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

**Tuesday, November 12, 2019, at Patty Pan Cooperative**

Attendance: Afifi Durr, Lois Harrison, Jean Hilde, Alice Keller, Lee Keim, Bill Dwyer, Ann Lynch, Pam Sager, Janelle Woolsey, Sarah Kaye, John Cole, Joshua Levenson

Meeting called to order by Jean at 6:57.

Recruiter for census: Josh Levenson, a 2020 Census recruiter, came to the meeting to provide information about working for the census, which is hiring by census tract. He needs more applications from Briarcrest. The pay is $23-25 per hour. The length of employment varies; people are generally on 8-week contracts, of which training is the first 2 weeks. Contracts are potentially renewable. One type of job is to go to addresses from which people didn’t respond to the census form. There are also office jobs in Everett, Seattle, etc. A car isn’t always required. The application form is on line. Accurate results of the census are very important. Young children, for example, are often undercounted.

What should people be told if they are afraid of answering census questions? That there is very strong protection of their information and that having an accurate count is important for the country.

Most surveys will be on line first and then sent out by mail. Nonresponders will be visited at home.

Josh is looking for places to put up yard signs about applying. People made suggestions about Shoreline contacts and potential sign locations.

Josh will get in touch with Constance and try to attend CoN in January.

More information: 2020census.gov/jobs

Minutes from October 8: Approved with one correction.

Treasurer’s report, Sarah: We have the same balance as last month, $484.90. Sarah wondered if the BNA should consider giving microgrants, maybe $25 each for something nice to do for the neighborhood. One suggestion: maintenance of traffic circles. Sometimes drivers can’t see kids walking on other side of a traffic circle due to high growth.

There was some discussion of giving 2 grants of $50 each, early next year. Discussion to be continued.

Storytelling update, Afifi: The last storytelling evening (Nov. 1, back at Jon and Amy’s home) was attended by 15 people and went well. Newcomers liked the home atmosphere. Afifi encouraged BNA people to come.

Upcoming, sponsored by the Seattle Storytellers Guild, seattlestorytellers.org:

Nov 16: An Appalachian Tellabration

Dec 20: Holiday Stories from Around the World

May 15-16: The Welsh Mabinogion Epic Event

Council of Neighborhoods report, Bill: Chris Roberts was the speaker at CoN the day after the election. The McConnell / Chen race for City Council still hasn’t been called. The car-tab tax measure affects Shoreline – not transit, which is already funded. But there will be no money for sidewalk repairs, street-overlay funding is now gone, and there’s no money now to continue planning on the 145th Street project.

The City Council did a budget review, of which one item was to charge a $6,000 fee to present an amendment to the Comprehensive Plan -- e.g., Lee’s environmental proposal and the Irons Brothers’ zoning proposal. Amendments are extremely costly for vetting what they would mean for the city; therefore, a fee to anyone proposing an amendment was suggested. What would this do for citizens bringing amendments? Roberts said there’s no Council support for the fee.

Amendments are possible only once a year, with a December deadline.

Shoreline will have a Community Court and Resource Center which will offer defendants charged with misdemeanor crimes the option of going to District Court or Community Court. If a Community Court, they will do volunteer work and appear weekly at court, instead of serving time in jail. Volunteers are needed at the court for set-up and take-down, as navigators and greeters, and staffing for a resource table. The court will meet in City Council Chambers once a week. Joe Campagna, District Court Judge, will preside.

If interested in volunteering, contact Ericka at ericka.cooley@kingcounty.gov by Dec. 2. Applications must be returned by Dec. 10.

The Court will begin in January 2020. Funding comes from King County.

The District Court wishes they could offer free parenting classes since nearly all such classes have a fee attached.

Representatives from Recology were at CoN again, for the third or fourth time. New guidelines will be mailed Nov. 15. Shredded paper goes into garbage now (or put into your garden as mulch). Plastic bags go into garbage or in-store recycling. Crinkly plastic such as cookie packages and plastic tops on glass bottles are garbage. Latex paints are charged 84 cents per pound to recycle at the Recology store on Aurora.

People are really confused about what goes where. The triangular recycling symbols on some plastic materials are not relevant.

A volunteer opportunity: The Shoreline Severe Weather Shelter, new this year, in partnership with NUHSA, North Urban Human Services Alliance, is using a potion of the former Shoreline Police Station as an emergency severe weather shelter this winter. Volunteers are needed there as well as at NUHSA's other three shelter locations in Shoreline, including Prince of Peace Lutheran in the Briarcrest neighborhood.

Nighttime volunteers are needed at the Severe Weather Shelter. Training will be provided. The official opening is Dec. 1. The shelter will be activated when the temperature is forecast to drop below 33 overnight or over 2” snow accumulation is expected. Shoreline had no NUHSA shelters last winter; however, Prince of Peace and Ronald Methodist both provided nighttime shelter. (Note from Lois: Ronald Methodist Church at 17839 Aurora N. has, since February 2019, provided twenty-four-hour shelter for ten homeless individuals, with the support of volunteers.)

Bill also attended a Planning Commission meeting. Representatives from The Puget Sound Regional Council presented Vision 2050. There’s a State Growth Management Plan, under that the Puget Sound Regional Council Plan, under that the King County Plan, and finally the city plan. The PSRC is projecting population growth of 1.8 million and job growth of 1.2 million by 2050. Of the population growth, 65% is projected in transit areas (meaning light rail corridors), as well as 75% of job growth. Bill said this was a good, clear presentation.

Discussion about doing a food or holiday-basket drive, Jean: Ridgecrest is doing their annual food drive for Hopelink. Should we do something? Members expressed interest.

Lois said that the biggest question is a collection point. Food pours in at Thanksgiving and Christmas. A better time for a food drive is really summer, when there are fewer donations. It would be better to plan ahead to collect food once school is out, when the need is greater. Lots of kids may go without gifts for the holidays, though schools and churches do gift drives.

There might be needs at tent cities, such as warm socks and clothes, caps, mittens, gloves, etc. Should we take a meal to a tent city? Lois says yes! We would need to find how long a tent city will be at a location. She’ll find out. She has spearheaded meals before. She’ll need to check for dates that are open, and then we’d decide on a menu that includes protein, a fruit or vegetable, salad, and dessert, possibly as simple as soup, bread, and dessert. Different people would cook parts of it, and a couple of people would deliver and stay for the meal. She would be happy to be the point person. We’d be feeding around 40 people at the most. Maybe after the holidays would be better, after general holiday enthusiasm passes. The Shoreline tent city might be moving to the Haller Lake area in North Seattle.

There’s a call out right now for Thanksgiving Day volunteers at Ronald Methodist, serving from 4:00 to 6:00. They need help with all sorts of things, from set-up to cooking to clean-up, and so forth. They’re asking for pies there and also at Prince of Peace on Wednesday (a regular POPY’s night).

Donating gifts for kids: People can take gifts to Hopelink (17837 Aurora Ave N) or Mary’s Place family shelter in Shoreline (on 130th off Aurora) or to Treehouse for foster kids.

A motion to do a community meal for a homeless population, with details to be determined, passed unanimously.

*Follow-up from email discussion:* Lois learned that the date we selected through an email discussion (Dec. 1) has already been taken by another organization. The tent city will be moving later that week, so that time would be quite complicated for serving a meal there. Therefore, the BNA will provide a meal later in the new location, St. Dunstan’s Episcopal Church on 145th Street. Jean learned that the city will provide reimbursement for food items, plates, cups, and other essentials.

Discussion about a BNA holiday party, Jean: In the past 2 years, the BNA has had a holiday gathering. Shall we do it again? Attendees at the meeting emphatically agreed. Jean will check with Amy and John and Devra about a location sometime in December.

*Follow-up from email discussion:* The holiday gathering will be December 10, 7:00, at Jon and Amy’s house, 16010 25th Ave NE. This is the date of the next BNA meeting, so we’ll have a short one first and then share holiday cheer with food and drink and perhaps some poems, songs, and stories.

Announcements from Lee: The first Green Shoreline Day will happen in November. The event originated with Forterra, an organization which helps cities take care of their forests. On Nov. 16, 10:00-1:00, there will be an organizational meeting and tree planting at Hamlin Park, Twin Parks, and Richmond Beach Saltwater Park. https://forterra.org/event/green-shoreline-day

Lee’s amendment to the Comprehensive Plan. She’s been involved for 11 months now with her amendment about the city becoming more aggressive in reducing greenhouse gases. On Nov. 21 the Planning Commission will do a final vote on it. On Dec. 2 and 9, 7:00, the City Council will discuss and take a final vote. People can make public comments, or just be there to show support, seated with people who are commenting.

Parking issue, Pam: At a City Council meeting recently, Keith Scully brought up to Sound Transit people that they need to look at Briarcrest concerning a parking problem: people from the Seattle side of 145th are parking on our side because more parking is available here. Keith said he wants to deal with Southeast Shoreline parking issues before tackling parking around light rail. In his doorbelling during the campaign, parking was the biggest concern in Briarcrest.

Meeting adjourned at 8:23.

Next meeting: December 10, 7:00 at Jon and Amy Anscher’s home: short agenda followed by a holiday party.

Submitted by Alice Keller, Secretary