

October 4, 2023 BNA Board Meeting Minutes

Anne Marie's house 6:30 - 8 pm

Agenda and more info at bottom

Present

Sarah Gardner
Joy Patterson
AnneMarie Karlberg
Louise Bjornsonn
MaryLou White
Eric Scott
Jeannie Gilbert
Ria Bordian

Absent

Carter Fuehr
Stephanie Twiford
Renee Evans and Grant McMeekin

1. **BNA board roles and responsibilities:** Ria will work on the finance committee and Eric will work on the safety committee with Stephanie.
2. **Mission statement:** A person is needed to lead updating the BNA [mission statement](#). We will refer to the [Bellingham comprehensive plan](#) (read Birchwood section). Jeannie and MaryLou will pull the mission statement out of the articles of incorporation.
3. **Bios:** Eric and MaryLou will provide Joy with bios to post to [our website](#).
4. **Rental space for community meetings at Birchwood Elementary School**
School facility fees are \$11/hour for the library and \$13/hour for the cafeteria.
Jeannie has a great mic and PA system she will bring to future meetings.
5. **Climate action survey:** Closes October 13. Please share!
6. **Harvest days (Project Neighborly grant):** Tina will come and do an update for us.
7. **Treasurer's report:** Jeannie shared the spreadsheet and account information. We have \$2,300 in the market account for next year. We also have \$5,334 in our checking account, and \$668 in our savings account. The Project Neighborly grant (\$5,000) will be paid out of our checking account for our share spot.
8. **Mayor's neighborhood advisory committee (MNAC) update:** Check in with updates from Superintendent Greg Baker with regard to a partnership with Bellingham schools and BNA (someone from lettered streets is meeting with him).
9. **Birchwood international market:** Jeannie is working on a grant for \$15,000 to pre-pay for services, possible fees to use the parking lot, set up a BIM committee 2 nights, try to establish a sponsorship approach instead of relying on grants.

10. **Metal shredder:** Google sheet to document [business contacts](#) and distribute fliers. Our community meeting was supposed to be on Oct 24 (candidate forum). We don't have the 5 votes for an emergency moratorium. Oct 10 county council meeting is crucial for us to attend. Oct 24 is the big day where they vote on the moratorium (6 pm county council meeting @ county council chambers). Joy will contact Birchwood Elementary School and Shuksan middle school and Sarah will contact Alderwood Elementary School to get PTO contact information. ABC has never had a shredded operation. Emphasize noise, lack of sleep, ABC is not unionized, few jobs, physical land, other industries (Cherry Point) have great relationships with their community and buffers. Sarah will email Anne Marie and Jeannie the final version of the flier for them to print.
11. If people are interested in a Candidates forum, info will be sent in the newsletter for the League of Women's Voters Forums.
12. **Upcoming meetings:** We decided to not film community meetings.
 - Guidelines for inviting speakers
 - Oct. 10: County council meeting
 - Oct. 11: Urging people to attend hearing examiner meeting at 6 pm at City Hall regarding the Meridian/Birchwood 64-unit project- Regarding proposal to clearcut hundreds of trees near intersection.
 - Oct. 11: Last candidate forum at First Congregational Church (partnering with lettered streets)
 - Oct 17 at 6 pm: Mayor and Bellingham City Council candidate forum (League of Women Voters) If you miss it, look on League web page for contacts
 - Oct. 24: 6 pm County council meeting at County Council Chambers (311 Grand Ave)
 - Jan. 23: Community meeting 6:30-8 pm - elections
 - Feb. Community meeting 6:30-8 pm (make up for October)
 - Future: Deputy Chief Almer (back up plan: drug use/sale and unhoused/campers)
13. **Signage project (Small and Simple grant) next steps:** Tabled
 - Our team (Joy, Anne Marie, Grant, Renee) determined [locations for BNA parks signage](#)
 - October 12: Arts Commission and Parks contacts are back from vacation (letter needed from Arts Commission so Parks and Public Works can proceed)
 - Purchase and procure *Signs By Tomorrow*
 - Meet with and deliver signs to Public Works and Parks Dept
 - By year end: Submit invoices for reimbursement
14. **Next BNA board meeting:** Tues Nov 14 at 6:30 pm

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[BNA Board: Roles and Responsibilities](#) Update and sign up to be on teams

Website [Board Members Bios](#) needed from Eric and MaryLou

Rental **Space** for Community Meetings

School Facility Fees \$11/hour

Other Location Possibilities?

MNAC discussion?

[Climate Action Survey](#) (closes 10/13) Please share!

Team needed for BNA [Mission Statement](#)

Reports:

Treasurer

Mayor's Neighborhood Advisory Committee ([MNAC](#))

[Metal Shredder](#) - Google sheet to document [business contacts](#)/distribute flier

Birchwood International Market (BIM)

(Project Neighborly) Harvest Days

(Small and Simple) Signage Project Next Steps:

Our team (Joy, Anne Marie, Grant, Renee) determined [Locations for BNA Parks](#)

[Signage](#)

October 12: Arts Commission and Parks contacts are back from vacation (letter needed from Arts Commission so Parks and Public Works can proceed)

Purchase and procure *Signs By Tomorrow*

Meet with and deliver signs to Public Works and Parks Dept

By year end: Submit invoices for reimbursement

Upcoming Meetings: **We need to start filming community meetings. We need access to a good mic and camera to record via Facebook Live or Zoom. (Grant will do?)**

Guidelines for Inviting Speakers

Oct. 10 County Council Meeting 311 Grand Ave, 6-8pm

Oct. 11 Hearing Examiner mtg 6:00 City Hall re: Meridian/Birchwood 64-unit project

Oct. 11 Candidate forum at First Congregational Church, First Congregational Church of Bellingham, 2401 Cornwall Avenue

Oct. 24 6:00 County Council Meeting @ County Council Chambers (311 Grand Ave)

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