

Beresford Hillsdale Neighborhood Association  
General Meeting January 18, 2011

The meeting was called to order by Secretary Karen Herrel at 7:35 PM.

In Treasurer Bruce Klafter's stead, Karen gave the annual Treasurer's report, stating that our 12/31/2010 balance (\$8280.33) includes many 2011 membership renewals which have already been paid. There were no unusual expenses in 2010. Most money is spent to print and mail the newsletter, and for our internet ability to have a website and send the newsletter. The membership had no questions about the report. Motion by George Wolfe, second by Cora Jean Kleppe, carried unanimously to accept the Treasurer's report.

Karen announced that the minutes of the November General meeting were posted near the door. She thanked all who had renewed their memberships so quickly, said that she had membership renewal slips and would accept any dues payments that members had brought to the meeting. She announced that the board is still seeking volunteers to help prepare the newsletter for mailing each month, and to take it to the Post Office.

A member had brought the City's public notice about the hearing (in March) for the increase in garbage/recycling rates. Members are encouraged to make their feelings known to the Council.

Karen announced that Nami Akhavi, Susan Churchill and Donna Bischoff will be leaving the Board after years of service. She spoke about each of them, with special thanks to Donna, who has been newsletter editor and Vice President, as well as a Director. None were present, so we could not thank them personally.

Karen presented the nominating committee report, which proposed the following slate:

President – open

Vice President – Anne Arnold

Secretary – open

Treasurer – Karen Herrel

Directors : Margaret Edwards, Juliette Najjar, Stan Shogren, Annie Schlossman, Susan Rowinski

Director Emeritus: Suki Martin, Mike Germano, Bruce Klafter

There were no nominations from the floor. The group unanimously accepted these officers (motion George Wolfe, second Don Ralston). It appeared that we had a quorum present, to be verified against the sign in sheet [a quorum was confirmed at the end of the meeting]. Karen urged members to consider people who would be able to fill the vacant officer positions.

Our speaker was Fire Captain Robert Cook, CERT Program Coordinator, speaking about "Get Ready" at home for emergencies and disasters. He presented vital information on how to prepare our homes and families before trouble hits, how to be safe in an emergency and what to do after a disaster strikes. Many of us have heard this information before, but have we followed up! He provided handouts and also took questions from the audience. He urged members to become involved in CERT (Community Emergency Response Training). More information is at [sanmateocert.org](http://sanmateocert.org). The group thanked him for his important information.

Highlights from his talk included:

People don't think clearly in an emergency. Plan ahead!

In an earthquake, get under something (duck, cover and hold).

Plan at least 2 ways to get out of your home, and a nearby meeting place, once out. Once out, stay out. Nothing in the house is worth your life.

Away from home, always notice several exits, not just the way you came into the room.

Avoid calling 911 from a cell phone, since the call may be routed to Vallejo CHP, which wastes time. Program the San Mateo dispatch number (650 522-7700) into your cell phone.

Have an out of area contact, since phone calls out of area will go through more quickly than local calls. Pay phones, if you can find one, are usually the first landlines restored after a disaster.

AM radio 530 will provide San Mateo information in a disaster.

If you have a trusted person out of area, store copies of important documents there. Freezers, fireproof boxes, etc. are not reliable.

Aside from the more usual food and water (and a non electric can opener!), your emergency kit should include sturdy walking shoes. Also have a local (paper) map in your car and home kit, since GPS may not be transmitting, and you may need to use local routes you do not know.

Include cash in small denominations (coins, \$1, \$5 at most). No one will be making change after an emergency, and electronic support for credit cards will be down.

Robert Cook is happy to answer inquiries. Call him at 522-7900, or email at [rcook@cityofsanmateo.org](mailto:rcook@cityofsanmateo.org).

There is a full "Get Ready" presentation on Tuesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7 PM at the Senior Center. Register through the Recreation Department.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:45PM.

Submitted by Karen Herrel, Secretary