



General Member Meeting Minutes

February 5, 2009

In Attendance: Don and Joy Hale, Scott Miles, George Volker, Jim Brennan, Warren and Jeanie Bergholz, Conrad and Ingrid Brownlee, Gina Urcuyo, Fred Berman, Howard Furst, Steven Niedermeyer, Andy Gamble, Warren Rosenthal, Richard Maneval, and Linda Stewart.

Don Hale called the meeting to order at 6:35PM.

Introduction of officers included Don Hale, President, Stowe Talbot, VP/Treasurer, Robin Hitz, Secretary, and Warren Rosenthal, Mayors Neighborhood Advisory Committee representative. Stowe and Robin are not able to attend.

PESIDENTS REPORT

- MBNA has acquired a USPS post box. Official address is P.O. Box 28762, Bellingham, WA 98229-0762.
- First mailing for this meeting included 1600 letters at a cost of \$629.00.
- Future meetings will be 1-hour to encourage attendance and efficiency.
- We hope that MBNA will promote community and provide a mechanism to identify and address issues affecting members. Eligible members include residents, property owners, and business owners currently in Mount Baker Neighborhood.

AGENDA ITEMS

- www.mtbakerna.org is the website for MBNA. Members can go to this website to provide email address to facilitate communication and notification of future meetings. During discussion, it was suggested each attendee talk to 5 neighbors to encourage attendance and participation. A MBNA business card may be an effective way to provide contact information when meeting people.
- The benefits of an email tree include improved communication and reducing the costs of doing business.
- The issue of correspondence was tabled.
- Mark your calendar! Future meeting dates for the remainder of 2009 will be May 19, August 18, and November 17. These meetings will be held in the Banquet Room of Pastazza Restaurant, 2245 Newmarket Street, Barkley Village. Each meeting will begin at 7PM.
- Physical signs for announcing these meetings are effective in spreading the word. Linda Stewart, COBs Neighborhood Coordinator, has generously offered City funds for the purchase of these signs.
- An update on the status of Northridge Park was offered by Warren Rosenthal. Northridge Park is a 40-acre wooded area east of Chandler Parkway. Development plans include parking, playgrounds, picnic facilities, restrooms and trails. The difficult financial situation we are all in has forced the postponement of the majority of these improvements until at least 2010. The budget for 2009 already includes funds for trail improvements so trails will be improved. A broad range of opinions exist relating to development of Northridge Park. It is suggested



that MBNA consider forming a committee to review development and create an effective communication channel with COB Parks & Recreation. Input on this potential committee is appreciated.

-Don Hale is considering ways to beautify Irongate Industrial Park and ways to pay for this beautification. Efforts will be made to contact business owners for input.

-Pat Carmen, a senior planner for COB, briefly discussed the process of annexation of areas on the north end of the City. Several areas considered for annexation border Mount Baker Neighborhood. While the eventual components of our neighborhood may change, it was agreed that we should proceed with plans to organize and improve our neighborhood and deal with changes when they are finalized.

-MBNA is a not-for-profit organization. All financial contributions from individuals and businesses may be tax-deductible. If you are considering making a contribution to MBNA, please consult your tax professional for advice.

- No new business was presented.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30PM.

Respectfully submitted by Warren Rosenthal