**Briarcrest Neighborhood Association General Meeting**

**January 10, 2017**

**Patty Pan Cooperative**

Present: Jean Hilde, Alice Keller, Devra Gartenstein, Lois Harrison, Paul Kowalski, Emily Shuel, Ian Taylor, Glinda Matthews, Bettelinn Brown.

Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM.

Minutes. December’s minutes were approved with minor revisions.

Treasurer’s Report. The bank account balance is unchanged since December.

CON. Nobody from the BNA attended the Council of Neighborhoods meeting this month. Amy Anscher can’t continue as CON representative, but Jean and Ian agreed to attend meetings. Amy is also training Alice to take over the BNA website.

Newsletter. Emily asked for submissions to be sent by Friday the 13th. The city will print the newsletter again because that worked out well for the BNA last time.

Storytelling. The BNA got a $250 grant from the Shoreline-Lake Forest Park Arts Council. Affifi has contacted Norm Brecke from Portland, who is willing to do a workshop and work with our budget. He’d like to do the workshop on July 23, but is willing to do it another time. If we do it when he’s up here with his wife, we may be able to get them both for the same price. Emily pointed out that it would be nice to have them both because this would provide a perspective other than white male. Attendees agreed to pursue this option. The last storytelling event was well attended, with about 18 people. Ian asked whether we could hold storytelling events once a month rather than every other month. This may be difficult for Jon and Amy, so we should find another space if we’re going to hold storytelling events more often. Jean suggested that we check with Fircrest again about the chapel, and Alice pointed out that the facility is lovely once you get in there, but parking is bad and the area is dark for part of the year. Shorecrest High School is also an option, but its layout is confusing as well. Despite the logistical hurdles, attendees agreed that it’s exciting to see the event gaining momentum.

Mini-grant. Devra has sent an idea letter to Constance Perenyi, but hasn’t heard back yet. She’ll send a follow up email.

Grace Cole Park. Ian proposed that the BNA ask the city of Shoreline to work with Lake Forest Park to establish a real entrance to Grace Cole Park on the Briarcrest side. This could be part of the Parks, Recreation, and Open Spaces five-year plan. Grace Cole Park sits on15 acres between Shoreline and LFP, but there is currently no access from Briarcrest. There’s an informal access by the dead end sign/right of way on 27th and 168th, but it would benefit the neighborhood to make this entrance more obvious, established and accessible. Lois pointed out that Grace Cole was a Briarcrest resident, and lived in one of the houses bordering the park. The motion was approved.

Fircrest pool. Jean is working on a community grant proposal to reopen the pool and activities center on the Fircrest property. She asked to represent the BNA in favor of this project. The motion was approved.

School district bond. Rebecca Minor and Curtis Campbell spoke about the Feb 14 school district bond. She explained that bonds are for building, while levies are for learning. Levies require 50 percent approval to pass, bonds require 60 percent approval. The facilities committee has recommended a study of enrollment trends, class size data, and building construction data. The district is growing, with many families moving to the area, but Shoreline schools are close to capacity. This has implications for many areas, including the capacities of cafeterias and libraries, which may not be able to accommodate everyone. The purpose of the proposed bond is to alleviate overcrowding, provide good learning environments, expand early learning opportunities, and revamp buildings. The cost of the proposed bond is 250 million, with an estimated 10 percent state match. Bettelinn pointed out that most Shoreline schools have parks next to them, and asked about the logistics of redesigning schools to provide access to outdoor education. Rebecca responded that sometimes worthwhile ideas get value-engineered out because of cost-benefit considerations.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.