

Fairhaven Neighbors board meeting notes, Nov 1st, 2006

Fairhaven Park Pavilion, 7:00–9:00 p.m.

1. Green Power Neighborhood Challenge

In cooperation with PSE, the city is sponsoring a neighborhood challenge, in which a \$1000 neighborhood project grant will be awarded to the two neighborhoods who have the highest percentage of Green Power participation by the deadline of February 28, 2007. To join the program, a household has to sign up for as little as \$4 per month (200 KWh of green power). Public works dept. hopes to have door hangars and brochures ready very soon, in time for our December pot luck meeting.

2. Consent Agenda

A motion was made to have “consent agenda” prior to each board meeting, consisting of the minutes from the last meeting, the treasurer’s report, and the agenda for the upcoming meeting. These would be distributed at least one week in advance, and would then all be approved together at the outset of the meeting to save time. Passed by unanimous voice vote.

3. Approval of minutes and notes

The minutes from the October board meeting were approved. Pursuant to the new policy of publishing meeting “notes” on the website, the notes for the last few meetings were reviewed and discussed. A motion was made to publish the notes, with minor corrections; passed.

4. Treasurer’s report. \$2102.89 in savings, and \$2083.99 in checking.

5. Southside Shoreline Stewardship Taskforce update

Ralph Thacker reiterated that one of the goals of the SSST is to broaden discussions between the city and Burlington Northern to include more than the old G-P site, to include all along the bay, including in Fairhaven. One of the goals would be to improve the safety of railroad crossings, in order to both speed up the trains (to BN’s advantage) and to reduce the volume and duration of train whistle blasts, as are currently required for safety reasons.

6. Mayor’s Neighborhood Advisory Council update.

Ralph reported that the council heard two presentations recently, one from the city Fire chief on emergency planning and management, and one from city Greenways director, Tim Wahl.

7. Coalition of Southside Neighborhoods update

Port Director Jim Darling said that he would “think about” how to include neighborhood input, and city input, into the process of updating the Port Comprehensive Scheme. The Port also called a meeting of its own on October 23rd, of significant “stakeholders,” at which FN and the CSN had representatives. Our own Jim Johannessen and NSEA’s Wendy Scherrer brought our concerns about the health of Padden Creek and the waterfront in general to the Port’s attention. Jim Johannessen also developed a list of seven projects or goals that we might like to see included in the Scheme update, and Sue asked if we might make this list the basis for a CSN “platform.” After some discussion, two items

were dropped, and one new one was added. Glenn then made a motion that FN endorse the six-item list as our preference for a CSN consensus platform; passed. Sue will re-write the list and share it with the other coalition neighborhood associations.

8. Stormwater update

Sue is still working with the city's finance department to come up with the information on where and when the stormwater fees were spent.

9. "Fairhaven Harbor" development update

No change.

10. Traffic Issues

Bob Keller notes that many stop signs in Fairhaven are overgrown with vegetation, but that the city has declined to act, saying that it is the individual landowner's responsibility (!). Bob suggest that we should organize work parties to make quick work of it, perhaps an "adopt a stop sign" campaign. It was proposed that we have a sign up sheet ready for the December pot luck meeting.

11. Thanking who ever painted the hideous pink tower

The Fairhaven Tower building has recently been repainted, much improving its appearance. The word is that David Ebenal has paid for and/or commissioned the re-painting. If so, then he deserves some kind of thanks, Bob Keller will try to confirm just who is responsible.

12. Small and Simple Grant

\$2500 grants are available for qualifying neighborhood projects. Do we have such a project that we might submit?

13. NSEA Stream Stewards program

NSEA is still looking for people to train to become steam stewards. Anyone ordinary citizen or student is qualified to be trained by NSEA to lead and perform voluntary restoration and preservation efforts. Sue Kaun said that she will try to have brochures available for the December pot luck.

14. December Potluck

The general quarterly meeting will be on Wednesday, December 6th, from 5 to 9 p.m. in the Fairhaven Park pavilion. Glenn Denkler will be heading up publicizing the event.

15. Neighborhood Planning

Vince Biciunas and Janet Simpson have now completed the city's Citizen Planning Academy, and are now ready to take Tim Stewart up on his offer to help shepherd through any changes to the planning code that we formulate that also represent a local consensus and which are not anti-growth. A gathering will be held a Vince's house this Saturday, starting at 1:00 p.m., to develop possible ideas.

Notes submitted by Michael Lilliquist, FN secretary