

MINUTES

Mount Baker Neighborhood Association
October 24, 2007, 7:00 – 8:30 PM
Dorothy Haggen Building

In Attendance: Stowe Talbot, Robin Hitz, Gea Goldfeder, Mark Holzband, Elaine Cook, Larry Farr, Darlene McLeod and Lorene Hofstrand.

Guest Larry Farr is running for city council. He said, if elected, he is committed to coming to our meetings when possible and representing the neighborhoods well.

Minutes from last meeting accepted as written.

Stowe discussed his involvement in getting this association started last year. It's been challenging getting many interested people, and it's unclear what the "hot button" issues are for our neighborhood. Splitting the neighborhood into "Barkley" and "Irongate/King/Queen Mountain" areas is the one issue most agree on. Also the name issue: No one commonly recognizes "Mount Baker" as a neighborhood area.

Elaine and Mark both expressed concern that even in the Barkley area, there is a "disconnect" between upper Barkley and lower Barkley, with Barkley Village commercial district in between.

Good idea: We could go to City Council meeting and speak to the "splitting" issue to get some attention. Keep the argument as basic as possible: The name doesn't reflect the area, and the area is far too big to foster "ownership" by the residents and business owners to affect any kind of neighborhood campaign.

Someone suggested "neighborhood evacuation / emergency planning" as topic for next meeting. Invite Council members? Use Dave Gallagher, Dean Kahn and Herald to get attention to our plight.

Stowe said he has limited time to commit to the association as its president, but he will continue for a few more quarters and see what happens.

Next meeting will take place at end of January. At the beginning of January, Elaine and Stowe will start working on article for the Herald about our proposal for a split.

Elaine will help Robin in MNAC attendance.

Stowe reported that Barkley Company is subsidizing a library branch in the Drake Building, and also working on trail and greenspace issues.

Next meeting: Wednesday, January 23, 2008

Adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Hitz
Secretary - MBNA

President and Treasurer – Stowe Talbot
Secretary and MNAC – Robin Hitz
Communications – Steve Niedermeyer

The Mount Baker Neighborhood Association (MBNA) is a membership organization made up of residents, businesses and property owners dedicated to maintaining and improving the quality of life in our neighborhood.