

BHNA BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
JANUARY 9, 2014

President Susan Rowinskicalled the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

In attendance were Susan, Dianna, Kaye Sharma, Andrea, Fritz, Stephanie, Jan, Monika, Claire, Ellen & Lisa.

Susan wanted to skip the first agenda items since Claire had to leave early, and focus on the Speaker Series and election. Susan also advised that later in the meeting she would be sharing her addendum to ask the Board for a letter of support (due January 16<sup>th</sup>) for a proposed bike bridge for Hillsdale Boulevard at the 101 overpass.

Susan acknowledged that this is the last Board meeting for Dianna, Stephanie and Stan, and thanked them for their service and time on the BHNA Board.

Susan advised that the January 22<sup>nd</sup> General meeting needs good attendance (at least 25 people), and encouraged everyone to invite people.

In regard to the Speaker Series, Susan will sponsor the April meeting, and asked the Board to consider changing topics from Heritage trees to the Sustainable Street Plan. This new subject would address biking, pedestrians, landscaping, etc., in regard to San Mateo streets. The members agreed to this change.

Lisa Taner volunteered to sponsor the February General meeting, and it was discussed that in addition to having speaker Sheila Canzian address the Beresford Park upgrade, all park upgrades and use for parks as off-leash programs could be add-on topics. Lisa will check to see if Sheila has a conflict for that meeting date. If so, Lisa may swap (with Susan – but then Kay would take over Susan's meeting) and plan for this for the April meeting instead. Lisa is to advise the Board on this.

The March General Meeting speaker is Darcy, the City Planner. Kaye volunteered to sponsor this meeting.

Susan advised that further General Meetings could be planned once the Board is solidified with its new members.

Kay shared a letter from Unity Care thanking the Board for its donation.

Kay discussed that our membership number last year was 449 and that only 271 members have paid for 2014. Monika and Lisa noted they should post about joining in the online "Nextdoor" social network. It was also discussed that perhaps Broker/Realtors might be interested in memberships to keep their offices up to date on neighborhood items for clients. Kay also reminded everyone that Board members must be current BHNA members.

In regard to the upcoming elections, which Monika is sponsoring, it was discussed that the election portions should be held first, then the speaker (Mayor Ross) could speak. Susan will provide Monika with a slate of the names of people proposing to be on the Board.

In the February Board meeting, officers on the Board will be elected internally. Three Board members will also be named to attend SMUHA meetings.

Heinz offered two suggestions for the May or June General meeting which he will sponsor – the first being a realtor who would discuss home prices in our area and how/why they have changed, and the second being Mike Svanevich, a prominent local historian. Those in attendance voiced that they preferred the historian. Heinz will follow-up.

It was discussed that there was a complaint regarding one of the winners of the holiday drawing. A presenter in that meeting won a prize, and it was discussed if that should be a conflict worthy of setting some rules about who could participate. The Board decided everyone attending should be able to participate, and perhaps future winners would not be named in the newsletter.

Ellen gave the Treasurer's report, advising that at future meetings we may want to discuss how to spend excess funds. The Board consistently spends about 1/3 of its money on postage/newsletters, but about 5 – 9% of its annual income is not spent. It was decided the new Board can discuss this matter.

Dianna advised that our office supplies amount more than double due to the post office requiring the newsletters have two seals now instead of one, as we did before.

We had no quorum for our previous meeting, so it was necessary to approve minutes for both the October and November minutes. The General meeting minutes for those months were also approved.

Kay and Monika discussed the need for another person to volunteer to help read (edit) the newsletters before publication. It was decided that this would be addressed at an upcoming meeting.

Dianna advised that the post office is now handling newsletter returns differently, having the carrier return them to the post office (bulk mail area) until someone comes to check for them (and pay for the returns). Kay handles the address database and advised that return addressees should have their names removed from the database. Dianna also asked to be reimbursed for the returns she paid for.

The next SMUHA meeting is January 16<sup>th</sup> and Heinz will be attending. Our \$30 annual dues for SMUHA are due March 1<sup>st</sup>. Once the new members of our board are chosen, with the three picked to attend SMUHA meetings, we will fill out the renewal papers and remit the dues.

Susan brought up the final subject of submitting a letter of support for the bike bridge to help San Mateo in the request for funds. Monika and others wanted to know more about this before going forward. Susan is to procure information from Ken Chinn and advise the Board. The letter deadline is January 16<sup>th</sup>.

The meeting was adjourned at 9 p.m.