

Cascade Highlands Herald

www.neighborhoodlink.com/vancouver/cascadehighlands

January 2005

January 10, 2005 Meeting Agenda/Topics

- 1. Retrospective Overview of our efforts since our creation in Nov. 1999. Opportunity for previous officers to comment. Introduce our new liaison, Antoinette Gasbarre, Management Analyst with Parks and Rec.
- **2.** Looking to the Future Please bring ideas to share or suggest.
- **3. Treasurer's Report** Nat Pinzone, treasurer: current balance \$816.31
- 4. P.A.T. Report Dave Holler
- 5. Topics of Interest/Concern
- 6. Birthday Cake We're 5 years old!
- **7. Next meeting** Monday, March 14, 2005 at Mtn. View H.S. in the forum



Thank you distributors!

Thank you to all of our dedicated newsletter distributors! You help make Cascade

Highlands a great place to live. Thank you to Judy Bird, Eileen Blackman, Rosenna and Ken Cheng, Cecil Davies, Missy Elliot, Terry Frazier, Mark Harris, Edith Hartley, Jim Hoover and Shareefah Abdullah, Ann Horstman, Brenda Jensen, Erika and Mark Johnson, Jean Kent, Pearl Liang, John and May McCaul, Sheila McKay, Elise Miller, Leanore Olmstead, Holly Orr, Natalie Pinzone, Diane Pudans, Ann Rangos, Ron and Shirley Royer, Leah Silaeu, Marianne Stein, Anne Vitort, and Bill Wilton for helping with the July newsletter.

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NEXT MEETING Monday, Jan 10th 7PM AT Mountain View HS Forum

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A Retrospective of C.H.N.A.

Our Neighborhood Association was formed after a "do you want to form a neighborhood association?" meeting on October 27th, 1999. The main issue was Mountain View H.S. student parking and other behaviors by high schoolers in the neighborhood. We drafted by-laws, elected officers, and picked a name at the November 16th, 1999 meeting. Our first general meeting took place at Mill Plain Elementary School on Feb. 8th, 2000 with chair Matt Lehr leading, Lisa Washburn cochair, Jean Kent secretary/treasurer, and Susan Lehr Newsletter Editor. Vicky Ridge-Cooney was our representative from the City. Issues included jay-walkers between Fred Meyer and Albertsons, 164th Ave. and 1st street confusion (this was before 164th was spruced up), and interest in obtaining sound walls on 164th.

Other officers in our 5 year history include Harvey Utech, chair, Kathy Flett, newsletter editor/distributor and website initiator, Heather Chenevert, newsletter editor/distributor, Jean Kent, chair, Tina Wright, co-chair, Mike Sutton, secretarytreasurer, **Dan West**, website coordinator, Gary Bohman, co-chair, Nathalie Pinzone, secretary-treasurer, Erika Johnson, newsletter editor/distributor, David Holler Police Advisory Team representative, Mark Johnson, newsletter editor/secretary, and Bill Hutchens newsletter distributor. Starting in January 2005 our new representative from the city will be Antoinette Gasbarre. Ted and Barbara Kiss also contributed many hours of work and thoughtful ideas, particularly when we were writing our NAP survey.

Others who have been immensely helpful in our neighborhood efforts are Adrienne **DeDona**, City of Vancouver Office of Neighborhoods, Jim Etzkorn, NTSA chair and general neighborhood guru, city transportation staff members John Manix, Howard Long and Todd Boulanger, Evergreen S.D. administrator and Mtn. View principal, **Mark Ross**, super painters Bill and Sharon Wilson, John Michael and **Nat Pinzone**, and those energetic people who've distributed newsletters since the very beginning, **Peggy** and **Gary** Bohman, Mark Harris, Roseanna Cheng, Cecil Davies, Jean Kent, Mary Lynn Elliott, Edith Hartley, Bill and Cheri Hutchens, Nat Pinzone, Diane Pudans, Ann Rangos, Ron and Shirley Royer and Anne Vitort. Many others have also distributed newsletters for a long time.



Successes and Accomplishments in our Five Years

1. Five neighborhood cleanups, the last four in

conjunction with Mtn. View N.A.

- 2. Neighborhood Action Plan (N.A.P.) following creation of a NAP committee, a survey, issue identification, issue prioritization, specific steps for accomplishment created, meetings with neighbors for tweaking, and approval from the city.
- 3. Installation of solar-powered motiondetected lights on the 15th St. Pass through (although the lights don't work that well in the winter and we need one more pole and light installed on the east end).

- 4. Participation in the Pilot Design Program of traffic calming for the Neighborhood Transportation Improvement Grant Project which resulted in the 160th Ave. bike lanes, center line paint, *Park Ahead* signage, stop sign crossing paint bars at 18th and 17th, and parking area next to the park.
- 5. Blairmont Traffic calming (speed humps, narrowing of travel lanes, installation of bike lanes, and the traffic island (now being constructed), and 'finish' street paint completed.
- 6. Streetlights installed on Parkcrest
- 7. Replacement street signs of those 'lost', plus new ones throughout the neighborhood/city.
- 8. Single block of SE 12th Circle is now part of Mtn. View N.A.
- 9. Participation in the development of the new Minimum-Maintenance Ordinance.
- 10. One mile of back-yard fencing along 160th Ave., 15th St., Village Loop, and McGillivray was de-mildewed, pressure washed and painted in 5 phases during 2 summers.
- 11. 2.5 Tree Plantings in conjunction with Friends of Trees (FOT) resulting in 32 + 54 tall, youthful trees being planting in our neighborhood, including 14 trees on our border streets of Mill Plain and McGillivray.
- 12. Installation of a Park Mileage sign in Homestead Park (160th/18th St. entrance)
- 13. Installation of a bench for bus riders/waiters at the corner of Parkcrest and McGillivray
- 14. Participation/representation in the NTSA (Neighborhood Traffic Safety

- Alliance) committee.
- 15. Winner of *Neighborhood Star Award* (for our fence painting project).
- 16. Donation of many 'dead' lawn mowers and other engine-driven tools to the Small Machines class at Mtn. View (in conjunction with our cleanups).
- 17. Donation of 867 + 922 + a-pickup-full pounds of food/household products and some cash to FISH of Orchards, donated by participants in our cleanups.
- 18. Donation of \$25.00 to NE Hazel Dell Neighborhood Association to be used in the development of their Tenny Creek Park.
- 19. Vancouver Sparkles Award winners Jean Kent, Erika Johnson, Mrs. Gordon, Nat Pinzone, and Jim Knight.
- 20. Donation of \$50.00 to Southwest Washington Humane Society, and \$50.00 to the Fort Vancouver Fireworks fund.
- 21. Yearly participation in the City's program called *Recyclingest Neighborhood*, a major source of our money.
- 22. Worked with Evergreen S.D. to move the north entrance to the Mtn. View H.S. soccer field 200 feet to the southwest so students crossing the street from the apartments could cross busy Parkcrest more safely.
- 22. Changed our by-laws twice once to redraw the western boundary (to allow 16th Court to be within the Mtn. View N.A. boundaries), and once to eliminate the term limitations for our officers.
- 23. Provided input on new city Motorized Scooter Ordinance.

Projects In-Progress

1. Grant application to CDBG to get curb cuts along

Blairmont (we've applied twice and not been awarded twice, but will apply again this grant cycle).

2. Traffic calming for Parkcrest is in the planning stages with the grant award for Phase I being received in 2004.

Phase II grant application will be submitted this year.

- 3. Grant application for the installation of new streetlights on Mill Plain (between 155th and 160th) was approved and the project is in the planning stage with the grant being awarded in 2004.
- 4. Installation of a Four-Way stop-sign at Village Loop/160th is being evaluated.
- 5. Raised crosswalks at the north and south ends of Homestead Park on 160th request has been changed to traffic humps installed on either side of the 15th St. passthrough.

In-The-Future Projects

- 1. Grant application to CDBG to get curb cuts along Parkcrest.
- 2. Grant application to CDBG to get curb cuts along Briarwood.
- 3. Installation of doggie bags and garbage can in Homestead Park.
- 4. Raised Crosswalk across Parkcrest at north 'foot' entrance to Mtn. View soccer fields.
- 5. Foliage restoration and replacement on 160th Ave. grant application will be submitted this coming grant cycle.

- 6. Traffic calming on Greenpark between Parkcrest and Briarwood because traffic uses that 2 block stretch as a cut through to McGillivray.
- 7. Survey neighbors, identify issues, prioritize, and update our Neighborhood Action Plan since many issues identified in the original document are under construction or are completed.
- 8. Grant application for streetlights on Mill Plain just east of where this year's streetlights will be installed.

Unresolved Topics

Sycamore Trees, the large hardwood trees on Village Loop, 160th and McGillivray) can grow to 100 feet and normally 'exfoliate' (peel) their bark, but several of the trees have the fungal disease called Sycamore Anthracnose. It does not kill the trees and can be treated by spraying or by fungicide injection. However, the disease makes for messier yards, sidewalks and streets as the bark and leaves drop all year long, not just in the fall.

How Your Newsletter Gets to You

Many people are involved in getting these newsletters to you. Here's the procedure:

- 1. Most all articles are written by your chair, although some have been written by other board members, or city personnel at times.
- 2. The next month's agenda and the newsletter articles are emailed to the newsletter editor who does all the work of laying out the format of the articles.
- 3. Your chair and editor give the first draft a final going-over and any corrections,

additions or subtractions are made.

- 4. The editor emails the completed newsletter to the Office of Neighborhoods staff members who arrange for the printing of the 1160 copies of our newsletter by the City of Vancouver Print shop. We are allowed 48 pages per year (there are 60 neighborhood associations whose newsletters the city prints, a big commitment to supporting the associations!).
- 5. The head newsletter distributor drives to City Hall and picks up the boxes of newsletters. He calls all distributors (to make certain each will be able to deliver his/her route this cycle), counts out the correct number of newsletters (to match the number of residences for each distributor's route), marks a map to remind each distributor of his/her route, and hand delivers a baggie with the newsletters and the map in it to each distributor.
- 6. Each distributor distributes his/her newsletters to individual residents.

You can see there are many people who make this process work. Here's a BIG THANK YOU to each of you! We couldn't do it without you. If you have any comments about or recommendations for the newsletter, please send an email or call 896-7291. Thanks!



The 2005 Garage Sale and Cleanup

This year we will include in our garage sale map a one letter description of what general categories

each sale location includes: G - general, B - baby, C - children, T - tools, H - household,

F -furniture, etc. To register a category not listed here, call 896-7291 or send an email.

2005 Cleanup

The neighborhood cleanup will be Saturday, July 23rd, 2005.

Brief Summary of Open Projects and their Current Status

- 1. Traffic island on Blairmont installation is current
- 2. Parkcrest traffic calming grant to be designed soon
- 3. Streetlights on Mill Plain grant to be designed soon
- 4. Raised crosswalk across Parkcrest at the opening to the north soccer field of Mtn. View H.S. on hold until funding materializes
- 4-way stop sign at Village Loop and
 160th Ave. awaiting completion of traffic study
- 6. Beautification/Foliage grant application for 160th Ave. gathering information and letters of support
- 7. Streetlight replacement for smashed pole on Blairmont awaiting decision by city
- 8. Replacement of vandalized solar light and resultant pole lengthening in 15th St. pass through replaced, and installed on taller pole
- 9. C-Tran bus shelter painting project completed (west side of 164th near Albertsons) by art teacher Justen Wochnick and 8th grade art students at Pacific Middle School
- 10. Increasing the tree canopy in CHNA planting scheduled for January 15th, although participation is very low this year, probably due to the cost of the trees.

Interesting Recycling Fact

<u>Plastic</u> is recyclable <u>ONLY</u> if it's shaped liked a BOTTLE. Otherwise, it's a candidate for the garbage can. THANK YOU! No cake containers. No veggie trays. No packaging for windshield wiper refills. No styrofoam.

Interesting Tree Fact

Thinking of removing a tree on your property? There are two types of tree permits within the City of Vancouver, regarding removal. One is for public/street trees (those in the parking strip between the street and the sidewalk (Street Tree Ordinance) and the other is for private trees (Tree Conservation Ordinance).

Removal of all street trees requires a permit. Removal of private trees located on multifamily sites, condos, apartments, multi-use, commercial, and industrial sites all require a permit under the Tree Conservation Ordinance. You may contact Vancouver Urban Forestry regarding permitting, at 619-1128

Minutes of the September, 2004 CHNA Meeting

The Cascades Highlands Neighborhood Association met Monday September 13, 2004. There were about a dozen citizens there.

Mark Ross, Mt. View High School Principal, gave an overview of the school's potential impact on the neighborhood. There are 2250 students enrolled. The school charges \$10/year for a student parking permit and pays the funds to school clubs who pick up litter in the neighborhood. School staff consider the police as partners, depend on them, and encourage neighborhoods to notify the police if there is erratic driving or smoking. The school has a number of students with special medical needs requiring ambulances about once a week.

- Tom Nosack and Hillary Barnes, backed up by Barbara Basnett, gave an excellent, concise budget presentation. Folks from the audience complimented them on explaining a difficult subject well and observed that it was too bad more folks from the neighborhood were not there to hear it.
- The Neighborhood Association purchased a bench for the bus stop on McGillivray and Parkcrest.
- The Neighborhood Cleanup, July 31, was a success. Next year the cleanup will be in late July following the neighborhood garage sale on July 23.
- Led by Erika Johnson and aided by Friends of Trees there will be another tree planning event in January.

Minutes by city liaison Vicky Ridge-Cooney

Yard Waste Pickup Dates for January and February

January 11, 25, February 8, 22



From your executive board