



City of Bellingham Mayor's Neighborhood Advisory Commission

September 10, 2008

The Mayor's Neighborhood Advisory Commission meeting was called to order by Linda Stewart, Neighborhood Services Coordinator, at 6:30 p.m.

APPROVED MINUTES

	<p>Attendance: Unless noted below, all were in attendance: Absent: Alabama Hill (Rebecca Johnson); Sehome (Allen Matsumoto); Whatcom Falls (Vacant); WWU (Erik Lowe) Substitutions: CBD (Cathy Lehman); Silver Beach (Kate Grinde)</p>
	<p>Introductions and Roll Call – members and guests introduced themselves. Linda welcomed new representatives. Minutes approved from July 9, 2008 meeting.</p>
	<p>Citizen Forum – Donna Auer Michael requested that Donna present to group. Donna discussed newly formed group – Citizen Forum. Share ideas about growth. Open dialogue, exchange ideas. Formed because of expertise of citizens, way to find creative answers, research issues. Donna asks any interested to attend. Distributed information.</p>
	<p>Recruiting for Design Review Board – Marilyn Vogel Marilyn encouraged group to notify neighbors of one vacancy on Design Review Board for lay position. Vacancy also on Historic Preservation Commission. Contact Marilyn with questions – mvogel@cob.org, 778-8300. Check board & commission website: http://www.cob.org/government/public/boards-commissions/index.aspx</p>
	<p>Neighborhood Plans/ Infill Toolkit – David Webster Linda introduced David Webster, new Chief Administrative Officer. Redirecting planning efforts this year. PCD currently has 5 staff vacancies on hold. David suggested group look positively on toolkit. Still working on 2009 budget. Revenues continue to trend further down. Priority projects to continue: Samish Way Urban Village; WF Redevelopment; Sunnyland Design Charette; Samish – Governor Road.</p> <p>Neighborhood work is pivotal. 2011 GMA discussion. Long range projections are for continued population growth. Coordinating Council formed with county, and all municipalities.</p> <p>Neighborhood plan update Work is not likely to get done this year.</p> <p>Council directed staff to give 60-day notice on new BMC. Draft is out now with content of regulations. Chris Koch is working on code. Initial draft went out; pre-hearing to PC on 9/18. Goal with budget is to get ramped back up, but depends on revenues.</p>
	<p>Waterfront Planning Update – Sati Mookherjee, WF Project Manager</p>

	<p>In June, Port came forward w/ their proposal. Mayor and Jim Darling came to agreement to ID port's proposal as preferred alternative but with study of traditional street grid. Consultant studied street grid over summer. City doesn't endorse one plan over the other. Work is done in interest of honoring agreement to study both proposals. End of September, hope to have work product done. MNAC will get copy of proposal, asking that members review.</p> <p>End of October – review of 2 proposals- hope to reconcile 2 proposals.</p> <p>Feedback will be solicited from community stakeholders.</p> <p>Sati will present to neighborhood groups if interested – contact her to set that up.</p> <p>Port has sent out similar invitation to present their proposal.</p> <p>EIS process also going on – supplemental draft EIS will be released later this month. October will be time for public comment.</p> <p>Port is lead on EIS – will hold public meetings.</p> <p>Please call/ email Sati with questions and comments: 778-8103; smookherjee@cob.org</p>
	<p>Neighborhood Roundtable</p> <p>Guide Meridian/ Cordata – continuing work on branch library; working w/ Parks dept – have park and design, but no roads into park. Working on big box store issues.</p> <p>Happy Valley – successful neighborhood picnic – 100+ attended. *Jeff's last meeting – Linda thanked him for time and commitment to neighborhood.</p> <p>Puget – working on housing section of neighborhood plan update. Park & Rec Board update – Fairhaven Rose Garden House – Council agreed to award proposal for Center for Self-Reliance. PRO Plan – reviewed throughout summer by PC and steering committee, another hearing at PC on Oct 2, will go to council afterwards. Can follow up with Jim for specific questions or Leslie Bryson at Parks – 778-7000.</p> <p>Sunnyland – Held 3 Sunnyland DOT charette meetings.</p> <p>Cornwall Park – held picnic. Attended emergency mgmt meeting recently – would like more neighborhoods to get involved in MYN.</p> <p>York – Continuing w/ Franklin Park improvements *Tom's last meeting – Linda thanked him for time and commitment to MNAC.</p> <p>Columbia – Held picnic in August. Baby food drive for food bank. Doing tree planting project. Updating website. Held 2 infill education meetings, shared info from Planning Academy.</p> <p>Fairhaven – No update.</p> <p>Roosevelt – National Night Out very successful – 300+ attended. Resource Center opening – open house on Tuesday, 9/23. It's a neighborhood center for agencies to hold office hours, tutoring, activities, etc.</p> <p>Samish – held picnic. New MNAC nominee. Have new signs for neighborhood.</p> <p>Mt Baker – Warren Rosenthal – new rep – thanked members for welcoming him to the group.</p> <p>Silver Beach – waiting to hear back on planning about whether to do any more work on plan. Silver Beach Ordinance will likely be discussed at next neighborhood association meeting.</p> <p>Lettered Streets – Asked Nicole q – 11 plans developed by developers – what's happening with those? Nicole: Many were not initiated; several applicants withdrew.</p> <p>Edgemoor – City released draft for EIS development for Chuckanut Ridge. 22 days for review before public hearing. Submitted letter requesting extension to full 45 days.</p> <p>Birchwood – Asked for discussion of annexation in terms of what happens to neighborhood. Linda gave info on what city is looking at – possible split of neighborhoods in north end, specifically Mt. Baker. Nicole – Tim is committed to addressing issue in terms of annexation.</p>

	<p>South – Successful with Rose Garden. Preserving caretakers house. Theme – Mother Earth. Small and Simple Grant implemented this year. Labyrinth being installed in upper area of Fairhaven Park. Community garden group – met w/ Mayor & City staff. City is supportive of community gardens, but won't initiate, will respond to neighborhoods request. Asked for guidance on identifying city owned property. Linda – community gardens will be included in small and simple grant list. Steve - Liability? A – calling insurance co would be best bet. Nicole – can use parking strip as garden – need permit. *Steve's last meeting – Linda thanked Steve for time and commitment to MNAC.</p> <p>South Hill – read comments. Thanked city for improvements on Highland Dr. Thanked Council for Dewey Valley decision. Would like City staff to come to meeting on Oct 1 to discuss toolkit. Working on historic and view preservation. Text amendment will be submitted. Regulatory changes to height and bulk. Looking at FAR. Neighborhood Infill – thanks City staff for their work. Discussed concern about infill targets.</p>
	<p>Patrick McKee – item added – Discussed PCD's process to revise development code. Nicole provided information. Discussion amongst group. Motion – MNAC recommend to mayor that toolkit considerations be put off until first quarter next year. Second by Cathy. Edie would like more time for discussion on issue before voting on motion. Ayes – 7; Nay – 8; Motion Fails.</p> <p>Linda will put on agenda for next meeting – 1 hour, 15 mins at Oct. meeting to discuss. Kate – request for workshop on issue. Nicole – City will be hosting workshops on toolkit. Kate – requested one for MNAC specifically.</p>
	<p>Reviewing Proposed Plan Amendments Sub-committee formed to review process. Tom presented on proposed process. Motion to accept basic proposal. Second by Michael. Group discussion. Ayes – 9, Nays – 3; Motion carries.</p>
	<p>Neighborhood Services Coordinator Update Linda will email her items.</p> <p>Linda noted this is her 12th meeting. Steve noted group should watch City Council video link Linda sent out.</p>
	<p>Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.</p>