

## BHNA Board of Directors' Meeting: February 3, 2011

Approximately 320 newsletters (with/without renewal slips) were prepared for mailing, outside of the meeting time. Three checks were also written and countersigned.

**Present:** Margaret Edwards, Mike Germano, Karen Herrel, Bruce Klafter, Juliette Najjar, Susan Rowinski, Annie Schlossman, Stan Shogren   **Absent:** Anne Arnold, Suki Martin

In Vice President Anne Arnold's absence, Treasurer Karen Herrel called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. A quorum was present. Since this was the first meeting for the new Board members, all spoke a little about themselves and their time in the community. The January Board meeting minutes and General meeting minutes were approved unanimously. The January 31st financial report was also accepted, recognizing that it will be finalized when the bank statement arrives.

### **Open positions: President and Secretary**

Karen asked the group for suggestions on how to fill the open President and Secretary positions. The president should be someone who has had experience on the Board, although not necessarily a current member. Any member who is likely to attend most of our Board and general meetings can fill the secretary slot. There were no suggestions, but the group will continue to consider this issue. Open officer positions will require that Board members take on a share of those duties, as they arise. Karen said that, as immediate past Secretary, she would handle the minutes of both meetings *this* month.

### **San Mateo United Homeowners Association (SMUHA)**

The group confirmed the prior Board's approval of BHNA's continued membership in SMUHA. Although we can have 3 Representatives, only Karen is interested in that position right now. Rotating month by month is not effective, although all BOD members will be listed as Alternates, so any BOD member who wants to come to a meeting will have that status. The February meeting will host the Mayor and other city personnel. All are welcome at that meeting. **Karen** will submit the updated form, and dues.

Karen mentioned that SMUHA will be voting on a proposed SMUHA By Laws amendment which would allow the executive committee (officers plus past president) to take positions on limited, time sensitive issues, in between regular meetings. The prior Board had opposed this amendment. The group discussed the issues involved and decided to uphold that position. Although there is not a concern with current leadership, there is unease about who might be in the SMUHA leadership in the future. **Karen** will represent that position in the vote at the Feb 17<sup>th</sup> SMUHA meeting.

### **BHNA bank account**

The group reviewed the concern about the new potential for fees in the account at Borel. If the balance dips below \$5000, we will be charged \$20/month. Patelco and San Mateo Credit Union were suggested for opening a new account. After discussion the group confirmed the prior Board's interest in possibly moving the account to San Mateo Credit Union. **Karen** will visit SMCU and get the details and report via email.

### **Newsletter preparation**

Karen reported that two members (Carolyn Banda and Dorothy Reuszer) are already trained to do the hand delivery of the newsletter to various pick up points. The two have already divided up the rest of 2011, so that job is completely covered! Juliette reminded the group that she has volunteered to pick up the newsletters from The Copy Shop, as advised by the editor.

Six (+/-) members have volunteered to do the actual preparation for mailing. One only wants to work (alone) at her home, over several nights. The rest can come to the Rec Center before our Board meeting to get the job done. Karen expects to have a training/work session with them on March 3<sup>rd</sup>, so Board members should not come before the usual start time of 7:30 PM.

No one has come forward to take over the delivery of the newsletters to the bulk mail facility at the main Post Office. Karen will continue doing that (pending a volunteer).

The Copy Shop did the required second fold of the newsletter by machine this month, which made preparation for mailing so much faster and easier. This costs 1.5 cents per newsletter.

### **Mass mailing**

Once a year, BHNA usually sends a mass mailing to all non-member owner occupied homes in our area. This is a combination of PR, outreach and member solicitation. We did it in February in 2009 and 2010. It is too late for February 2011. Is this worth doing? The group agreed it was. Although the March meeting (Larry Ivich – Hillsdale Mall) is usually a good draw, March seems late to be asking for 2011 memberships. September should be a good general meeting because we are likely to be hosting a City Council candidates night. Also, because we do not have a newsletter or meeting in August, the mass mailing version could probably be prepared almost any time in August. The group agreed to send the mass mailing in early September, and to offer memberships extending through 2012 to all new members.

**Juliette** said it might be possible for her to produce the needed labels herself, and offered to try a small test run to see if that will work.

### **Meetings**

February - A Planner, either Chief of Planning Ron Munekawa, or Planner Darcy Forsell, will attend to present information about the Hillsdale Station Plan.

March – Larry Ivich, General Manager of the Hillsdale Mall, will speak about the many changes at the Mall this year. Depending on the timing and progress in the interim, he may be able to name the new tenants.

April – Suggested a librarian to talk about recommended reading for the Spring/Summer season. We also expect that anyone from the library will want to talk about upcoming programs at the library. **Annie** will try to arrange this meeting. (The group acknowledged that April 19 is the beginning of Passover, and also in Holy Week, which may limit attendance.)

May – Suggested Jerry Hill to talk about the anticipated June tax election, its impact on San Mateo and state taxation in general. **Susan** will try to arrange.

June – Suggested Ken White of the SPCA to talk about their extremely successful program,, proposed facilities and services to San Mateo residents. **Susan** will try to arrange.

July – is our annual “social” meeting. To be determined.

August – No meeting.

September – City Council candidate night. As in past years, **Karen** can arrange this, once the field is set.

Other suggestions – the Senior Center’s programs – what’s available to the community.

### **Items of interest for BHNA**

The group discussed potential concerns/action items for the upcoming year. One was the noise level of leaf blowers. The City Council designated revising the leaf blower ordinance as a priority item for 2011 at the goal-setting meeting a few days ago. **Annie** will follow that action.

Another idea was the potential threatened closing of the 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue post office substation (**no follow up designated**).

The noise caused by the lack of a door to the back to the meeting room was also raised. This is a chronic problem, and past inquiries have not been fruitful. **Annie** offered to follow up with Carolyn Shavel at the Beresford Rec Center.

### **Web design, the John Belforte bench and High Speed Rail**

Deferred due to time constraints.

The time being late, given the 7PM start, the meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Karen Herrel, Acting Secretary