BNA Board Minutes 11/15/16 18 people attended

- 1. Amy Stull, from the Olympia Police Department gave a half-hour presentation about the Olympia Blockwatch program and answered questions. Her main points were:
- Blockwatch is about residents getting to know each other, communicating with each other and Police, organizing and taking preventative action against criminals who might otherwise victimize their neighborhood
- When you sign up for Block Watch, it isn't a huge committment. It means you are part of an EMail tree, which lets neighbors know when unwelcome incidents are happening. It also means taking easy precautions against crime. It means you and your neighbors are willing to call Police, when you see or hear:
 - strangers removing valuables from a home or car
 - strangers loitering, hiding, looking in windows or mail boxes
 - strangers knocking on the door and giving weird reasons for doing so
 - frequent foot or vehicle traffic by many strangers to a single address
 - screaming, fighting, distraught people
- After calling Police, call your Block Watch captain to spread the word
- Operation ID: Its recommended that residents look over their <u>valuables</u>, take pictures of them and take down their serial numbers, keeping them in a file. If someone does break into your house, they can be traced to your crime, even years later, if Police are given these records. Only if you are ever robbed would you choose to supply Police with this info. If enough BW residents do this ID-ing, our neighborhood gets free Block Watch signs. If you also want tyo mark your valuables, the BNA has a dremel that you can use.
- For more info, go to <u>olympiawa.gov/BlockWatch</u>, <u>knowyourstuff.org</u>, <u>olympiawa.gov/</u> <u>subscribe</u>, and <u>olympiawa.gov/p2c</u>. To sign up, EMail Barb LaForge (blaforge5@gmail.com), who is organizing the BNA Block Watch:
- At the Bigelow Springs Park (BSP), we'll have a concrete-pouring party in the next few weeks, to pour the slabs under the new picnic table and Asahel Curtis panorama sign. An EMail will go out to BNA members for those who want to help. Also, in January, we'll have a few orchard-planting parties, which will complete this grant.
- 3. We won't have a caroling party this year
- 4. Deb Walters will work with Seth Hutt to create a BSP plan for the Parks Department by December 2. It should include:

Job	Parks Responsibility	BNA Responsibility
Mowing	before, and the after daffodils bloom	
Park Cleanups	remove plant debris from cleanups, mows	trim, maintain, plant, pick up litter 4x/year
Large Trees	trim low-hanging branches	
Litter	possible trash can?	pick up litter in park

5. Matching Grants: The BNA has won three matching grants in the last 3 years to build the trail and benches, plant gardens, and put in the Olympia Panorama sign at BSP. We've also gotten two grants to clear the Bigelow House lot of blackberries and trash, cover it with cardboard, mulch it, and plant an orchard with fruit trees and berry plants.

This year, we want to focus our volunteer labor more on neighborhood cleanups and beautification projects. However, there are some ideas for new grants in 2017. Applications are due in February:

- A movie Night at the BSP: Using the hillside as an amphitheater, we could have an outdoor movie once or twice in the summer, given the approval of neighbors. Steve Mazepa will investigate this.
- A mural on a wall facing one of our streets, for beautification and grafitti-prevention. Beth Milton showed interest in this
- A changing sculpture in BSP, similar to the plinths down on the boardwalk. Seth Hutt was interested in this
- Free library kiosks in the neighborhood: small boxes on posts, where neighbors can share books. They would be privately maintained, and could have different genres in each spot: children's, mysteries, non-fiction, etc
- 6. Capital Improvement Project Requests: The BNA has never requested the City to do a CIP in our neighborhood, like sidewalk creation or repair, street repaving, etc. We might look at making some requests, since our roads haven't been paved in over 40 years, our sidewalks are the oldest in town, and so is our water/sewer infrastructure. It is a 6-year planning cycle, so we couldn't hope for immediatev response, but we can start the ball rolling. Projects suggested at this meeting:
 - Repair or repave Glass Avenue near East Bay Drive pot holes and pavement collapse
 - Lighted crosswalks with safety blinkers (like at Ralph's) at East Bay Drive and Olympia Avenue, and Bigelow Avenue and Puget Street
 - Repave other streets in the BN. One complication is that, our water and sewer systems (and buried power lines?) would probably have to be done simultaneously, which would make it a BIG dollar item.
 - Homeowners are responsible for maintaining the passability of the sidewalks in front of their house (low-hanging limbs, brush, litter). Are homeowners also responsible for <u>repairing</u> sidewalks in front of their house. We'll find out

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM. Board members present: Peg O'Keefe, Barb LaForge, Patti Sievert, Elaine Harmon, Deb Walters, Steve Mazepa, Beth Milton, Jay Elder, Seth Hutt