



**City of Bellingham  
Mayor's Neighborhood  
Advisory Commission**

October 8, 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><b>Attendance: Unless noted below, all were in attendance:</b>  <b>Absent: Alabama Hill (Vacant); Birchwood (Kurt Baumgarten); CBD (Leslie Langdon); Mt. Baker (Warren Rosenthal); Samish (Vacant); South (Vacant); Whatcom Falls (Vacant)</b>  <b>Substitutions: Guide Meridian/ Cordata (Adrienne Lederer); Sehome (Charles Dyer); Silver Beach (Kate Grinde); WWU (Courtney Smith)</b></p>
	<p>Introductions and Roll Call; Linda introduced Kirsti Charlton, new York representative. Minutes from September, 2008 approved. Agenda for meeting adopted.</p>
	<p><b>MNAC Capacity Building – Moonwater, Executive Director of Whatcom Dispute Resolution Center</b>  Gave overview of center's services. Role is conflict prevention and intervention. Conflict Resolution Day – free coaching being provided – Oct 16<sup>th</sup>.  Working with Linda to develop training approaches for MNAC and neighborhoods.  Vision for dealing with conflict w/in neighborhood? Member responses – Neutral place for resolution, skills for communication/ expression, engagement (in heated situations as well), accountability, empathy, knowledge and understanding of different sides of issues, discussion, respect.</p> <p>Barriers? Member responses - Different values, transitions, lack of skills, national model of polarizing arguments, hypocrisy/ double standards, lack of knowledge, lack of connection &amp; physical presence with owners/ landlords, time, prioritizing, lack of engagement, trust, language, right decision at right level</p> <p>Help: Training, participation, common project, literature/ press, exchange of education between neighbors and resources, physical support at meetings, financial support for communication, easier to access moderator, leadership training</p>
	<p><b>Waterfront Connections Plan – Mayor Dan Pike</b>  Not favoring one plan over the other. Will bring both forward in series of public forums. Want plan that is financially feasible, strengthens downtown, provides ranges of transportation, looks at Triple Bottom Line approach  Mayor gave overview of project status and outlines significant areas of agreement between City &amp; Port.  Q on cleanup – cleanup is slated to happen over next 4-5 years. Develop area that needs least clean up first.  Question about Blethen/ Christensen plan? City will allow them to present, informally.  Q on freight – state looking at using barges. MP – will continue to have shipping terminal.  Q – rising sea levels? Yes, being taken into account.  Q – how is decision going to be made on the two different plans? Mayor won't settle for something that doesn't have broad community support. Either plan needs to go through PC &amp; Council.</p>

	<p><b>Infill Toolkit – Develop questions for Tim Stewart to address at November MNAC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How will the “where” be determined?</li> <li>• Will City staff be available and present at neighborhood meetings to lead the discussion or workshops as to where infill will be acceptable?</li> <li>• Do you intend for neighborhoods to decide which parts of the toolkits to adapt at neighborhood meetings or do you intend a different solution?</li> <li>• Dependent upon the area neighborhood, will there be any restrictions on height of buildings?</li> <li>• What is the process for including a multiple housing type from the toolkit in proposed development ?</li> <li>• What input can neighborhoods have to the design of infill housing to help insure it fits neighborhood character?</li> <li>• Is it possible for the city to track and report on new units per neighborhood on a quarterly basis?</li> <li>• Will this toolkit be also used with next comp plan?</li> <li>• How will the toolkit be implemented w/in each unique neighborhood to address each neighborhood’s character, quality, and culture?</li> <li>• How will the toolkit be implemented in multi-family zoned areas such as subarea 4 of the Sunnyland neighborhood?</li> <li>• All suggested types are for multi-family zoning; how will carriage houses, ADUs, etc fit in single family zoning?</li> <li>• How will residential density, minimum and maximum lot sizes, etc be dealt with on an area-wide basis, as opposed to a project-level basis? How will density be expressed in neighborhood plans and development code?</li> <li>• Clarification of implementation in single family neighborhoods?</li> <li>• When will the “where” be addressed?</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Member Requests for Time</b>  <b>Neighborhood Planning – Adrienne Lederer</b>  Working on getting someone interested in library, working with big box stores.</p> <p><b>Energy Resource Scarcity Peak Oil Taskforce Update – Jim McCabe</b>  New joint taskforce created in May. Objective is to address local impacts of energy resource scarcity and make recommendations. For more info – Wikipedia, Portland Report – portlandonline.com, Clare Fogelsong with City PW (778-7900 or cfogelsong@cob.org)</p>
	<p><b>Neighborhood Services Coordinator Update</b>  Distributed information on Whatcom 2031 Vision workshops.  Neighborhood Improvement Program is being discontinued in 2009 due to budget cuts. Funding has been diverted to low income housing. Fact sheet distributed.  Funding for neighborhood support services is in 2009 budget, pending approval from Council. Current year support services funding must be spent by end of 2008 or lost. Unspent Planning Academy money, originally allocated for use in 2007 and carried over to 2008, will be lost if not used it by the end of 2008.  Ask Linda for resource balances.  Small and Simple Grant Revision – thanked group for feedback. Representatives from neighborhoods who don’t apply might be asked to participate on review panel.  Ann McCartney is facilitating training on Oct 27<sup>th</sup> to help clarify duties of board members, chairs. Talk to Linda for details or to register.</p>
	<p><b>Neighborhood Roundtable</b>  <b>South Hill</b> – Gen meeting last week , went well, with Nicole Oliver in attendance to explain and help them understand the infill toolkit.  <b>Roosevelt</b> – working on safe routes for Trick or Treating.</p>

	<p><b>Columbia</b> – online neighborhood forum for people to post issues. Revving up on Fountain District pre-planning.</p> <p><b>Puget</b> – working on neighborhood plan update. PRO Plan was endorsed by PC, going to council. North Bellingham Trail plan went to Council.</p> <p><b>Cornwall</b> – general meeting, new officer elections.</p> <p><b>Silver Beach</b> – Northshore Drive work is finished. SBO is topic of discussion. Website is up and running.</p> <p><b>Edgemoor</b> – pass</p> <p><b>Lettered Streets</b> – Chris Koch – speaking to neighborhoods on infill.</p> <p><b>Fairhaven</b> – year-long project finished on updating bylaws section related to membership (handed out by Michael Lilliquist). Linda requested permission to share; received.</p> <p><b>Sehome</b> – General meeting – had presentation by WSDOT re: I-5 30-year plan. Strong input at meeting, changed 30 year plan in regard to off ramps; won't get in the way of urban village planning.</p> <p><b>Sunnyland</b> – Neighborhood plan amended has been tabled for 1 year at request of property owner. Nov 8 – attempting 2<sup>nd</sup> tree planting project.</p> <p><b>York</b> – general meeting tonight; discussing impact of infill toolkit, also involved in discussion with WSDOT. WF development rep coming to next board meeting.</p>
	<p><b>Reviewing Proposed Plan Amendments</b></p> <p>Subcommittee (Michael Lilliquist, Tom Scott, Patrick McKee) gave report.</p> <p>Linda – in screening, what if info isn't available from Planning by Dec 1? Tom – provide language to allow for more room – within week. As much as possible, as early as possible.</p> <p>Linda – doesn't want it to be misinterpreted that we are making workload decision for planning.</p> <p>Patrick – why can't Planning Dept have materials ready in time for 1<sup>st</sup> MNAC meeting?</p> <p>Linda will follow up with planning about whether the group can get a list of the incoming plan amendments by MNAC December meeting?</p> <p>Charley – concerned about process; even if Planning got everything back to group in timely fashion, MNAC still may not have time to digest.</p> <p>Discussion of process. Would it be responsibility of MNAC member to present the plan to their neighborhoods? What if their neighborhoods don't meet within this process timeframe?</p> <p>Michael - Motion to accept amended proposal. (NOTE: THIS DOCUMENT WILL BE FORWARDED TO MNAC WHEN SUBCOMMITTEE MAKES CHANGES AND SUBMITS TO LINDA FOR DISTRIBUTION)</p> <p>Aye – 9  Nay – 1  Abstain – 3  Motion carries.</p>
	<p><b>Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.</b></p>