August 2016



Newsletter



Bigelow Neighborhood Association

It's been a busy year! Welcome to our first newsletter since last summer. From here on, we'll get one out each August, November, February and May.

- 1. What's happened this past year in the BNA?
 - We removed blackberry canes and roots from behind the Bigelow House in preparation for a community orchard. July 14, there will be an archaeological survey there. Afterwards, we'll have a work party to cover the lot with mulch - probably late July. This Fall, we'll plant the fruit trees and berry bushes.
 - We were awarded 3 grants this past May: one to pay for the orchard fruit trees, one to create a level platform at the Bigelow Springs Park (BSP) for the picnic table, and one to order and plant a Winsor Fireform sign of an 1909 Asahel Curtiss panorama photograph of Olympia, placed where it was originally taken, at the top of the BSP hill.



On June 9th, the City Council passed a zoning amendment for HDC-1 zones, which limits building heights abutting Historic Districts to 35 feet. This affects State Avenue, from Eastside Street and up the hill. Thanks to all of you who wrote letters and attended hearings to make this possible.

The BNA created its own website. See it for news and helpful links. See http://www.thebigelowneighborhood.com/

- The BNA joined and gave input to the new Olympia Northeast Neighborhood Alliance (ONNA), which represents the 5 east-side neighborhoods, to help direct the City in what development should and should not happen here. See <u>http://www.olynna.com/</u>
- 2. What's new?

Annual BNA Block Party Picnic & Meeting/ National Night Out



On Tuesday August 2, from 6 - 8:30 we'll once again shut down Olympia Avenue between Quince and Eastside Streets and have our yearly get-together.

The BNA treasury will supply hamburgers, vegeburgers, hot dogs and buns, condiments, and lemonade, along with paper plates and cups. But it's a potluck, so bring your favorite snacks, salads, hot-dishes or desserts.







We'll be re-electing the president, treasurer and secretary for another two-year term. We're also open to new board members, so give some thought to becoming involved.

Also, to finance BNA get-togethers, work parties and neighborhood projects throughout the year, the BNA asks you to donate yearly dues: \$10 per person or \$20 per family. We'll be collecting dues at the picnic and will give you a membership card (!), which you can then show to friends and strangers to boost your prestige.

Give input on the Downtown Strategy Plan by July 24th at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Downtown3



BNA Blockwatch starting

From time to time (like now), we have an increase in car prowls, thefts, and occasionally, break-ins. Barb LaForge has volunteered to organize a BNA Blockwatch, but needs volunteers for each block. Contact her at <u>blaforge5@gmail.com</u>.





Also, two years ago, there was a homeless camp, located just downhill from the trail linking Quince Street where there is a gap (orange oval on the map). There's always potential for another camp. The property belongs to the East Bay Condominiums, but EBC has given Police permission to go on the property to investigate. Make it a point to walk this trail regularly and monitor activity in this area. If you see something suspicious, call Police Dispatch 360-704-2740.

Next year's focus

This past two years, the BNA has done a lot of matching-grant projects to make the BSP safe, useable and attractive. This coming year, our focus will be more on neighborhood cleanups and beautification. Remember to keep your sidewalks clear of limbs and vegetation that make it hard to walk by. If you have a spurt of energy, grub your curbs (remove grass, dirt, leaves, plants from the street gutter).

New neighbors

About a dozen houses have changed hands in the neighborhood this past year. Get to know your new neighbors and welcome them. Also, let them know about the BNA and direct them to our website.

Next BNA Board Meeting Tuesday, July 26, 7 PM 608 Quince Street

