



DEPOT BENCH

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Board Meeting Minutes

January/10/2018 ~ Sakana Sushi ~ 7pm

Attendees

- Andrea Foster
- Jen Visser
- Jim Pickett
- Nick Ricci
- Laurie Pearman
- John Bertram
- Megan Brandel
- Josh Olson -City Asset Manager
- Annie Tifoult -City Asset Manager
- Melinda McGoldrick -City Arts & History Dept
- Terry ?? - City Arts & History Dept
- Rob Mason - Boise Bike Blvd Coalition
- Jack Guerricabeitia -Crescent Rim Neighborhood

Scribe

- Andrea Foster, board secretary

Agenda

OLD BUSINESS

- **Hold-over mini-grant received (\$1500)**
Fiscal year 2018 grant money will be used to pay for annual meeting postcard announcement; swag; and standard operations.

Jim will help apply for fiscal year 2019 grant

- **Reinvestment Grant Submission (January)**

- +Decision to decrease number of requested signs**

Jim stated that because the City is only awarding \$300,000 in NRG funds this year, DBNA ought to decrease the grant request. This might increase the odds of being awarded funding for signs. Board decided to apply for funding of 6 signs (\$27,960) rather than 8 (\$37,280).

Jim suggested approaching Vista Business Corridor for funding of 2 more signs that could go on Vista at Overland and at Rose Hill.

Jen ultimately decided -because VBC would *not* likely fund 2 signs- to submit grant request for 7 signs (\$32,620). Proposed sign locations can be found on DBNA Google Drive.

- +Discuss proposed sign locations**

John H. suggested moving one to Federal Way/Overland or Federal Way/Kootenai.

7th sign that grant will be written for (see above) will go on Vista.

- **Zoom Grant training attendee**

Jim attended Nov. 15 meeting at Boise Public Library.

- **Shangri-La Tea Room Closure**

- **Bleu Bird French Petite Four Restaurant Opening (No. Latah St.)**

- **February 8 = One-Year Anniversary for Red Bench Pizza (Kootenai and Vista)**

February DBNA meeting will be held here.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Latah car wash sold; Jen will do some research to find out who bought it and what plans are.**

- **New poke restaurant**

Pokifish on Vista, by same owners of Panda Garden on Overland.

- **Depot Roundabout Replacement**

Josh Olsen, Terry ?? and Melinda McGoldrick provided update on condition of roundabout mosaic: Due to extreme weather conditions over the last 1-2 years, mosaic has deteriorated to point that handfuls of tiles can be scooped up without any tools. City has consulted with all the contractors they can find about repair solutions, but no one will touch it. There are too many pieces, and the condition is too damaged for any long-term solution. City plans to remove it and reinvest in another art installation at or near same location.

Original goal of developer/artists and Crescent Rim neighborhood was to install art that would help calm traffic and beautify / commemorate the historic nature of the Depot. Spent \$25,000 on mosaic installed by 2 local artists by hand for over two months. Tiles included pieces of historic Depot and Union Pacific memorabilia. However, a vehicle entering the roundabout crashed into the roadside sign that points out the mosaic and its significance. City spent \$5,000 to replace that sign, which will stay in place after mosaic is removed.

Jack Guerricabeitia stated desire of Crescent Rim neighborhood to maintain some form of artwork at this roundabout in order to aid in slowing traffic between BSU and Emerald Rd on their street.

Andrea Foster suggested reinvestment of artwork be relocated to Vista bridge, which DBNA has discussed for months and would be seen by far more traffic than at the Depot roundabout. Jim stated that Union Pacific stakeholder of that bridge could present some obstacle to installing artwork there.

City Asset managers Josh and Terry stated that they would bring these concerns and suggestions to City meeting on following day (Jan. 11).

- **Boise Bike Boulevard Coalition Presentation (Rob Mason, from Sunset Neighborhood Association)**

March 2017: On behalf of SNA, Mason collaborated with Veterans' Park Neighborhood Association to resolve pedestrian and bike traffic issues -ie, safety in connecting routes between neighborhoods.

This led to creation of BBBC and its consultation with neighborhood associations and ACHD to establish a network of low-stress bike routes that connect the entire city. Objectives: low vehicle-traffic volume and speed; clearly designated bike lanes; safety features such as signage, vehicle curbs, road bumps where necessary, etc.

BBBC plan includes: map of networked routes; annual metrics of miles of bike lanes added, friendliness / hospitality of bike lanes; toolbox to remedy less safe lanes.

September 2017: Ada County commissioners unanimously directed ACHD to design proposal based on BBBC's plans that they can then adopt by February, 2018.

Mason has worked with Christy Little, a DBNA resident who works at ACHD, to come up with routes that connect Highlands to Vista to Interstate, East to West, North to South, etc.

BBBC would like DBNA (and all other NA's) to formally approve their plan, providing suggestions to routes within their boundaries. DBNA suggested using Kootenai instead of Cassia as route to connect Vista to Orchard in order to support DBNA goals of traffic calming on Kootenai, as well as adding Crescent Rim as connection between Vista and Emerald.

DBNA committed to writing a formal letter of support to present at Feb. 28 meeting between BBBC and ACHD.

- **Committee Reports & 2018 Goals (share meeting dates)**

- + Park Rangers**

- No update at this time. We'll meet this spring. Plans are to be proactive with our parks contacts from the fall meeting for Bowden, and possibly query residents about the South pool.

- + Terry Day House**

- John Bertram in contact with Alan Day and Liz Eagle at Audobon Society about how they want to re-energize efforts toward making this property useful for the public.

- + Community Arts and Shared Spaces**

- Laurie will email committee to assess skill sets of each member and to propose Vista Bridge artwork ideas.

- + School Liaisons**

- Tuesday, Jan 16 PTO mtg @ Monroe (quarterly attendance)

- Coordinate next neighborhood cleanup date w/Monroe, Jefferson, Sacred Heart, South JHS

- Get dates of Spring Carnivals @ elementary schools and identify areas of needed help that DBNA can fill

- + Events**

- Annual meeting date ought to be 1 week before the week leading into Memorial Day weekend. Next board meeting in February should include decisions about whether format should change or not.

- + History**

- Oral History - Interviews and photos can be found [HERE](#). The Oral History Contact list has completed and future interview possibilities. I hope to receive initial scripts this week which I'll place on the Google Drive. John H.'s REQUEST: Please encourage people at the meeting to place some new names on the Contact list.

Create a walking tour guide that can be downloaded from our site or printed off for our in-person events - I plan to engage Brian from BSU this month to begin having his students create a walking tour. Examples can be found [HERE](#). This can be done without hard markers along the way. Also can incorporate neighborhood photos, either existing or from Laurie's Art committee. John H.'s REQUEST: Can we schedule some time during our February DBNA meeting OR have volunteers that would like to meet separately with BSU in January/early February. Goal would be to have it ready for the May DBNA annual meeting.

Mobile App - <https://1335.myt.li/> to get this setup, it would be a \$1,000 setup fee then \$300/year thereafter. To pay for this, I was thinking a combination of DBNA funds (mini-grant award), hand delivering the spring meeting postcards (\$500 and he will deliver up to half), and business sponsorship page(5-10 business sponsorships at different levels). John H.'s REQUEST: Is this something we are willing to support monetarily and move forward on? If so, he'll continue with the project from initial prototype to more flushed out.

Neighborhood markers (the plastic plaque by BSU) - The city is moving forward with a neighborhood marker effort that will be much more expensive (as told by Liz Hobson, Terri will have more details). What this mean to us is that parks, schools, other Parks and Rec locations are going to be a long term effort. However, we could move forward with private items like businesses and residences. John recommends tabling to discuss further with BSU.

Welcome Kit - Can we upload to the main DBNA website later this year? If we can get a soft copy, that will be easy for new people to self-serve.. Content found [HERE](#)

+ Clean up

2 events to be held in 2018.

Jim suggested DBNA involvement in Paint the Town (June).

+ Community Garden

No update at this time.

Next Meeting

February 21, 2018, 7pm, Red Bench Pizza

Next Meeting Agenda Items

- Next steps on artwork replacement for Depot roundabout mosaic
- Park Ranger committee update and answering John's History committee questions (see above)
- Plan May Annual Membership Meeting
- Determine cleanup dates and a Paint-the-Town date

Adjournment

8:55pm