

Baker West Neighborhood Association
General Meeting Minutes
12/4/08

Meeting called to order at 7:10pm by Kurt Schumacher.

Attendance: 23 residents; MaryAnn Groen from District 1 office.

New Members:

- Signed in to become members of BWNA. New members introduced themselves.

2009 Officer Nominations facilitated by Kurt Schumacher:

- President - Kurt Schumacher self-nominated; accepted nomination
- Vice-President - Pirouz Maghsoudnia--- nominated; accepted nomination
- Secretary - Lupe Dhanani self-nominated; accepted nomination
- Treasurer - Ron Marfil nominated; accepted nomination
- Communications Secretary - Julie Schumacher nominated. Julie not present at meeting, but can accept nomination later.
 - Objection made stating nominees must be present in order to accept nomination per the bylaws. President explained that nominee can accept nomination after the meeting if they are unable to attend meeting.
- No other nominations made.
- Officer's become official at next general meeting.

Discussion of Meeting Attendance Trend:

- Busy lives keep people from attending, not disinterest.
- Yahoo groups & events have successful attendance.

2009 Meeting Calendar discussion facilitated by Kurt Schumacher:

- Objection made that calendar could not be voted on at this meeting since it was not the annual meeting.
- This topic was printed on the agenda in the flyer that went to everyone.
- Based on Robert's Rules of Order, we have an organizational quorum.
- Recommendation of board to vote:
 - In favor - Majority

- Objection - 1 since this is against the bylaws
- 2009 Meeting Schedule will be: March 4 (annual meeting), June 4, September 3, December 3 (annual meeting).

Update from District 1 Office given by MaryAnn Groen:

- 30 neighborhood associations in District 1
- 12/6/08, 10:00am-2:00pm, Fit Festival at Barnes & Noble on Stevens Creek Blvd.
- District clean-up from the Strong Neighborhood Initiative. Focus on Cadillac area. Organizing a monthly clean-up with kids.
- 100+ volunteers from Westgate Community Church
- Curb cuts are appreciated
- Streets that have not been sealed are scheduled to be sealed in the spring
- District wide illegal signage clean-up being set up. Volunteers will take down illegal signs. Code enforcement will notify businesses that their signs are illegal. Subsequent infringements will result in fines.

Discussion of 2009 Goals led by Kurt Schumacher:

- Would like to see the 4th of July Block Party happen in 2009
- Would like to see continued effort to find ways to involve people, paying special consideration to the different needs of the residents.

Financial Update given by Ron Marfil:

- Available for personal reviews of the BWNA account
- Displayed banking activity since last general meeting
- Explanation of CAP Grant for new members

Membership Update given by Kurt Schumacher:

- 35 out of 383 residential addresses w/members (9%)

Events Committee Update given by Katie Taylor:

- Dumpster Day - 40+ residents participated. Thank you to Westgate Church/Beautiful Day/City of San Jose for sponsoring.
- Pizza My Heart fundraiser raised \$140 for BWNA

- Christmas Trees - 46 homes participating. Coordinated by Barbara Gaylord.
- House Decorating Contest - vote by 12/12. Winner will be announced at holiday party on 12/13.
- Holiday Game Party - 12/13/08, 10:00am-12:00pm, Moreland-West Community Center.
- Food Drive - ends 12/15/08. Donations go to Second Harvest Food Bank.
- Toy Drive - ends 12/15/08. Donations go to Toys For Tots program.

Safety Committee Update given by Carol Carter:

- Neighborhood Watch is main focus at this time. Hoping a meeting will be held on Elmgrove Lane on 12/15/08. Next meeting will hopefully be in the 1st quarter of 2009.
- Emergency preparedness being looked into. Particularly for the disabled. Looking at abbreviated 2-3 hour training.

Communications Update given by Kurt Schumacher:

- 21 houses with BWNA yard signs.
- 11 houses contributed \$130 to signs.

El Paseo Task Force Update given by Pirouz Maghsoudnia:

- 10/22/08 hearing - 5 households went.
- 10/25/08 meeting with Terramar, shopping center's new owner.
 - 17 neighbors attended.
 - Want to be "good neighbors"; shared concerns; working on limited set of issues.
- Expansion plan appealed on 11/7/08
- Hearing scheduled for 12/10/08 @ 6:30pm. SJ City Hall Council Chambers. Each household can speak.
- Plan is to expand old Bombay area, add truck ramp and garbage area.
- News coverage in the West San Jose resident and District 1 newsletter.
- Terramar is working on:
 - Tenants & what are "off limit" hours behind berm (currently 12:00am-6:00am)

- Getting bids for bollards & chains and enforce "off limit" hours.
- Signing new contracts w/their operation vendors. Punitive damages if they are in violation of "off limit" hours.
- Considering moving garbage pick-up from 6:00am to 8:00am.
- **Bad News:**
 - Stepping up cleaning operations on weekends
 - Terramar is focusing on parts of conditional use permit that are to their advantage while not looking at big picture.
 - No written response to list of issues.
 - Have not seen anything tangible.
 - Property manager resigned from Terramar.

Motion made to extend meeting 10 minutes. Motion changed to extend meeting 20 minutes. Motion seconded, all in favor.

Bylaw Amendment Proposals presented by Kurt Schumacher:

- Desire to update bylaws to use simple language and have a clear purpose.
- Want to better serve the association as it is today.
- Quorum: Standard = 10 members, no officers. Organizational = majority of members (17) for specific critical decisions.

Bylaw Amendment #2008-006 Proposal:

- See attached document for full text of amendment.
- Summary: Use 1 quorum = any 10 members.

Bylaw Amendment #2008-007 Proposal:

- See attached document for full text of amendment.
- Summary: Eliminate requirement to have attended at least one general meeting to be considered a member in good standing.

Bylaw Amendment Proposals presented by John Dunse:

Bylaw Amendment #2008-008 Proposal:

- See attached document for full text of amendment.
- Summary: Establish reserve fund for special meetings.

Bylaw Amendment #2008-009 Proposal:

- See attached document for full text of amendment.
- Summary: Redefine standard quorum. Members should exceed board members for vote.

Bylaw Amendment #2008-010 Proposal:

- See attached document for full text of amendment.
- Summary: Require roll-call vote upon request from 10% of members.

Bylaw Amendment #2008-011 Proposal:

- See attached document for full text of amendment.
- Summary: Unopposed nominees would require a yes/no vote by members for 2010 election.

Bylaw Amendment #2008-012 Proposal:

- See attached document for full text of amendment.
- Summary: Complete an annual update of membership roster

Bylaw Amendment #2008-013 Proposal:

- See attached document for full text of amendment.
- Summary: Require voting flags to be used.

New Business:

- Time limits will be placed on bylaw votes at next general meeting.
- Suggestion to let Robert's Rules of Order to just be a guide for this type of organization.
- Comment: Concern over holiday decorating contest. Request to use discretion while decorating.
- Comment: When dealing with issues at El Paseo, such as the Verizon blimp, be careful not to alienate business, cause them to leave.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55pm.

Minutes submitted by Secretary, Katie Taylor.