

## MINUTES

### Mount Baker Neighborhood Association Board Meeting

Oct. 25, 2006, 6:00 – 7:30 PM  
Dorothy Hagen Building

In Attendance: Gea Goldfeder, Hans Kaufmann, Marty Villa-Lovoz, Robin Hitz, Stowe Talbot, Darlene McLeod, Kaye Faulkner, Steven Niedermeyer.

Meeting called to order by Stowe Talbot. Participants introduced themselves. Stowe thanked everyone for taking time during the dinner hour to attend.

Why form a neighborhood association? Stowe explained that such a group would provide a venue for the neighborhood to come together and discuss common concerns and issues which could then be communicated to the City. Also it brings more “community” to our neighborhood.

Stowe made the following suggestions for officers:

- President – Stowe Talbot
- Secretary – Robin Hitz
- Treasurer - Stowe
- Director – Kaye Faulkner
- Director / Liaison for ABN<sup>1</sup> and MNAC<sup>2</sup> - Robin

Gea motioned and Darlene seconded a motion for these directors as suggested. All approved.

Stowe presented draft documents for everyone to look at.

- Draft Mission Statement
- Draft Bylaws
- Draft Articles of Incorporation

We will give these one more look and then use them as our initial incorporation documents, to be registered within the next few weeks.

Other business was discussed:

- Kaye reported on his application for funding of park improvements at Sunset pond using a “Neighborhood Initiatives Program” grant. Kaye’s proposal was ACCEPTED! It is now in the hands of the Parks Department. Someone expressed concern as to whether our association would be responsible for maintenance, repairs, and liability for the equipment that would be purchased with the grant money. We will follow up with this in the coming months.
- Stowe gave an update on Barkley Company projects currently underway. A 36-unit condo building and a parking deck are under construction now. Concerns were expressed about how traffic might be affected, as the Barkley area continues to be developed. One member suggested “roundabouts” as a traffic-calming measure. Stowe said that the Barkley Company planned to use multiple access points and connections to other streets, and traffic calming to help deal with the traffic.
- Stowe reported on the request for rezone by the developers of the 40-acre Larson property, located on James Street near Telegraph Road. Darlene suggested that if we had

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<sup>1</sup> Association of Bellingham Neighborhoods (ABN)

<sup>2</sup> Mayor's Neighborhood Advisory Commission (MNAC)

had more forewarning, we could have attended the rezone hearing for this site. Unfortunately, no one at tonight's meeting was able to attend the Larson Meeting.

- Website: For the time being, we will leave the Website ([www.mtbakerna.org](http://www.mtbakerna.org)) as is, and Steve Niedermeyer will update it occasionally with news relevant to the neighborhood. As we grow the membership base, we may start to use the site as a template for a mailer-newsletter. Steve's cost is \$5 a month for the web-site. Stowe suggested we can pay him back later when we get some funding. Thanks, Steve, for helping with this project. Steve asked that we identify the goals of the website. He suggested an e-group on Yahoo. Steve will get the neighborhood info posted on our website. Someone will need to be assigned to handle contacting people without e-mail access. Darlene expressed the need to keep on top of newspaper issues that affect our neighborhood, so we can inform others and not miss any opportunities.
- Stowe and Robin reported briefly on their attendance at the Planning Academy, a 5-week course organized by the Bellingham Planning Department for neighborhood representatives.
- Other comments and discussion:
  - Steve stated that he needs goals and a timeline in order to work effectively on Website and communication issues.
  - Darlene expressed that she believes the neighborhood should be split with Sunset Dr. being the boundary between the two neighborhoods. Robin expressed that the neighborhood should stay the way it is, for now, until the neighborhood organization is more established and more people are involved from the neighborhood concerning how it is split.
  - Question: Is the \$2,500 that the city offers neighborhoods (as assistance setting up an association) a one-time grant?
  - A communications subcommittee will be formed to begin developing pieces of communication that will be helpful in getting more involvement: Stowe, Robin and Steve will attempt to put together some information that can be easily handed out.

The group decided a quarterly meeting schedule was the most appropriate for the coming year. The date for the next meeting was set for Tuesday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, 6-7 PM at the Dorothy Haggan conference room. Tentatively, the other 2007 meetings will be April 25<sup>th</sup>, July 25<sup>th</sup> and October 24<sup>th</sup> same venue and time.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robin Hitz

## Attendees and Sign-up List

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### Also from other lists

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