

BNA Minutes 2/2/21 - Zoom Meeting

Attending: Lori Doron Cristina Charney Laurie Dils Barb LaForge
 Steve Mazepa Charlotte Persons Peg O'Keefe Jay Elder

Began at 6:00 PM

1. Annual Neighborhood Application

Each year, all neighborhood associations have to re-register with the City. Laurie is almost done with the application and will send it in.

2. Neighborhood Matching Grants

If we come up with some worthy projects for our neighborhood, the City will grant up to \$5000 to accomplish it, if we donate an equal value in labor. The deadline for applications is [March 22 at 5 PM](#).

Free Box: Laurie mentioned that Devon Wollett, on Quince, suggested building a "Free Box" in front of his house, where items that neighbors wanted to donate to passersby could reside, instead of just having them strewn on the ground.

Some wondered about how big it would have to be, to handle many of the larger items that are donated. Others thought that, donors putting things out in front of their house implied their responsibility to get rid of items if they aren't taken, but having a central box where items could just be dumped without monitoring whether they got picked up, could be a problem.

We decided to ask Devon for details and a possible design before we would make a decision

Bigelow Springs Park Benches/Table: At the last meeting, it was suggested that we build and install more benches for the Bigelow Springs Park, because they are so well-used. Barb already submitted a design for the yellow pipe supports to Zeigler's. The total cost for one bench, including ipe wood for the slats, bolts, concrete and form material, was about \$700. The labor would be 16 hours. At the City's suggested \$31.72 per hour, our labor contribution would be about \$500.

There were some suggestions that we might make 2 or 3 benches, and add a permanent picnic table in the shade of the big fir tree at the top of the hill. The table already installed a few years ago, right next to Quince, was donated by the Parks department, because it was surplus. It was suggested we check with Parks to see if they have another one to donate, and we would simply build and pour the pad and install it. If this isn't possible, we could have Zeigler's make and powder-coat pipe supports and have ipe slats to match the benches.

Jay offered to take pictures and Google images of the park to give an idea of locations of everything for the application. We'll do some research before our next meeting.

Free Library Boxes: There are a few free libraries near sidewalks around town. Here, neighbors stock them with books and neighborhood announcements. People could just take or borrow the books. Charlotte gave us a website where a variety of pre-made or pre-fab library houses could be bought. We would just have to find a BNA resident who wanted it in front of their house, and we would concrete a post into the ground and attach it.

Another possibility would be to create our own free library, which is a replica of the Bigelow House, or a house from that era.

3. **Neighborhood Info Flier:** Cristina, with the help of Barb, made up a 1-page flier to welcome neighbors who are new, or not on our mailing list. It provides info about the BNA, our activities and useful contacts. We want to put it on the website and encourage BNA members to print them themselves and give them to new neighbors. We decided against getting a large number printed, because some information changes with time, and we probably won't need many in a given year.

We want to put some in the common areas of the Bayview Apartments. The management is Seattle Apartment Managers, perhaps now Maven Property Management.

4. **Neighborhood Map:** Laurie has about 45 copies of a Northeast Neighborhoods map with points of interest, printed by ONNA. We also want to put a PDF copy on our website and put a few copies in the free libraries, if they happen.
5. **Park Maintenance:** Because of COVID, it's been over a year since we've done any maintenance of Bigelow Springs Park. Although there's not much tree-trimming to do, thanks to Cristina and Charlie, the trail and gardens need to be weeded, and new gravel needs to be laid down on the trail. Barb said that Parks has offered to do this work., so we're off the hook.

We also haven't had a neighborhood clean-up in over a year. The curbs need to be grubbed, moss power-washed off of some sidewalks, and vegetation trimmed so it doesn't obstruct sidewalks. We decided to organize one for **Saturday, March 29 from 10 to 2**. We will rent one or two power washers and make a schedule to check them out, or have one of us do the power-washing on a schedule. The Saturday we chose is just before the compost bins are emptied (Monday), so we'll encourage everyone to make theirs available to put grass and moss in.

6. **Dues Collection:** Not having a picnic last year made it hard to collect dues (\$10/person, \$20/family). Getting free food and a neighborhood get-together convinces many that their dues are doing something they like. It's hard to just ask for dues in an Email and expect donors to clamor to pay them. In absence of a picnic, we could advertize the things we do, and have done, with the money ("Your Dues at Work".)

Next Zoom meeting will serve mainly to finalize matching grant applications: **Tuesday, March 2 at 6 PM**

Meeting adjourned at 6:20