

General Meeting Minutes May 8, 2018

Board members present:

Stephen Dillon - President

Claudia Oates - Treasurer

Amanda Cook - Secretary

Jenny Baker-Couch- MNAC
Representative

Dave Arheholz - Director

MNAC Alternate - Vacant
Vice President - Vacant

1. Call to order at 6:58PM, 26 attendees present.
2. 3/13/18 meeting minutes approved.
3. Jeff Cook has stepped down as our MNAC Representative after years of service. This vacancy needs to be filled. If you think you would like to become the MNAC Representative Alternate, please reach out to Steve Dillon and Jenny Baker-Couch who stepped up to take the lead in the position.
4. Our first guest speakers were Melissa Bianconi and Steve Janiszewski with COB Parks and Recreation. They brought a wealth of information of items that affect our neighborhood along with other parts of town. Steve highlighted the new pump track that was recently installed in Whatcom Falls Park along with the new Woburn Trailhead and parking lot and trail restoration which is slated to be opened the end of June this year. Dog waste has become a huge problem within our parks. Pet waste, even when it's bagged, are littering our parks. There is a new campaign to bag it and walk it to a trash bin or home and to avoid leaving it along the trail.
5. Our second guest speaker was Kirsten Wert from Whatcom Smart Trips. Smart Trips is a program that encourages and helps people to walk, bicycle, share rides and ride the bus instead of driving. She provided a very thorough walk through how to use the Smart Trip website. She mentioned to use the road safely and ride confidently, choose your bicycling route appropriately. Be predictable with how you place yourself in a lane. It's a good idea to register your bike in case it is stolen. Bike to Work/Bike to School is May 18th, there will be an after party along Bay Street on the evening of the 18th to celebrate the day.
6. Carol Frazey spoke briefly to the group. She is running for Whatcom County Council at Large Position, she can be reached at www.carolfrazey.com or carol@carolfrazey.com.
7. Old and New Business:
 - PSE/Potelco utility work on Alvarado and Kenoyer is still ongoing.
 - Ongoing discussion of short-term rentals ordinance in Bellingham.
 - Ongoing discussion of amendments to ADU ordinance.
 - Water treatment plant project-April update on WFNA website.

- Proposed residential subdivision at the south end of Xenia.
 - Please visit our neighborhood website, Nextdoor or the City of Bellingham for additional information. Links at the bottom.
 - Jenny Baker-Couch gave a quick report about the last MNAC meeting. She was able to bring up concerns about the proposed Xenia development. And she was able to mention the wish to create a neighborhood park at the end of Raymond Street.
8. Treasurer report from Claudia Oates:
- We received \$30.00 in donations last month for a total of \$84.93 in the account.
9. At the beginning of the meeting everyone was given a raffle ticket. At the end of the meeting we held a drawing for a \$25.00 gift certificate to Fred Meyer.
10. Mark your calendar for the next couple of meetings as the format is changing and should be exciting:
- August 3rd - Neighborhood potluck in Whatcom Falls Park in the upper shelter. Bring the family! Bring a dish to share! We are looking for volunteers to help organize and rally the neighbors, please reach out to Claudia Oates and Amanda Cook if you are interested. You can reach Claudia at AlvaradoGarden@gmail.com
 - September 11th - focus on Schools
 - November 13th - focus on Fire and Police safety
11. As always local resources can be found at the following:
- Officer Eric Osterkamp eosterkamp@cob.org or (360) 778-8785
 - Litter Control Officer (360) 778-8623
 - Social: www.nextdoor.com
 - On the Web: www.whatcomfallsneighborhood.org
 - In the City: www.cob.org
 - Our neighborhood plan: <http://www.cob.org/documents/planning/neighborhoods/whatcom-falls.pdf>

Meeting adjourned 8:25PM

Respectfully submitted,
Amanda Cook, Secretary