complete citizen participation package", and take it to the people.

The freeholders were elected to prepare for us a new charter, but it is absolutely impossible for them to create a document satisfactory to our needs without our thoughtful and ongoing contribution. Participation in the charter will be limited will be limited to the following item:

> THE PEOPLE OF THE POWER RESERVE FOR THEMSELVES THE OPTION TO COMPLAIN

> > 1. 2.

MAY, 1974

MEETING

Tuesday-May 21st-7:30

The May meeting of the Eastlake Community Council will be held in the Library

at Seward School. All residents and friends of the community are invited to come.

AGENDA: Vote on action to be taken regarding Shorelines Master Plan.

Vote on action to be taken regarding Environmental Impact Statement of a proposed houseboat development on Roanoke Bay -"Mallard Cove".

Selection of a new ECC Secretary to replace Marg who has oved to Madrona.

Discussion on Mr. Dill's ducks, Pete and Lynn Street Park.

See Below

MEMO FROM MAYOR

Last month the ECC NEWS reported on the status of our traffic proposals for Fairview. We said the costs outlined by the Engineering Department were restrictive to the absurd. The mayor had the following to say about the recommendations of the Engineering Department:

"I find the response to be unacceptable. I am advised that there is funding for such improvements in the 1974 Capital Improvements Program under the project heading Lake Union Access Improvements. Further, the needs of Lake Union and its adjacent residents have been neglected too long. Therefore, I request that the Engineer-ing Department analyze the proposal and proceed with implementa-tion immediately. The Floating Homes Association and the Eastlake Community should be actively involved in the planning process.

note: the above does not insure an actuality - community concern must be constant.

ECC BOARD

The board met April 30th at the home of the President, Phil Keightly. The members were briefed by Dan Shannon, Director of the Department of Community Devel-opment, U of W. Mr. Shannon was asked to attend as part of ECC's Planning Program which brought Jim Metz of CSCCF to our April meeting.

At the April meeting, Metz emphasized the importance of basic issues and the need to stay on the offensive, not mearly reacting to crisis. He also reflected on the rising community concept of increased community communication and involve-ment with city-wide issues such as shorelines, freeways, housing and the like. While Metz spoke largely to inter-community communication, Shannon spoke more to the unity of the individual neighborhood. The University's DCD, Shannon told the board, has a 24 year history of help-

ing communities define their needs and courses of action. Some sixteen Seattle communities have made use of the free services of DCD. But, said Shannon, the process depends on community effort. The DCD does supply a graduate consultant but it does not come up with the 200 interviewers necessary to blanket this community in a four day blitz. It does furnish the computer to tabulate the results, but it does not write the questions or define the community's problems. The process involves several months and a core group of 35 to 40 people. Please bring your considerations and questions on this to the next meeting. Remember, these board meetings are open to all members. Call Phill for time and place.

THANKS to Marty Klapper for a nice Earth Day Celebration and all the people who packed in their pots and things for a veritable potpuurri of viands. The <u>Manzanita</u> was kind enough to donate their tunes till the rain forced them to remove their equipment. There wasn't much rummage but Paul Trush made

the most of it. Until next year then, thanks.

ECC NEWS CONTRIBUTIONS ARE WELCOME - SEND THEM TO KEN LONGMAN, 2711 FRANKLIN E. # 5