

BIGELOW HIGHLANDS

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

MEETING: January 28, 2025 (6:30 p.m.)

DRAFT

LOCATION: Capitol Vision Church, 1775 Yew Avenue N.E.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Susan Zemek, president
James Lewis, vice president
Gwendolyn Nehs, treasurer
Vacant, secretary
Melissa Allen, member-at-large
Gail Garrard, member-at-large
Dave Leon, member-at-large
Ariana Mayorga, member-at-large
Brenda Taylor, member-at-large

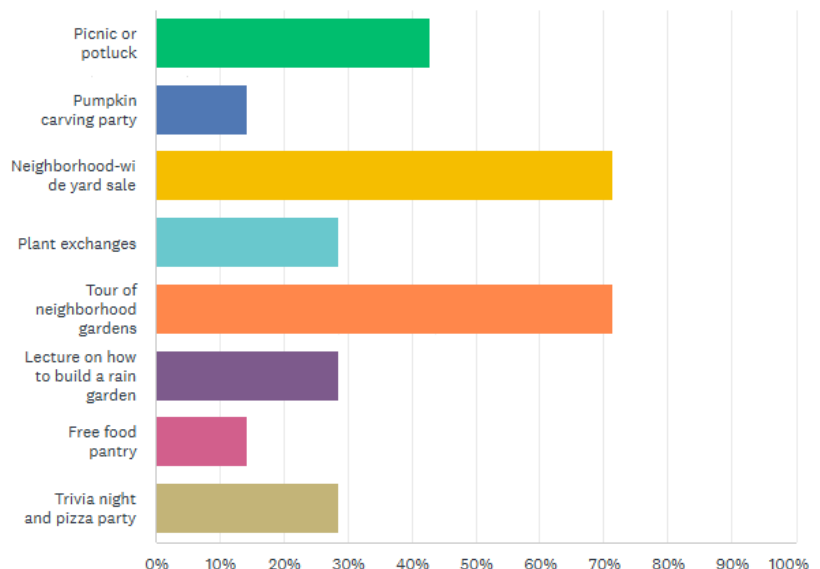
AGENDA

1. Approval of December 2024 Minutes

Action: Dave moved approval, Gwendolyn seconded. All voted in favor.

2. Review of Survey and Discussion of Activities for 2025

Action: Survey (7 responses) showed most approval for yard sale and garden tour. Other ideas raised was a day to beautify the neighborhood by cleaning moss and removing graffiti. Board decided to hold decision and discuss in April.



3. Facebook Continue?

Action: Board decided to delete Facebook account because no activity on it.

4. Picnic Assignments

Action: The following assignments were made:

- Grant writing: Gwendolyn and Melissa
- Reserve shelter at Bigelow Park and pay fee: Gwendolyn
- Food and grillers: Susan and Simone Boe
- DJ same as last year: Susan
- Tables from church: Susan (also need tables for green bag and face painting)
- Face painting: Tracy Brown
- Invite fire and police: ?
- Green bag: Gail Sanders

5. Newsletter Articles

Action: Articles are assigned as follows: (Due March 1 to Susan)

- Presentation on Farm your yard at April meeting: James
- Drivers need to slow down in neighborhood: Melissa
- Council of Neighborhood Associations update: Melissa
- Promotion of picnic: Susan
- Green banks food donations: Gail Sanders

6. Block Watch Report

Action: Cindy Gaddis submitted this January 2025 update:

City of Olympia Police Department held its annual meeting of Block Watch Captains on November 2, 2024. I was able to attend the first hour or so of the meeting, and Gail Garrard accompanied me.

Sgt. Josh Marcuson is running the Community Policing Division. He shared updates on hiring, staffing, technology, and other aspects of OPD.

Officer George Clark returns to Eastside Neighborhood Patrol (under Marcuson). You can reach out to Officer Clark directly if you have a concern about something in the neighborhood: gclark@ci.olympia.wa.us. Of course, if there's an emergency or a crime in progress, you should call 9-1-1.

Sgt. Marcuson demonstrated some of the technology such as the Throwbot, a robot that officers can use to get an inside view of a location. They can survey the situation without putting an officer in danger by entering without full information about what is going on in the location.

OPD is also using Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS). They have a new drone. It can save video footage of an officer apprehending a suspect. After an incident, members of the public will be able to view activity on OPD website: www.olympiawa.gov/services/police_department/uas.php

The City is also using Flock Safety System, which has 13 cameras around the city. The cameras have automated license plate readers so OPD can track and map vehicles post-crime. These cameras are not used for speeding or red lights; they are to locate vehicles (and suspects) involved in crimes. You can learn more about this on OPD's website. OPD posts Flock Reports to the website.

I have updated the Block Watch Contact List for January 2025. I may be inserting a physical address for one household, but other than that it is up to date.

If anyone is interested in being added to the Block Watch Google Group or Contact List, email me: cynthiagaddis@gmail.com

7. Other Business

Action:

- Gwendolyn asked to reimburse president for gifts given to outgoing board members. Dave seconded. About \$90 for gift cards to State and Central restaurant, chocolate, and cards. All voted in favor.
- Gail Sanders said she needed volunteers or green bag effort to donate food to the food bank. She handed out fliers.
- Meeting on February 25 was canceled. Next meeting April 8, 2025 at Capital Vision Church
- Meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.