

Minutes

Spencer Butte Neighborhood Association (SBNA) 11/13/24 Board Meeting

Minutes of annual meeting – It was moved, seconded, and the vote was unanimous to approve the minutes from the 11/3/24 Annual Meeting.

Banking and Treasurer Report – Rachel Ruckman

1. Rachel reported that Washington Federal Bank, where the SBNA checking account and CD are located had a data breach in 2022. Rachel and SBIA (official name for SBNA) received notice of a class action lawsuit about the breach. Our options are: Do nothing and be precluded from suing later, file a claim by December 26, opt out, object by December 26, attend a hearing. Rachel recommended doing nothing – it's not worth the trouble. It was moved, seconded, and the vote was unanimous not to pursue this.
2. The balance in the SBNA money market (checking) account is approximately \$1,600. In the future we will get charged \$12/month if the balance falls below \$2,000, even for one day in a month. Rachel requested that the board direct her to transfer \$1,000 from the CD to the money market account to avoid this fee. It was moved, seconded, and the vote was unanimous for Rachel to make the transfer.
3. A brief discussion was held questioning what the process should be in the future for similar actions and whether there is a limit to the maximum amount that the Treasurer can transfer out of SBNA accounts without Board or President approval. Kerry will check the Bylaws to see if there is a limit. Meanwhile, there was consensus that the President and/or Board should be notified of "large" disbursements.

Annual Newsletter – SBNA has traditionally sent out a hard copy of a newsletter to all residents in the SBNA area (not just dues-paying members). A discussion was held as to whether to continue this considering mailing costs. Several Board members stated they were much more likely to read a hard-copy newsletter than an e-mail version. It was moved, seconded, and the vote was unanimous to mail a hard-copy newsletter to all residents in the SBNA area in approximately February and to include a form for people to pay their 2025 dues. A space for donations will be added to the form. Kathy and Michelle will write the newsletter and include some interesting happenings in the neighborhood.

Website

1. We are making good progress towards getting the members-only section of the website up. Kerry will continue working on this.
2. Rachel recommends we use "Stripe", which is owned by Visa to process on-line dues payments and donations. She has used it for another group and it is simple, works well, and is relatively inexpensive. Stripe charges \$.30/transaction plus 2.9%.
3. There was consensus to revise the website to make a "New to the Neighborhood" page that includes links to the SBNA brochure, dues payment page, and the newsletter. Kerry will work on this, which will include figuring out how to dovetail this with the current "Why Join SBNA?" page.

4. There was consensus at the Annual Meeting to add a blog to the website for people to post things like road conditions, lost pets, request for reliable workers, help on projects, etc., similar to the Facebook page. It was acknowledged that this is duplication of how the Facebook page is used. However, almost half of the people at the Annual Meeting said they don't use Facebook.
5. It was also suggested to add a listing of reliable workers, e.g., handymen, roofers. This would require a volunteer to compile and maintain the page. Unless someone volunteers, for now we will leave it that people will request suggestions on the blog.

2025 calendar – there was consensus to again have a picnic, wine tasting, and Annual Meeting. The group is interested in having at least one additional activity.

1. Picnic - A discussion was held about whether to hold the picnic earlier in the spring than our traditional end of June. A disadvantage is that it is more likely to be cold. We could have a campfire if it is cold and we are not in fire season. It was suggested that a speaker or activity be included. Having the new fire Eugene Springfield Fire Marshal speak, or to invite local nurseries to bring plants to sell were suggested. Maureen will talk to the new Fire Marshal.
2. Wine Tasting – Will be held at Doug and Sookjae McCurdy's ranch at the end of July or early August.
3. Possible additional activities
 - a. McKenzie River Trust property walk-through as discussed at the Annual Meeting. We will check with Charlie Quinn or Sam Hillmann after the first of the year. If lots of people are interested, it might be better to have a sign-up and more than one date.
 - b. Rachel suggested a year-long project to adopt local species in jeopardy. A friend of hers is doing this himself and has given presentations about this. There would be a project each season, e.g. collect seeds, water, prepare sites for planting, plant, etc. Rachel will work more on this.

Dues – After discussion, there was consensus to leave dues at \$15 for 2025 and consider raising them for 2026.

Next meeting – scheduled for Wednesday, February 12th at 7:00 pm.