



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

November 12, 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 (Vacant); Mt. Baker (Warren Rosenthal); Whatcom Falls (Vacant); Meridian (Vacant); Happy Valley (Vacant) Substitutions: Sehome (Charles Dyer); Edgemoor (John Erickson); WWU (Courtney Smith)</p>
	<p>Introductions and Roll Call October Minutes approved as amended. Agenda for meeting adopted.</p>
	<p>Dennis D'Amelio, Executive Director of Communities in Schools of Whatcom County</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reducing Prevention of drop-outs of High School - Prevention and intervention. Programs to help kids be successful in school early on. - Outreach to minority families to get them more engaged in their children's academic life. - Getting neighborhoods involved in schools. - For more information contact Dennis at 360-961-4752 / www.whatcom.ciswa.org
	<p>Neighborhood Infill ToolKit – Tim Stewart Planning & Community Development Director</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The infill tool kit is only for NON-single family zones upon initial adoption. That is, the kit is only for residential multi and the other designations (commercial, light industrial, etc.), and the addition of toolkit forms into existing single-family neighborhoods will require a separate legislative process. He later stated that the Planning dept staff will recommend that the tool kit apply only to multi-family, not single family, areas upon initial adoption. 2. Tim also said underlying density will NOT change. 3. Tim said that we (neighborhoods) could "do" what's on the books now or "do" the infill tool kit. 4. Bellingham has a very diverse and complex regulatory structure because zoning is broken into neighborhoods. 5. UVs will be built to meet the comprehensive plan; the UV is a mixture of office, residential and commercial distinguished primarily by its walkability and not being "auto-centric". 6. UVs will take in approx 30% of the planned growth (Barkley, Old Town, downtown, etc.). He did not specifically mention Samish UV. 7. The rest of the growth (70%) will be in urban growth areas and infill w/in existing neighborhoods. 8. The tool kit identifies housing forms as alternates; the "what" describes design features. (I'm not sure what that means...) But I think an example is that Tim said is that SF homes have a ht limit of 35 feet; the tool kit would reduce this to 25 ft. 9. The tool kit can also be used as contract development. 10. Neighborhood assn could propose to Planning Dept certain areas for infill. This would require planning commission review, and then the proposal would go to City

	Council for first and 2nd hearings, then City Council approval.
	<p>Reviewing Proposed Plan Amendments Discussion continued from last month's meeting. Group agreed to continue with process adopted in October.</p> <p>Discussion with Tim Stewart and Nicole Oliver to help clarify the docketing process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Deadline is December 1st. - Planning will try to get scanned copies of incoming plan amendment proposals to MNAC by December meeting date.
	<p>Neighborhood Roundtable</p> <p>Edgemoor – Excited about the changes that are happening in the South end.</p> <p>Samish – Monthly meeting last night. Tim addressed the land use questions tonight. Their Board really feels that the City and Port need to get together and figure things out.</p> <p>Central Business District – Hosting community forum downtown 11/13/08. Working on project with Sustainable Connections – doing preliminary info discussion and a tour on December 13th from 9-1 (details will be emailed by Linda Stewart when available).</p> <p>South – Nicole Oliver went to their last meeting. The Rose Garden House – Center for Local Self Reliance is in process of getting nonprofit status and beginning funding and fixing up the house.</p> <p>Birchwood – Neighborhood Meeting Tuesday, 18th. Talk on neighborhood garden, storm water, Port/City waterfront proposals.</p> <p>South Hill – Asked how many neighborhoods are planning on submitting plan amendment proposals by the deadline (2). Working on text amendment for trees. Working on view preservation (building height) and it's going well. Would like to have the Mayor start attending the MNAC meetings.</p> <p>Guide Meridian/Cordata – Had meeting last night with discussion on community gardens.</p> <p>Silver Beach – Having neighborhood elections and looking for candidates for office.</p> <p>Roosevelt – Very successful Halloween candy walk.</p> <p>Fairhaven – Old Fairhaven Association planning a gallery walk and holiday. The Center for Local Self Reliance is doing a fundraiser Thanksgiving weekend. Fairhaven has Port property and interested in all of the work on rezoning.</p> <p>York – Having waterfront discussion. Franklin Park is a big project and working with small and simple grants. Planning Committee switched gears and have been working on "hot topics".</p> <p>Cornwall Park – Membership meeting last night. Broadway Youth Center is having a youth food drive. Roeder Home is the only county park in the city and County is proposing to turn it into County Park Admin offices. Will be looking for a new President and holding elections in February.</p> <p>Sehome – Membership/Holiday Meeting December 2nd at WECU conference room on Holly Street at 7:00 pm. The President of WWU will be speaking. There has been increased theft in the neighborhood. Just updated the bylaws and creating standing rules.</p> <p>Puget – General meeting next Tuesday and will have the Port there. Putting out a survey. Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan has been approved by Council.</p> <p>Lettered Streets – Chris Koch presented on the toolkit at the last meeting.</p> <p><u>Non-Members Update:</u></p> <p>Happy Valley – Daylighting Padden Creek. Drainage issues getting worse. Working with small and simple grants every year where we plant trees. Project coming up Dec. 22nd where we are taking tree inventory. The Happy Valley Amendment for Trees and Storm Water is not going to make it by Dec. 1st.</p> <p>WWU (Courtney) – In the swing of school. Improving community relations (permanent residents and school residents). Working with WTA to improve the transportation for students. Students aren't driving their own vehicles as much and the busses are packed.</p> <p>Mt. Baker (Don – new President) –Concerns about the annexations that are dividing the</p>

	<p>neighborhood (Barkley and industrial area). Hoping to do some signage and beautify the industrial area. King Mountain would also create a new neighborhood.</p> <p>Alabama Hill (Jimmy) – Had a meeting last night. Having home break-ins and the people were home. There is a new park going in and they are campaigning for it.</p> <p>Dean Kahn (Bellingham Herald) – Offered to publish information about neighborhoods through the Herald. Neighborhoods can go online and submit info to the electronic calendar. Neighborhoods are welcome to email him and put it on the electronic calendar.</p>
	<p>Neighborhood Services Coordinator Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Last date to have all 2008 reimbursements in is January 14, 2009. The 2009 Budget for neighborhood services support is \$1,000 per neighborhood. There is also an additional amount of approximately \$400/neighborhood for the insurance policy. <p>Feedback on 10/27/08 Effective Meetings Workshop: Christopher – highly recommend. Ann McCarthy is dynamic and fun and the information given is very useful.</p> <p>Skill Building Workshops for Neighborhoods:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bylaws Refresher Course – must attend in 2009 if you didn't go in 2008 (schedule will be announced in early 2009). - Project Development and Proposal Writing Workshop, Tuesday, 11/18/08 (Edie Norton is the trainer). Let Linda know in next couple of days if you want to attend. - Neighborhood Research Training, Saturday, 12/6/08 9-1. Training on neighborhood research. Applied Research NW will be doing training on data collection and info on negotiating politics. - Any interest in Retreat in February? Everyone to think about it and let Linda know. - Small and Simple Grant funding materials are ready to post as soon as Council approves the 2009 Budget. - Final Waterfront meetings on November 13th and 17th.
	<p>Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.</p>