



BWNA BOARD MEETING MINUTES

9/11/2023

ZOOM

Prepared by: Patti Koehler

Adopted on: 10/9/2023

Board Officers: Patty Nelson, President; Al Ellis, Vice President; Patti Koehler, Secretary; Karla Lenox, Treasurer; Tim Gillespie, Immediate Past President. **At-Large Board Members:** Sam Balto, Aaron Breakstone, Angela Frome, Gary Hancock, Jonathan Hays, Rob Lee, Amy O'Brien, Colin O'Neill, John Sandie, Susan Trabucco.

Welcome & Introductions: Al Ellis BWNA Vice President

Board Members: Al Ellis, Patti Koehler, Susan Trabucco, Colin O'Neill, John Sandie, Sam Balto, Aaron Breakstone, Rob Lee

Excused Board Members: Patty Nelson, Tim Gillespie, Karla Lenox, Angela Frome, Jonathon Hays, Gary Hancock, Amy O'Brien

Guests: Jane Feinberg

Meeting and Association Governance

Adoption of Meeting Agenda: Patti moved and Susan seconded motion to approve meeting minutes. Approved unanimously

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: John moved and Aaron seconded motion to approve previous minutes. Approved unanimously

Treasurers Report: Presented by Al in Karla's absence as of 8/31/23

Cash in checking account: \$22,924.71

Cash in Venmo account: \$ 936.67

Meeting Discussion & Action Items

- 1) Social Media Policy for BWNA: Rob reported that he and Jonathan had an initial meeting regarding the website and email blast issues. They discussed ideas to share responsibilities. They will put a proposal on the agenda for next months meeting.
- 2) Graffiti Clean up Proposal: (postponed to Oct. meeting in Angela's absence)
- 3). Website & Email help:
Jane and Susan met with Rob and Jon to walk them through what needs to be done for the website. Susan sent out an email blast for Sept. Rob stated he feels they will be ready to transfer that duty to them once they get signed up with Dropbox. Jane reported she will run that by Patty N (Rob would like Patty's approval before starting). Karla will have to give them access to Dropbox.
- 4) Board Retreat: A suggestion was made to move the date of the retreat from Oct 14 due to

the number of board members who are unable to attend. After polling members present for alternate dates it was agreed that Al would send an email to the board proposing either Oct. 21st or Nov 18th. Patty N gave Al a suggested survey meant to gauge community engagement with past activities. The board decided to table this till our next meeting. Angela wanted everyone to know she is happy to do food & drinks and requests a budget.

5) Agenda for retreat: Al suggested breaking the agenda into four one hour blocks. The first hour could include biographical information and brainstorming aspirations. The 2nd hour could be used to discuss Bylaws and revisions which Tim could summarize and have ready. The 3rd hour could be used to discuss the Budget, newsletter and committees and the 4th hour could focus on social media and website issues. John suggested focusing time talking about what we want to spend our money on in the coming year. Susan would like to work on our mission statement because it is a big and vague. Would also like to discuss the addition of an events committee.

6) Traffic Safety Proposal (Sam): Sam provided a presentation entitled "How do we improve safety and increase livability". While speed bumps are an option they are very expensive, aren't temporary and don't significantly reduce car traffic. He proposed diverters which are cheap, easy to implement, easy to move and are temporary. He included a list of all of the streets with the highest traffic counts in our neighborhood. Sam proposed two options for future consideration: Option 1: To ask PBOT to do a 1 year diverter at NE 37th and Skidmore. (NE Skidmore between 35th and 35th pl sees 1,632 daily vehicles and NE 37th between Skidmore and Shaver sees 1001). It was pointed out that these numbers were all taken prior to the Fremont diverter and new numbers should be coming out in the near future. Option 2: Apply for PSU Better Blocks Project for a Low-Traffic Neighborhood Pilot project where all neighborhood streets see under 300 cars a day. This motion included a map drawn up by Sam with 5 examples of where diverters could possible go, prevent anyone going straight across from 33rd-42nd or Prescott to Alameda without having to turn. Sam maintains this would make our neighborhood less enjoyable to drive through and thus increase safety and livability. The Board agreed to discuss this proposal at our General meeting in Oct.

Committee Updates

Central Northeast Neighbors: No report

Crime Prevention & Safety: No report

Friends of Wilshire Park: No report as Gary is absent. Al noted he saw Parks and Rec had rebuilt the play structure that was broken down in Wilshire Park. Sam said that the built structure caught a child's foot and that they had to be cut out by the Fire Department and that Parks and Rec was back at the park today working on the project.

Land Use: No report

New Neighbor Welcoming Project: Al revised a blog article that talks about the evolution of the new neighbor welcoming packets and wishes to include it in the next newsletter. He also has 7 new packets ready for delivery.

Newsletter: Al stated he has never seen such a professional high quality newsletter as the one that was just produced by the Newsletter team. Susan reported Jane did a fantastic job with the center layout. Susan had previously discussed with Patty a goal of never having a net profit of less than \$400. The next issue will probably run 8 pages of color inside. Susan applauded the 60+ folks who hand deliver the newsletter. Other neighborhoods pay the bulk of their expense in mailing, so color isn't a conceivable option for them - our volunteer distributors make it possible for BWNA.

Transportation: Colin reported there is not a lot happening. Traffic counting will occur this month or next for the Fremont diverter but there is no set date. They will be counting at the same 20

locations which were done prior to the diverter installation. He reported that there is one neighbor who has been getting involved with Scott Cohen and PBOT with complaints of increased traffic on 38th. Last week a neighbor asked about the addition of flags on cement blocks in the diverts. PBOT did not install this. John reported he had been on vacation in McCall Idaho and was impressed with the use of flags on either side of a cross walk to be used by pedestrians as they are crossing the street. Patti reminded the board that this was an idea which Angela had previously brought to the board though we did not act on it. Colin will share this idea with PBOT to gauge their interest. Al had questions regarding the heavy machinery on Skidmore. Colin stated this is part of the pro-active maintenance PBOT is currently doing on 33rd Ave. The detour signs are mostly there to protect the machinery and he does not feel a lot of thought goes into where they are placed.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:33 PM

Next General Board Meeting: Oct 9th, 2023 Location TBD