



City of Bellingham Mayor's Neighborhood Advisory Commission

March 18, 2009

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

MINUTES

Attendance: Unless noted below, all were in attendance:

Absent: Meridian, Whatcom Falls, Roosevelt and Sehome

Welcome New Appointments:

Columbia - Meredith Murray Primary

Puget - Mary Anderson Primary replacing Jim McCabe, who is now Alternate

Visitors:

Marla Gese (Senior VP Real Estate Services, Pioneer Human Services), Martha Martin (Director of Housing, Pioneer Human Services), Thad Allen (Re-Entry Specialist, Department of Corrections)

Tim Stewart (Planning and Community Development Director), Nicole Oliver (Planning and Community Development Department Communications Coordinator), Darby Galligan (Planning Development Specialist II) and David Webster (Chief Administrative Officer)

Introductions and Roll Call

February Minutes approved with amendment

Agenda for meeting adopted

Distributed Transportation Report on Annual Concurrency (TRAC) – for additional information contact Chris Comeau (Transportation Planner in Public Works) 360.778.7900

Offender Re-Entry Pilot Program (Marla Gese, Pioneer Human Services)

- Documents distributed outlining services, background on Pioneer Human Services. More information can be found at www.pioneerhumanservices.org
- Announced that there will be a re-entry housing project for offenders returning to Whatcom County, located at 607 E. Holly Street – City Gates. There will be onsite Resident Manager and case management to provide supportive services.
 - The Case Manager and Resident Manager will be hired locally – posted through WorkSource
- Requirements for offenders to become part of this program:
 - History of residency in Whatcom County prior to offense, homeless, committed to complying with the reentry program
 - No sex offenders, arson convictions or history of violent offences (this will be determined on a case by case basis)
 - Drug and alcohol free
- Pioneer Human Services is funded from HGAP (state program) with the help of Whatcom County. They have a 3 year grant. Whatcom County is also putting in dollars for assistance.
- Representatives from Pioneer Human Services are willing to come to Neighborhood meetings and discuss the program and the City Gates project.

Marla Gese (206) 766-7970 / marla.gese@p-h-s.com

Martha Martin (206) 766-7950 / Martha.martin@p-h-s.com

Thad Allen (360) 676-2110 / thallen@doc1.wa.gov

Urban Infill Housing Toolkit (Tim Stewart)

Tim Stewart delivered a presentation on the Infill Toolkit and distributed a neighborhood statistics data sheet for review.

The **data sheet** is size 11x17 and too bulky to attach as a pdf, so below is the link to the City website: <http://www.cob.org/documents/planning/Neighborhood%20Page/neighborhood-statistics-map.pdf>

The **presentation** is attached in pdf format.

Nicole Oliver, Communications Coordinator, Planning and Community Development Department, is willing to go to the neighborhood meetings regarding the infill toolkit. She can be reached at noliver@cob.org.

Member Requests for Agenda Time – Patrick McKee

(Sunnyland Neighborhood Association MNAC Rep Patrick McKee, provided a written version of his statement, made during the meeting, which attached in pdf format.)

Discussion on topic.

<i>Cathy Cameron motioned to extend the time allowed for this presentation. Seconded – Motion Carried</i>
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<i>Patrick McKee motioned for MNAC to set aside 1 hour of time at the 4/15/09 meeting to discuss whether or not to recommend changes to the purpose and applicability paragraphs of BMC 20.28. Seconded – Discussion – Motion Carries</i>
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<i>Motion Substitute Infill discussion for the comprehensive plan amendment discussion at next meeting. Seconded – Motion Carried</i>
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Group wants 30 minutes on the agenda in May for consideration of Samish Way proposal.

Cathy Cameron (South Hill) explained that their Small and Simple Grant was denied due to “technical requirements not met.” She would like to be notified at the MNAC meetings of the exact instructions and how strict the process will be.

All 2009 Small and Simple applicants will receive an online survey, to provide anonymous feedback on the process.

Kate Grinde (Silverbeach) offered that it is typical for granting organizations to have strict screening guidelines and that this program is no different.

Samish Way Urban Village Planning (Darby Galligan)

Here is the link to Darby’s presentation:

<http://www.cob.org/services/neighborhoods/community-planning/urban-villages-planning/samish-way-urban-village/regulation-materials.aspx>

Review of Comprehensive Plan Amendment Proposals (Sub Committee)

Group discussion about need to amend process; distributed project list.

Motion for new priority list to be formed at next meeting after discussion of infill toolkit. Seconded / Motion Carries

Round Table:

CBD – Downtown Renaissance has changed their name to Downtown Bellingham Partnership. Kirsten Walker went to social media networking conference in Chicago and came back with great ideas to stay connected to neighborhood – one of them putting the neighborhood on FaceBook and MaySpace.

Columbia – They have put their neighborhood on FaceBook and it has helped, it's easy to send emails to everyone about events. Fountain Urban Village Meetings:

Four public workshops on the idea of a Fountain District urban village.

April 1, 15, 22 and May 6 at Fountain Community Church, 2100 Broadway 6 - 8 PM

Topics: April 1 - introduction, district character, urban village boundary.

April 15 - streets, neighborhood connections, public spaces.

April 22 - uses, design, scale, neighborhood transitions.

May 6 - summary of input, discussion of alternatives.

Timeline: If the project stays on schedule, urban village details will be unveiled at a neighborhood meeting in early fall, with Planning Commission hearings in late fall and City Council hearings early in 2010. Online: Information will be posted at the city of Bellingham's Web site. Go to cob.org and search for "urban village planning." Details: Katie Franks, 778-8388 or kfranks@cob.org.

Cornwall – Had elections and have new President

Edgemoor - They received a Small and Simple Grant, in collaboration with South Neighborhood Association – refurbishment of Fairhaven Rose Garden

Fairhaven – Getting GIS mapping software (same as COB)

Lettered Streets – Need retreat information

Silver Beach – Have new board in place

South Hill – Question for staff follow-up: When do commissioners recuse themselves from decision making? Also question on Full Disclosure

Meeting adjourned at 9:03 pm

Request to Add to Minutes from South Neighborhood - Because agenda time ran out and the meeting adjourned without the usual amount of time allocated for the neighborhood roundup, Cathy McKenzie (South alternate for Christopher Grannis) remained after the meeting to hand out to each attending MNAC rep an informational packet which summarizes that neighborhood's recent and ongoing neighborhood fundraising and community outreach education projects. The information packets were compiled to communicate the neighborhood's efforts to acquire and protect a regionally significant natural habitat and recreation corridor in that neighborhood. Cathy asked each MNAC rep to share the CDs with his/her neighborhoods board members. She explained that the packets include reference to pertinent infill and natural open space balancing factors, which pertain to all the city's more rural fringe-area neighborhoods and Urban Growth Areas. After the meeting, Cathy also expressed to Linda Stewart, Neighborhoods and Special Projects Coordinator, the South Neighborhood's appreciation to the Mayor for the 2009 Small and Simple Grant of \$5,000.00 the South Neighborhood in collaboration with Edgemoor was awarded for Fairhaven Rose Garden improvements. She thanked Linda for her work in making these grants available and expressed congratulations to the other recipients.