

## GROUNDSWELL NW 2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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# GROUNDSWELL NW

VISIT OUR WEBSITE [www.groundswellnw.org](http://www.groundswellnw.org)

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## GIVEBIG IN 2016 TO GROUNDSWELL NW!

GiveBIG is a one-day, online charitable giving event managed by the Seattle Foundation. All donations made to organizations through the foundation's website on GiveBIG day will receive an additional percentage of a matching funds pool.



GiveBIG 2016 takes place on May 3, 2016. Get ready to support GNW ...and giveBIG! Donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

For more information visit: [www.givebig.seattlefoundation.org](http://www.givebig.seattlefoundation.org).

## 2015 DENNY AWARDS PRESENTATION & RECOGNITION CEREMONY

by Dawn Hemminger

Every year, Seattle Parks and Recreation recognizes individuals and organizations who make up a cross-section of Seattle's most creative, dedicated and hard-working volunteers who donate precious time and energy to improving Seattle's parks and recreation programs. A big congratulations to DAVE BOYD, Groundswell NW board member, and his fellow Parks and Green Spaces Levy Oversight Committee members who received special recognition, December 1, 2015, during the Denny Awards Presentation and Recognition Ceremony at the Museum of Flight.



DAVE BOYD 2015 Denny Award Recipient.  
(Photo by Dawn Hemminger)

## GROUNDSWELL NW MICROGRANTS

Need a bit of 'SEED' money to get your neighborhood habitat project off to a FLYING START? Or perhaps your NW Seattle school green team needs tools for a new project. These small start up projects are the backbone of our communities & Groundswell NW wants to help. Check out our simple, streamlined microgrant program: [www.groundswellnw.org/microgrants](http://www.groundswellnw.org/microgrants)



# GROUNDSWELL NW

## 2015 ANNUAL REPORT

### CREATING HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES-- ONE WILDLIFE HABITAT AT A TIME

by Jan Satterthwaite

Last summer, Northwest Seattle community members discussed opportunities and solutions to offset the alarming amount of green space, nature and wildlife habitat disappearing from NW Seattle. The outcome was registering **NW SEATTLE AS A COMMUNITY WILDLIFE HABITAT** with the National Wildlife Federation (NWF). As a registered wildlife habitat community we have many opportunities to support neighbors by certifying individual backyards, school grounds and public areas like parks, community gardens, places of worship and businesses through the NWF Certification program. Each certified site within the community will provide the four basic elements that all wildlife need: food, water, cover and places to raise young.

NWF Wildlife Habitat Communities also provide outreach to educate residents about sustainable gardening practices, such as reducing or eliminating chemical fertilizers and pesticides, conserving water,



planting native plants and trees, composting and more. Groundswell NW's habitat team will host workshops & presentations about gardening for wildlife (2016 GNW Annual Meeting) and hold community events such as stream clean-ups and invasive species removal to make the community healthier for people and wildlife alike.

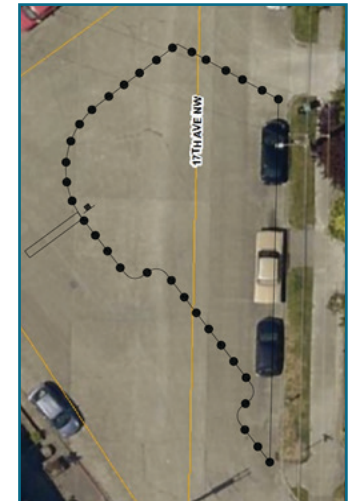
The overall outcome is

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### NEW 17TH & DOCK STREET PROJECT

by David Folweiler

In 2015, Groundswell NW was approached by the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) about a new open space being created as part of the greenway construction on 17th Ave NW. Knowing the challenges in acquiring new open space in the rapidly growing and increasingly expensive NW Seattle neighborhoods, we were pleased to hear of a new open space that would not have an acquisition cost.



17TH & DOCK future open space  
(Aerial photo courtesy of SDOT)

The new greenway provides a safer and more desirable route for people who walk or ride bicycles in our neighborhood. As the greenway heads south toward Ballard Avenue, the route turns to the southwest at 17th Ave NW and NW Dock Pl. Thus, **SDOT'S RECONFIGURATION OF THE INTERSECTION CREATED NEW OPEN SPACE!**

Groundswell NW started an outreach campaign to engage nearby businesses and residents about how the open space should be used. We were also awarded an \$86,000 grant from Seattle's Department of Neighborhood's Neighborhood Park and Street Fund (NPSF) to help pay for improvements in the new open space, and approached by SDOT's Pavement to Parks Program to help engage neighbors with interim improvements.

Groundswell NW held a Speed Scrabble event in the

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## 2015 GROUNDSWELL NW UPDATES

by Dawn Hemminger

Groundswell NW thanks all who attended our Annual Meeting & Civic Social March 24, 2015 at the Nordic Heritage Museum. The meeting highlighted the **BALLARD OPEN SPACE PLAN** and facilitated an interactive exercise with the goal of getting a prioritized list of open space ideas that Groundswell NW could work on with community members to realize in the following years. One idea that came out near the top of the list was the need for more habitat. This is where our commitment to partner with the National Wildlife Federation to certify NW Seattle as Community Wildlife Habitat first got traction.

Each year at our annual meeting, we recognize "Local Heroes" in our community who have greatly contributed to Groundswell NW's mission: **SHANNON DUNN** was recognized for her commitment to building community and a sense of place through her involvement with many NW Seattle groups, including the EBCA, Groundswell NW, PlantAmnesty, Ballard District Council and Urban Design Framework; **BILL FARMER** was recognized for years of Parks advocacy work serving on the 2008 Parks and Green Space Levy Citizens committee and later on the Seattle Parks and Recreation Legacy Plan Advisory Committee, leading to the 2015 voter approved Seattle Park District; **ANNE SAUER**, a former Groundswell NW board member, was recognized for her volunteer work with the Sunset Hill Shilshole Gateway, spending dozens, if not hundreds, of hours weeding and cleaning up green spaces.

At the meeting, we also elected our officers for 2015: President Dawn Hemminger, Secretary Jan Satterthwaite and Treasurer Frana Milan.



2015 GNW ANNUAL MEETING Shannon Dunn 'Local Hero Award' (Photo by Joyce Ford)

## Certified Wildlife Habitat

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local citizens becoming knowledgeable advocates for wildlife and sustainability.

### Why Certify?

- Engaging local citizens in meeting wildlife habitat goals benefits the entire community.
- Habitat & green spaces reduce polluted runoff and enhance air quality.
- Landscapes with drought-resistant native plants require less maintenance in the long run!
- Trees and nature beautify our community and provide a calming sensory experience.

**TAKE ACTION** now to enjoy wildlife habitat benefits: 1) certify a new wildlife habitat in your own garden (visit [www.facebook.com/nwseattlehabitat](http://www.facebook.com/nwseattlehabitat), or 2) volunteer for the NW Seattle community habitat team. Contact team leader, Jan Satterthwaite, [jansatterthwaite@gmail.com](mailto:jansatterthwaite@gmail.com).



17th & Dock Scrabble Match (Photo courtesy of Dawn Hemminger)

## 17th & Dock Project

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new space last fall 2015. Dozens of people came out to play Scrabble and engaged in envisioning ideas for the space.

**What is in store for 2016?** We will continue to work with SDOT and stakeholders on improvements for this new public space, both temporary and permanent. To keep tabs on this project visit our webpage: [www.facebook.com/17thandDock](http://www.facebook.com/17thandDock).

## SEEKING GROUNDSWELL NW BOARD MEMBERS

Do you want to help make a difference in NW Seattle green spaces? Join the GNW board! We are a positive, committed group seeking to find ways to make NW Seattle a greener, more livable community. Contact GNW president Dawn Hemminger at: [groundswellnw@gmail.com](mailto:groundswellnw@gmail.com).



2016 GNW ANNUAL MEETING SPEAKERS: David Mizejewski, NWF Naturalist (left), Cass Turnbull, Plant Amnesty (right) (Photo by Jan Satterthwaite)

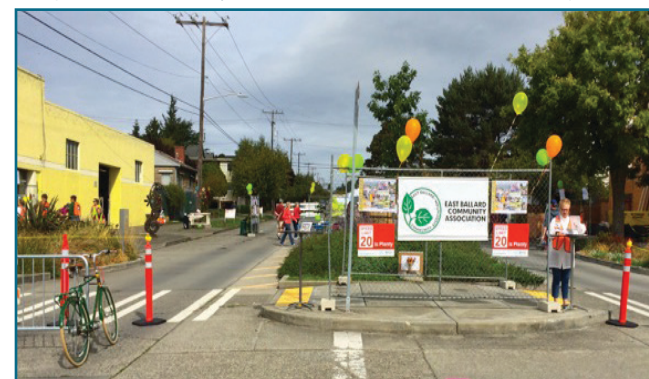
## BALLARD SUMMER PARKWAYS

by Dawn Hemminger

Imagine... 7 miles of open streets and a beautiful Saturday afternoon to walk, run, ride bikes, and do whatever you want! Well, that actually happened September 19, 2015 when Seattle Department of Transportation kicked off the first annual **BALLARD SUMMER PARKWAYS!** A loop of Ballard streets were closed off to traffic, connecting parks and activities along the way.

One of the stops at NW 58th and 14th Ave NW, opened up for a street party, where neighbors entered the Land of East Ballard to experience a variety of activities about How to Grow a Park: a large wall became a craft station for kids and young at heart to share the best thing about parks; local artists were on hand to show their crafts; park designers, Mithun, were on hand with the latest drawings for the 14th Ave NW Park design--expected to break ground in 2016; memory photos were made of friends and family with a Head-in-Hole Adopt-A-Street event scene; and a cafe to chill out and sip lemonade.

Ballard Summer Parkways was such a big hit, that the City will be doing it again in 2016! The event will coincide with the Sustainable Ballard Festival, late August 2016. Stay tuned! [www.eastballard.org](http://www.eastballard.org)



2015 BALLARD SUMMER PARKWAYS (Photo by Dawn Hemminger)

## 2016 GROUNDSWELL NW ANNUAL MEETING

It was a perfect storm for two of our annual meetings to be held less than 12 months apart. The evening of February 21 2016 at Leif Erikson Hall was designed to **INSPIRE ACCESS TO WILDLIFE IN NW SEATTLE** and highlight our partners and projects in the community. We extend many thanks to our inspiring speakers, **CASS TURNBULL** from PlantAmnesty and **DAVID MIZEJEWSKI** from the National Wildlife Federation who got us thinking about our impact on local habitat while providing great ideas to encourage habitat in our own backyards. There was quite a buzz in the air as our guests flitted around tables to meet community partner projects, enjoy delicious food donated by Shelter Lounge, sip drinks from Ballard Coffee Works, and enter drawings to win fabulous donated gifts.

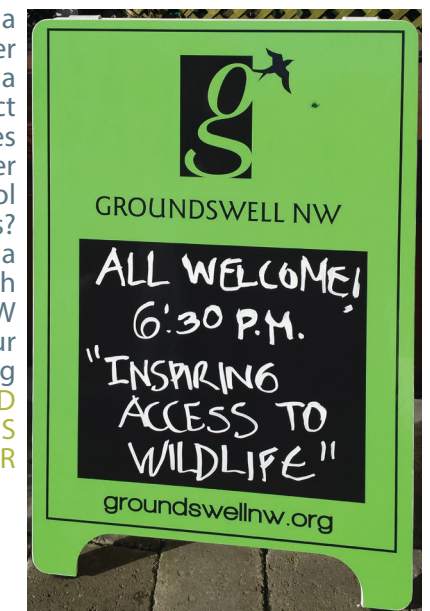
At the meeting, we also introduced our newest board members, Dennis Galvin and Ana Vasudeo and elected our 2016 officers: president Dawn Hemminger, Secretary Ana Vasudeo, and Treasurer Frana Milan.

Throughout the evening we recognized our 2016 Local Heroes, **GINA FRANK** for her community-building work in Whittier Heights, and **DOUG GRESHAM** for his dedication to the stewardship and restoration of parks and habitat. We also honored **DONALD HARRIS** a Parks Hero award for his 46 years of service with the Seattle Parks Department and his career-long support of Seattle parks and habitat.

## JOIN GROUNDSWELL NW FUN!

Looking for a weekend volunteer opportunity at a NW Seattle project or event? Does your teenager need high school service hours? Join or renew a membership with Groundswell NW and receive our monthly mailing of **EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES HAPPENING NEAR YOU!**

Visit [www.groundswellnw.org](http://www.groundswellnw.org).



Be on the lookout for our A-frame sign at work parties & events!