

Fairhaven Neighbors Meeting Synopsis  
Friday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2005

Meeting was called to continue discussions begun at the last meeting concerning the unprecedented growth in our area, and the effects of the growth on our neighborhood.

Also discussed was the invitation to join forces with the Southside Coalition, which is being formed by the Edgemoor, South, Happy Valley, South Hill, and Fairhaven neighborhood organizations, for the primary purpose of addressing growth and planning issues in the south Bellingham area.

The current status of pending projects in the Fairhaven Business district was discussed, as well as what the possible neighborhood positions regarding these projects.

A motion was entertained and seconded to approve of the following resolution:

*Members of the Fairhaven Neighborhood (FN) support cooperation and coordination with other neighborhood associations serving the south end of the city of Bellingham. Those associations will work together informally as the "Southside Coalition". The Coalition will strive to (1) maintain the high quality of life enjoyed by the residents of Bellingham, and (2) promote community spirit and values within and among our neighborhoods.*

*The Southside Coalition initially will pursue three objectives:*

- 1) Request the City of Bellingham undertake a comprehensive traffic study to examine the impact of current, planned, and proposed construction on arterial traffic flow on the south side of the city.*
- 2) Request the City of Bellingham immediately update the Fairhaven Neighborhood Plan to reflect the current, planned, and proposed building occurring in the area.*
- 3) Work with city authorities and the developer to better understand the proposed Chuckanut Ridge development, and to minimize its impact upon Southside residents.*

*The Coalition may pursue additional objects upon concurrence from the members of the respective neighborhood associations.*

*There are no direct resource implications for FN participation in the Coalition. The Fairhaven Neighborhood representatives to the Coalition are not authorized to make any financial commitments or incur any expenses without prior approval of the FN membership. However the FN representatives to the Coalition will be authorized to commit FN to the objectives above, and the activities associated with achieving them (including but not limited to communication with city officials, the media, and other interested groups and individuals). In addition the FN representatives to the Coalition will ask FN members to support individually Coalition activities designed to achieve the*

*goals outlined above. These activities might include petitions, phone calls, emails, and letters to appropriate city and state officials, individuals, and organizations.*

This motion was discussed and passed by a voice vote, with no dissenting vote.

The second motion for the Fairhaven Neighbors to send the Bellingham Mayor and City Planners a petition for a moratorium on building permits which require variances from what is currently allowable, and linking this to the requirement that a written and explicit blueprint is completed for the Fairhaven "Urban Village" conceptualization as described by the Grimes Report. This was discussed for verbiage for a considerable time, until the motion was adopted unanimously, and referred to an ad hoc committee for completion.

The ad hoc committee will meet on January 15<sup>th</sup> at noon to finalize wording and submit the petition in the name of the Fairhaven neighbors to the City Mayor, City Council, and City Planners. Members of the Committee include: Thom Prichard, Jim Johannessen, Glenn Denkler, Max King, Ralph Thacker, David Carlsen, and migo Biciunas.

The next Neighborhood meeting will be on Friday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2005 at the Fairhaven park Pavilion from 7PM until 9PM. We are intending to get Barbara Ryan (City Council) and Jackie Lynch to attend and inform the Fairhaven Neighbors of the status and scope of current and future development in our end of town.

All are urged to attend.

The meeting following will be on Friday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2005 tentatively at the Fairhaven Park Pavilion, and intends to work on the Fairhaven Neighborhood vision for the future. All are urged to attend this meeting and participate in the discussion.

Tree Sale is Saturday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2005. Please pass this information on to any and all, this is a big fundraiser for the neighborhood, and is organized, as always, by John Blethen.

Bob Keller is organizing a Ping Pong tournament to be held in the Spring of this year, exact date to be determined, at the Cascade Joinery Building. He has two tables and is looking for more. If you have, or know of one, please contact Bob at 734-9641.