

Happy Valley Neighborhood Association Board: Meeting Minutes 5/8/17

Present: Wendy, Kate, Aaron, Jake, Ray, Becky, Bobbi, Jim, Sully, Alex, Kathy and John H.

Eric Johnston from COB (City of Bellingham) Public Works Dept. gave an update:

- Broken pipe at Post Point Wastewater Treatment Plant (200 McKenzie Ave) is being repaired. The plant will be moving from the 35-year-old incinerator system to a digestive system, working with new technology to convert solid waste to something usable (compost or fuel). There will be a community workshop on this improvement May 23 at Fairhaven Middle School from 6:30-8:30pm.
- Public works received a grant from the Northwest Clear Air Agency for solar panels on some of its buildings.
- 3 trees on 10th and Harris near new bakery are not slated for immediate removal. The sidewalk/gutter/tree area there is under review as to how it can be improved to work best together. Currently, tree roots have no room to grow.
- Sidewalk, road and intersection updates:
 - 12th, Mill and Finnegan (awkward 5-way intersection near the Fairhaven Library) will be reconfigured, with construction completed by the end of August.
 - Bike Blvd coming to Mill St. (green and white paint)
 - Intersections of 21st and Mill and 14th and Mill to be improved (larger corner curbs, new gutters built). This has the effect of “squeezing” the street and slowing traffic at the intersections.
 - He is aware that sidewalks on Mill between 21st and 24th is a big priority for the neighborhood, but Public Works money is spread out across the whole city.

Treasurer’s report: Ray presented the report. HVNA has \$1889.55 in checking and savings. 43 paid memberships. Motion to appoint Bobbi Vollendorf as the new HVNA treasurer was approved.

MNAC: Ray will be our new representative to the MNAC (Mayor’s Neighborhood Advisory Commission). The first meeting he attended was dominated by the conversation about the City’s efforts to create a low-barrier shelter for homeless folks. The search for a location is now back to the drawing board because of the Port of Bellingham’s decision to exercise its right to buy the proposed shelter property.

Bobbi will contact Emily Haggerty from COB about how to follow up with sponsoring the dog waste bag station. We would like to put at Happy Valley Park, near the trash cans in the overhang area.

“YIMBY: Yes, in my backyard!” Event was a success! People are very interested in exploring the issues around affordable housing.

D-ADU pilot project: We are waiting for news from the Planning Department regarding upcoming hearing and meeting dates. The HVNA housing sub-committee will continue to follow-up.

Our final community meal for the season will be Sunday, May 21st from 5-6:30pm at OSLC. Breakfast for dinner is on the menu. Our Summer BBQ will take place on Sunday, August 20th.

Quarterly General Meeting is Thursday May 18th at 7pm at OSLC. Sully will contact Julia from the Campus Community Coalition about attending. John Hymas will present about the Chuckanut

Community Forest Park District and neighborhood tree-related items. This is also a good opportunity to invite neighbors to come and get more involved.

Street Tree Pruning: May 11th, 9:30am, meet at John Hymas' house.

We have copies of a new Spring newsletter for distribution.

Respectfully submitted by Secretary Becky Langholz, beckylangholz@gmail.com.