

Bigelow Highlands Neighborhood Association  
General Meeting  
July 9, 2013

Our summer evening meeting took place outside at 401 Lybarger NE. 11 neighbors were present.

We are always looking for better ways to communicate. The board believes they have worked through how Google group email distribution lists works. You don't need a gmail account, but one does need to be invited to join the BHNA News Group. Jon Young volunteered to monitor the list. Currently there are only 20 people on the distribution list. It was suggested to include the people from the graffiti booster email list (50+), the neighborhood block watch list (55+), our membership list and from those how have attended any general meetings.

Sunday, July 27<sup>th</sup> at 2<sub>pm</sub> will be BHNA's annual garden tour. Anyone interested is welcome to tour any or all of the gardens and so far we have 7 gardens signed. It is not too late to sign up, contact Melissa at 357-7055. There are two options for conducting the garden walk. Either everyone goes together and tours each garden or if people prefer they will be given a map with the gardens on it and they can tour them at their own pace. In either case, meet at 1702 Prospect NE at 2<sub>pm</sub>.

We are still looking for more homes for the remodel tour on Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup>. Any stage of remodeling is fine. Looking for ideas of how or what to do, neighbors are a great resource. Have a project underway and need some encouragement or all done and what to show off. Contact Gail Saunders at [gail687@netzero.com](mailto:gail687@netzero.com) or 357-5735. Several neighbors were suggested at possibilities and they will be contacted.

Our Treasury shows a balance of \$652.87. We are looking for ways to spend the money that will help the neighborhood. One suggestion was to investigate more permanent signs that allow for changing announcements. Possible grant idea for next year, but we need to do some research first.

Speaking of grants the City awarded us \$1770 for three projects. One project was for Capital Vision who wanted to create an edible Community Garden. They asked for \$400 for plants and soil. Take a walk and eat some of the berries from the bushes they planted. Another grant project was for a mural to be painted on a container at Roosevelt Elementary, however the new principle is not sure they need the container so that project is on hold, \$720. The last project was for supplies for graffiti clean-up. Linda is retiring from being BHNA's graffiti grugru, but is planning on restocking all the supplies before doing so.

With Linda leaving we are looking for someone to fill her shoes. Until such time the board decided to have quarterly clean-up sessions. The first one will be July 20<sup>th</sup> 9-11. Meet at Bigelow Park for coffee and donuts; gather up the supplies and a list of where to go. If anyone is interested in surveying 2-3 days in advance to comply the list of where the tags are let Angie know 705-3459.

It was suggested that if we did not spend all the grant money that maybe some of it could be used to purchase emergency supplies for the neighborhood. The NE Neighborhood purchased draw string bags that they gave out at their annual picnic with emergency information inside (Map Your Neighborhood) and a list of items they should put in the bag, hard hat, gloves, hard sole shoes, flashlight, etc. Along those same lines it was suggested of inviting Vivian Eason (Thurston County Emergency Management) to come and talk about the Map Your Neighborhood Program at our upcoming picnic on September 21<sup>st</sup> noon to 3<sub>pm</sub>.

Update on the drug house(s) on Prospect – the one house is coming up for auction the latter half of July. There is a neighborhood carpenter who is interested in acquiring the house. If he gets it we will be sure to put it on the remodel tour. Until then if anyone sees any activity out of the normal call 911 and report it.

Discussion then turned to how to get more people to attend the neighborhood meetings. This is a common theme among all neighborhood associations. Small potlucks, guest speakers and candidates for elected office were some of the ideas offered. This will be a topic for discussion for the next board meeting.

Thank you all for coming and enjoy the rest of the summer.