**MINUTES of the BRIARCREST NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION – DRAFT**

**Tuesday, April 9, 2019, at Patty Pan Cooperative**

Attendance: Lee Keim, Bill Dwyer, Ann Lynch, Devra Gartenstein, Pam Sager, Alice Keller, Anthony Sison, David Chen, Janelle Woolsey, John Cole, guest Selby Coffin.

Meeting called to order by Devra at 7:01.

Minutes from March 12: Approved without amendments.

Treasurer’s report: Sarah was at a ham radio class, but nothing has changed since the last meeting.

Council of Neighborhoods report: Bill reported on several presentations at the last Con – first, by John Norris, Assistant City Manager, about the hiring process to replace Rob Beem, Community Services Manager, who’s retiring. He will be hard to replace because he’s done so much in Shoreline, Bellingham, and Bellevue, such as starting many programs for teenagers across King County. The city is actively searching for his replacement.

Next, Chris Roberts visited from the City Council. He mainly took questions. You can read the minutes on the city website: http://www.shorelinewa.gov/government/council-meetings

Then there was a presentation by Recology/Clean Spaces. Recology is trying to amend the contract with the city to charge a little more and to audit what people are putting into recycling bins. It’s unclear where that’s going to go. Some Council members feel that fining people for wrong recycling may not be the right direction now, and they prefer more education. The recycling issue has a lot to do with China no longer accepting dirty recyclables, now having a much lower threshhold of contamination. As far as residential recycling in Shoreline, single-family households are doing a lot better than apartment buildings.

Among BNA attendees, Janelle suggested another educational presentation, as was held before at her church. The main point then: If you’re not sure about an item, put it in the trash bin, not the recycle bin. If it does go there, be sure it’s clean and dry. Lots of people don’t know that they don’t know.

Maybe Recology could put new stickers on all recycling bins, which have generally become illegible.

Finally, there was a good presentation about the 185th Street corridor to the light rail station. See a PowerPoint on the city website: http://www.shorelinewa.gov/government/projects-initiatives/185th-street-multimodal-corridor-strategy. The city is putting forth a lot of options and is looking for citizen input. Now is the time to respond since it’s still in the study stage.

Next BNA storytelling: Alice announced that the next BNA storytelling evening will be Friday, May 3, with a baby shower for Amy and Jon afterward.

Shoreline Swingin’ Summer Eve book sale: Alice asked for discussion and a decision about whether the BNA wants to participate in this book/CD/DVD sale (Cromwell Park) again this July. She cited the requirements to share in the proceeds: a minimum of 150 books (etc.) and at least 4 hours of volunteer work plus one person to help with take-down. Last year we more than met those deadlines and received $138. A motion to participate was unanimously approved, not only because of the money, which obviously isn’t huge, but because there aren’t a lot of opportunities to participate in something with other Shoreline neighborhoods. Alice volunteered to chair again this year.

BNA Elections: All current officers (Jean Hilde, Director; Devra Gartenstein, Asst. Director; Alice Keller, Secretary; Sarah Kaye, Treasurer) are willing to serve again. All were nominated by Anthony. No one else expressed interest in becoming an officer.

Emergency Preparedness Fair: Lee and Bill updated the BNA on this.

Jean has contacted Briarcrest Elementary about renting space there for the fair. Bill has contacted the police, fire department, Shoreline Emergency Management, ACS (auxiliary radio group), and the Red Cross, to ask if they can participate. He will get the name of the contact person for FEMA from Jason. He has a meeting with Jason and Michelle Pidduck, representative for the fire department, tomorrow. We’re sure to get participation from Emergency Management and maybe from the fire department. June 15, the date of the fair, is a Saturday, which would be overtime for the police, so they said no. Bill will “shake the bushes a little harder” about commitments.

We need a flyer and posters. Perhaps someone will offer to work with Constance on those? Alice volunteered to work on the text. -- Later, Anthony’s partner Jill Pyle offered to work on the flyer and even sent a draft. We need more specifics before we can complete it.

The next Emergency Prep Committee meeting will be April 22, 7:00, at Patty Pan, to continue planning for the fair.

Neighborhood mini-grant: Due to lack of time at this meeting (and lack of urgency), this discussion was postponed to the May meeting.

Special guest: Selby Coffin, Northwest Neighbors Network

Selby is a volunteer with NNN, an aging-in-place village movement (not a physical village). Several virtual villages have been running in the Seattle area for several years. Now one has begun for North King/South Snohomish Counties with a Feb. 1 launch. It may break off into smaller vilages in time. The organization is a grassroots nonprofit for seniors to remain in their homes as long as possible -- a “one-stop shop.” They organize volunteers to go to people’s homes to help with whatever they need and to provide social and educational activities with a positive impact on isolation. It is intergenerational. It’s a national movement, following a model which began in Boston. The national organization provides a tool kit and guidelines for the necessary steps. Services can include, for example, breaks for caregivers, daily check-ins, weekly visits.

Dues are paid from each chapter to the national organization. Monthly dues to the chapter are $50 for a single person, $75 for a household. There are some subsidized memberships. There’s no minimum age since they also want to attract disabled people. Background checks are done on volunteers, following the NNN’s national system.

The organization’s software is very important in matching volunteers and people requesting help. Pools of volunteers who are willing to do certain types of tasks are set up.

Chapters can organize regular lunches, social events like a book club, and so forth. The Beacon Hill chapter sent a delegation to New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina to help. This is a network that helps others and helps people realize their own potential.

www.northwestneighborsnetwork.org

Additional items:

At the April 15 City Council meeting, the issue of a spot rezone of the Irons Brothers Construction property on 170th, behind the 7-11, in a residential area, will be on the agenda. Irons Brothers owns two houses for commercial use. Their basic argument for the rezone is that they’re nice people. But the issue isn’t that. It has to do with changing zoning which has been out of compliance for years on a quiet residential street. If they get zoning, but later leave, then what could go in there? It’s a bad precedent. The city has been noncommittal, stalling. The biggest issue for the next CC meeting is whether to put this on the docket. If so, then it would go back to the Planning Commission for study, a committee vote, and then finally to the City Council.

This type of spot zoning has recently been done for a property with family home care. But if the process of spot zoning leads to change of ownership, it can have a deleterious effect on the neighborhood.

People with opinions on either side should go to the next CC meeting. A lot of people have spoken at two City Council meetings, but they should not go silent now.

The Planning Commission, appointed by the City Council, has a lot of power. They set zoning and make recommendations to the CC. Like the CC, they have meetings that the public can attend to make their opinions known.

We can all get involved with the city since “the pedal to the metal” is usually exercised by developers.

Lee’s amendment on greenhouse gases to the Shoreline Comprehensive Plan is also on the agenda for Monday night.

Park funding – David Chen expressed his concern for neighborhood identity in parks development. Possibilities now are a Ballinger Center and a Briarcrest Park as part of Hamlin. There is some positive discussion about these in the city. New funding for parks wil be more equitable, including areas that have children and seniors. Some people in the city want the votes to fund parks and the aquatic center to be separated. A bond levy would be through the end of the current parks bond -- $320 per household, but mostly for the aquatic center.

David said that he will probably run for Doris McConnell’s seat on the City Council.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25. Next meeting: Tuesday, May 14.

Submitted by Alice Keller, Secretary