

Enatai Neighborhood Association Annual Meeting
Minutes
5/31/2012

Meeting called to order at 7:08 PM by Stephanie Ferguson, President ENA

Introduction/Agenda presented by Ferguson

- Update on key neighborhood issues by Julie Ellenhorn
- Neighborhood safety update by Detective Chinn
- Recharging ENA to be covered by Stephanie

Julie Ellenhorn: Bellevue Neighborhood outreach: Neighborhood Liaison program leader
jellenhorn@bellevuewa.gov

Julie presented and discussed status on the following key neighborhood issues:

1. Cell Towers
2. Traffic Calming
3. Neighborhood Identity Sign
4. Sound Transit East Link Extension

Cell Towers

1. Most Recent T-mobile application withdrawn, no new applications in process, but ATT active with upgrades
2. Suggested contacting city council to push forward cell tower regulation issues
3. More details regarding T-mobile application can be obtained from Carol Helland (City of Bellevue Land Use Director)

Traffic Calming

1. Reflectors put in place along planting beds due to snow plows going over landscaping. May take out reflectors when landscaping matures
2. Bulk of neighborhood studied for traffic calming issues. COB (Rebecca Rodni) can provide additional details
3. Questions from citizens about purpose of raised cross-walks, speed bumps and their effectiveness. Request for meeting with COB on Traffic Calming/sidewalk safety (suggested summer time-frame). Will get someone from city that specializes in traffic calming topic to lead meeting.
4. Concern over lack of sidewalks expressed for child safety. Citizens comment expressed on ramifications of sidewalks causing street widening and other unintended consequences

- Capital improvement projects being reviewed by city. Public budget forums in June. Julie suggests speaking at the forums to promote sidewalk construction.

Neighborhood Identity sign

- Permit finalized and in bid process
- Rendition of sign shown.
- Citizen expressed concern over ability of stone sign to withstand graffiti. Ellenhorn said the sign is designed with smooth surfaces so that graffiti can be removed.

East Link

- City of Bellevue (COB) and Sound Transit (ST) working on collaborative design process, joint public outreach
- Cost savings being studied
- Open house June 5, 4-7PM city Hall with engineers and planning staff.
 - Cost savings/key findings and tradeoffs will be shown
 - Ellenhorn encouraged citizens to attend and provide feedback on/before June 5
- Enatai Neighborhood can have East Link meeting after June 5 (vote by hand showed strong desire for the neighborhood meeting with ST and COB.) Meeting to be scheduled (Julie Ellenhorn)
- Questions raised on mitigation, noise studies, impact on views, alternate routes etc... deferred to neighborhood meeting with COB and ST after June 5.
- Can review online the cost saving options that will be presented June 5. Booklets to be provided to comment on options at June 5.

Neighborhood safety Discussion: Detective Chinn, Bellevue PD

- Passed out safety guidelines
- Bellevue/Redmond burglaries somewhat prevalent, south of I-90 worse than north.
- Arrested ~30 burglars so far this year
- Burglaries not expected to decline in spite of arrests
- Recommendations
 - Locking mailboxes
 - etc... (safety guidelines hand-out presented and discussed by Chinn)
- Questions/Comments
 - Dogs? Big dogs can help, but burglars with treats can penetrate, or they may kill dog
 - Bellevue Police Department (BPD) Public Information Office (PIO) representative Carla lafrate can provide information on specific neighborhood events or incidents
 - Crime map currently offline, but expected to be put back up in a couple months.

- Citizen question on drug deals in parks and what does BPD do? Chinn: not enough officers to patrol looking specifically for these issues. Officers driven by calls. Citizens need to call to report activity. Call 911 to report this activity.
- Citizen request for more proactive BPD activities to help curb burglaries. Request to hear about BPD activities to suppress burglaries/reprioritize BPD activities to reduce burglaries. Chinn: community must raise these issues to police chief and/or to city council for reallocation of resources.
- Citizen question “Where to get Bellevue crime statistics?” Chinn: Contact Carla lafrate at BPD PIO office

ENA History/Status and “Recharging” Presentation/Discussion: Ferguson

- Ferguson presented
 - concise history of ENA,
 - why ENA was formed
 - what ENA has done
- Current status of ENA
 - approx 170 households out of possible ~900
 - Board originally 9 individuals, currently only 3 board members, need volunteers to fill board
 - Board typically organizes volunteer committees
 - ENA has not collected dues, therefore no operating budget
- Recharging the ENA, proposals presented by Ferguson:
 1. New expanded board is needed. Current members (Ferguson, Barton, Castro) will help with transition
 - Commit to a year
 - seeking ~12 board members
 - Ferguson expressed plan to step down as president and assist with transition to new president/board for subsequent year
 - Ask for several interim volunteers (next 3 months) – treasurer, web site manager (ENA website currently down), and anyone who wants to give some time to help recruit board members. One citizen volunteer has been identified for the web.
 2. Determine what are the community needs and interests for ENA (group activity organized to solicit inputs) – notes collected for the new board
 3. Build membership from 170 up to potential of 900 families in neighborhood
 4. Ferguson suggested ENA charge dues. \$25 is typical amount from other associations. Dues enable basics like sign boards, mailings etc
 - \$20 tonight, otherwise \$25. Collect by end of June
 - Dues are Voluntary
 - New board can determine future logistics and changes to bylaws as needed

5. Process outlined by Ferguson:

- Volunteer tonight and identify potential board members from ENA community regions between now and end of June
- ENA will send board slate to membership for approval with voting in July – plan to provide approx. 3 weeks for voting due to summer vacations
- New board will be announced approx. 2 weeks after voting is completed
- First board meeting in Sept, board roles finalized and communicated to ENA members

Miscellaneous

A couple of citizens expressed:

- concern about ENA representing neighborhood views when neighborhood views are varied
- concern over ENA communications and information distribution
- questions/concern with the ENA operations
- In response to concerns, Ferguson suggested citizens take an active role in the ENA and consider joining the board. Ferguson expressed ENA will not survive without a new board.

Citizen Johnson, living near SE 10th and 104th, expressed desire for ENA geographic boundaries to be expanded to include her neighborhood region. Ferguson: ENA can be expanded. New board can consider this expansion.

Citizen statement promoting “next-door Enatai” social media site (limited to Enatai/Surrey Downs residents). Citizens requested information on how to find and join this site. Ferguson will send out registration information.

Group Exercise performed for citizens to discuss:

- Kinds of communications desired
- Key issues *you* care about
- What is ENA role in safety emergency preparedness?
- Where/how to get clear signal on ENA neighbors point of view
- Social role of ENA? Organize neighborhood parties/events etc...?
- Flipcharts with groups ideas collected by Ferguson

Summary of Actions

1. ENA to organize meeting on Traffic Calming and Pedestrian safety. City of Bellevue (COB) specialist on traffic calming to lead meeting. Suggested timeframe: Summer
2. Julie Ellenhorn (COB) to coordinate with ENA to organize/schedule East Link Enatai neighborhood meeting with City of Bellevue and Sound Transit representatives. Meeting will be held sometime after June fifth East Link open house.

-
-
3. Ferguson to send out email to ENA email distribution list with instructions on how to join the “next-door Enatai” social media site.