

## Minutes for BHNA General Meeting

April 9, 2013, 6:30, at Roosevelt Elementary

President Simone Boe opened the meeting with a total of 4 members present. Angie provided an update on the 2013 grant proposal. The City's legal department will complete their review process within two days. After there it will go to the City Council to review and a decision is expected around the end of April.

We are looking for additional volunteers to help with the graffiti busting effort. A suggestion was to have a group gathering once a month. Some gatherings would be social fun events: garden walks, model tour and others would be community service orientated. On May 18<sup>th</sup> Capital Vision is having a grand opening for their community garden from 11:30 to 2pm. At 11 they will host a BBQ. We decided to host a graffiti cleanup party on the same day. At 9:30 we will meet at the Shomshors at 604 Garrison for a brunch provided by Rus then gather up the cleanup supplies and head out. After an hour or so of graffiti cleanup the group will end up at Capital Vision Church (corner of FIRS and Yew for a BBQ and help celebrate the garden's grand opening. Simone will draft an email to send out to the list serve group to spend the word.

Our next general meeting is in July and since the school is closed Marj Shomshor volunteer her house for the next meeting. Thank you Marj

It was noted that the board has not done a very good job of advertising / getting the word out about neighborhood upcoming events. Marj will work with Jon to see if we can get the list serve group more active.

Never underestimate the power of neighbors and a neighborhood. Working together we have successfully shut down a drug house and stopped a suspicious person from looking into homes. Our neighborhood Block Watch is a small, but effective group. Not a part of the block watch, that is okay. Hearing that others have done gives others the okay to call the police to report suspicious activity. Angie is thinking about hosting a National Night Out party, which several block watch groups nationwide use to help celebrate their volunteer work. National Night Out is the first week in August.

The City would like to group neighborhood associations together so that the larger group can help the small individual associations (41 in total) become more efficient. The A Team includes the 5 Northeast neighborhood associations: Northeast, Upper Eastside, Bigelow, Bigelow Highlands and East Bay because these associations are the most organized and active. From the neighborhoods' point of view we view it as a chance to share resources: volunteer power, emergency preparedness, and code enforcement information.

Next meeting is July 9<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 at the Shomshors – 604 Garrison St NE (the one with the big red darn)