**MINUTES of the BRIARCREST NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

 **-- APPROVED --**

**Tuesday, Nov. 12, 2024 – meeting via Zoom**

Attendance: Bill Bear, Alice Keller, Sarah Kaye, Bettelinn Brown, Rebecca Chan

Meeting called to order by Sarah at 7:06.

Minutes from August 13 and October 8: Both approved as amended.

Vote to reinstate Alice as BNA secretary: Unanimous (including Jean in absentia).

Treasurer's report, Sarah: $562, unchanged from last month.

Election updates: Attendees were pretty happy about state and local results. Nationally, they felt there's a very big challenge ahead.

December BNA meeting: Holiday "gathering" via Zoom? In person? A party?

Bill suggested that it might benefit both Briarcrest Elementary and the BNA to make a connection of meeting there -- maybe with a holiday party in December.

Bill has volunteered there for 3 or 4 years now with the same teacher in the Power of One program, which is structured and well organized. Bill works with students on their reading skills and enjoys it very much. He encourages others to volunteer.

Back to the idea of having a BNA party at the school: There's a kitchen, so maybe we could work out a budget for them to cater a holiday party at a per-person cost. There are plenty of tables, though they're a little low for adults.

If we do that, Bill would encourage teachers to come.

Then the community could feel that we're doing something for the neighborhood.

Potential date: Dec. 10, BNA's next regular meeting night.

Bill will talk with the school. There's a charge for the custodian, unknown amount. Sarah said we could pay perhaps up to $100.

Sarah can design a flyer, and Mallory Van Abbema, the Community Opportunities Coordinator, could arrange for printing by the city. Bill can do some doorbelling to ask about interest in attending and maybe volunteering for a party.

Sarah will contact Devra and Jean.

Are people too busy in December already?

The Christian Reformed Church might be another venue. We've always had a good relationship with them. It was the site of our spring party this year.

Continuing discussion re. the BNA's future

We need more people to attend! Chronic issue.

Bill remembers that his mother was a sort of community organizer when he was growing up. Neighborhood people would come to her with problems and she'd help solve them, involving neighbors. Everybody knew everybody's kids and parents, so it was impossible for kids to get away with anything they shouldn't. We can't go back to that, but we might go in that direction. We need to develop enough relationships so that there's the necessary trust.

Bill recommends the Shoreline Tool Library to save money by not buying tools. An example of a community service. Website -- https://seattlereconomy.org

Shoreline Library: Bettelinn said that she's just created a civics display at the Shoreline Library which will be up for 2 weeks.

South Woods: Bettelinn announced that volunteers will assemble this Thursday morning, 9:30-10:00, in South Woods to label all the new plants for South Woods. There are about 30 different species of new plants. Urban ecologist Joy Wood will be in charge.

This Saturday, there will be a work party in South Woods to plant the new plants. Volunteers will finish planting on Nov. 23rd.

Trails have been marked, too, so there's a lot of progress in South Woods.

Meeting adjourned at 7:44.

Next BNA meeting: Tuesday, Dec. 10. Maybe a holiday party in person!

Submitted by Alice Keller, Secretary