



Mayor's Neighborhood Advisory Commission

City of Bellingham

April 19, 2023
Hybrid Meeting

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Fleetwood.

Attendance

Present: Louise Bjornson (Birchwood), Jenny Hagemann (City Center), Kit Topaz (Columbia), John LaSpina (Cordata), Nick Kelly (Cornwall), William Beer (Edgemoor), Barbara Zielstra (Edgemoor), William Liddicoet (Fairhaven), Jan Dietzgen (Fairhaven), Jake Charlton (Happy Valley), Tara Stavik (King Mountain), Brianne O'Hare (Lettered Streets), Molly Foote (Samish), April Markiewicz (Samish), Kerri Burnside (Silver Beach), Jocelyn Lindsey (Silver Beach), Christopher Grannis (South), Michael Chrzastowski (South Hill), Erica Charbonneau (Sunnyland), Chris Roselli (WWU), Teagan Hudson (WWU), and Colin Beazley (York).

City Representatives: Mayor Seth Fleetwood and Janice Keller, Communications Director

MINUTES

Small and Simple Grant Update

Janice announced the last Zoom Q&A is on April 27th 2-3pm. Discussion and questions included clarity on the needed City approvals from Parks, Public Works or Arts Commission prior to application, the Mayor's office will help create a road map needed for the proposals, requirements, budget, review of the guidelines, emphasis on the neighborhood needs to take the lead on the project, do not spend the money before you have your approvals and signed contracts.

Neighborhood Round Table

- **Birchwood**
Thanks to the City for the Small and Simple Grants. They are planning the International Market for June 9th, July 14th, and August 11th 6-8pm. May 23rd is the next neighborhood meeting, and West Maplewood Lake Whatcom Treatment Center will attend to give more details about the treatment center going in the Masonic Hall. They will be having an ice cream social for National Night Out in August.
- **City Center**
They are having their downtown meeting at Boundary Bay Brewery 5-7pm tomorrow, but it's open to all. They will be discussing events they will be having this year. May 12th is the Wine Walk. They are working on a Small and Simple Grant to improve Commercial Street Plaza. They are working with the Mayor's Office on Downtown Solutions Work Group.
- **Columbia**
They are getting ready for their general meeting and will have a Taco Tuesday event.
- **Cordata**
Greg Hope and Claudia Murphy will attend their next community meeting, the community garden is up and running, and they are planning their annual community party in July. They are applying for a grant from Project Neighborly for a sound system.

- **Cornwall**
They continue to work on a problem home in the neighborhood that has suspected drug activity. Police Chief and Councilmember Huthman will be attending their next neighborhood meeting.
- **Edgemoor**
They are very excited about submitting their Small and Simple Grant around communications.
- **Fairhaven**
They had a successful 35th Annual Plant and Garden Sale and they donated 50% of their profits to some non-profit organizations in Bellingham. The neighborhood appreciates Public Works replacing some of the street trees in Fairhaven Village. There were reports of a group racing on Harris Street and this is a reoccurring problem, and they would like to have the Mayor look into it.
- **Happy Valley**
They had their neighborhood meeting last week and Eric Johnston attended. The community meal continues once a month on the 3rd Sunday.
- **King Mountain**
They are having some very disruptive construction on James Street. Chief Mertzig will attend their next neighborhood meeting and they will also be discussing their community garden.
- **Lettered Streets**
They had a very well attended presentation on “They Lost Everything”. They will be doing other types of presentations later in the year. Greg Hope presented CERT Training at their neighborhood meeting and Bri just finished the CERT Training and highly suggests the training.
- **Samish**
The board is trying to answer questions about their role as board members, MNAC’s role, why they collect dues and trying to figure out how to get more members and people involved in the neighborhood.
- **Silver Beach**
They would like to bring awareness to Old Mill Village. It is a property that is being developed by Michigan developers. The neighborhood is concerned about the development around Lake Whatcom affecting the drinking water. They are cleaning up some invasive species in June with some help from Whatcom Million Trees Project.
- **South**
Their neighborhood meeting is next week. Christopher is on a committee that goes to neighborhoods to discuss the need for Chuckanut Community Forrest District Commissioners to secure a conservation easement for the Hundred Acre Woods with preservation as the priority.
- **South Hill**
They have their meeting next week and the primary topic is ABC Recycling.
- **Sunnyland**
Saturday is their annual Earth Day celebration with lots of fun activities. The board has decided to work on activating Memorial Park.
- **WWU**
Next Friday there will be an orchestra show - Peter and the Wolf. It’s Earth Week and there are dozens of programs that WWU is working on. If others would like to get involved, go to www.sustain.wwu.edu/earth-week. The students are working on setting up appointments with elected officials for Local Lobby Day.
- **York**
At the last meeting they focused on a couple of priority projects for 2023 and had their board elections with a couple of new board members. They will be working on the historic preservation of the neighborhood with Katie Franks for an interactive map.

Closing Comments:

The neighborhood reimbursement has been increased from \$500 to \$750.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

The next meeting is May 17, 2023