



## Mayor's Neighborhood Advisory Commission City of Bellingham

**March 16, 2022**

**Remote Meeting** [video timestamps noted in brackets]

### **Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m. by Mayor Seth Fleetwood

### **Attendance**

Present: Tom Scott (York), Bill Liddicoet (Fairhaven), Robin Thomas (Sehome), Barbara Ryan (Edgemoor), Nick Kelly (Cornwall Park), Bobbi Vollendorff (Happy Valley), Jill MacIntyre Witt (Columbia), Louise Bjornson (Birchwood), Jake Charlton (Happy Valley Alternate), Kathryn Rismondo (Lettered Streets), John LaSpina (Cordata), Colin Beazley (York Alternate), Chris Roselli (WWU), Annie Sorich (Sunnyland), David Frankel (South Hill), Molly Foote (Samish), Christopher Grannis (South)

City Representatives: Mayor Seth Fleetwood; Janice Keller, Communications Director; Chad Schulhauser, Public Works Assistant Director; Andrea Reiter, Public Work Environmental Education and Outreach Specialist

## MINUTES

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### **Introduction and Announcements** [00:02:30]

*Mayor Fleetwood*

- The Police Chief search has gone into the next process. The three semifinalists will be interviewed on March 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 and this can be watched live on BTV or on Engage Bellingham the next day

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### **Presentation on 2022 Pedestrian & Bicycle Master Plan Updates** [00:05:00]

*Chad Schulhauser, Public Works Assistant Director, and Andrea Reiter, Environmental Education and Outreach Specialist*

- The Pedestrian and Bicycle Master Plans are city-wide plans that the city is updating from previously adopted plans in 2012 and 2014.
- There will be a focus on transparency and accessibility for the public throughout the community engagement process. There will be technical review committees, four open houses, a page on the Engage Bellingham website, community surveys, and email updates.
- MNAC members' questions and comments included: the incorporation of the Fairhaven Urban Village plan, timelines, neighborhood-focused meetings, having a mission statement for the whole process, tracking single-occupancy vehicles, pedestrian improvements, bike lanes on Illinois Street, limiting right-of-way inclusions, safe school routes, new developments, maintenance of rights-of-way, improving Cordata bike access to the rest of the city, bike lockers, and ADA improvements

## Neighborhood Round Table [01:02:00]

- **Fairhaven**  
Elections occurred at previous meeting, so there are new people on the board. Have formed a subcommittee for participation in the bicycle and pedestrian master plan. The annual Fairhaven Plant and Tree sale will be held on March 26<sup>th</sup>.
- **Edgemoor**  
Working with SSC on a pilot program for single stream recycling.
- **WWU**  
Mask mandate will be in place for the first two weeks back on campus after Spring break. Local Lobby Day will be on May 6<sup>th</sup>. Will no longer have a March or August graduation ceremony.
- **Happy Valley**  
League of Women Voters reached out to try and get students registered to vote. Working on getting input nailed down on the bike and pedestrian plans. Interested in getting a volunteer-based program through Public Works to get more involved in public spaces.
- **York**  
Elections will be held at the upcoming board meeting. Working on a hybrid meeting for the upcoming board meeting. Park work parties have been happening and they anticipate more this year. Lt. Claudia Murphy, Bellingham Police, met with the neighborhood and was very informative.
- **Cordata**  
First live board meeting in two years is coming up. Manager of Bellis Fair mall coming to the next community meeting. Getting a community garden up and running. Trying to get a branch for the library open near the neighborhood.
- **Sehome**  
Had their elections at the last meeting. Working on a land acknowledgement and trying to learn what the name "Sehome" means, as there are several different stories about it. Will be holding an Easter Egg hunt the Saturday before easter.
- **Cornwall**  
Learned about Parkview Elementary School at the last community meeting. No changes to the board.
- **Sunnyland**  
Just had their first in-person board meeting. Lt. Claudia Murphy, Bellingham Police, attended a meeting, and it was well received. Planning an Earth Day celebration for the day after earth day this April.
- **Lettered Streets**  
Elections got pushed to April. Requests about public art and street tree planting have been coming in. Concern about a neighbor using an air horn. Concern about the new development on Holly Street and its effects on the Broadway Overlook.
- **Birchwood**  
Excitement about the West Maplewood Park. Concern about the development by the golf course. Developers need to make clearer information and maps for the public. Fundraising for the Birchwood International Festival and finding volunteers.
- **Colombia**  
Two new members are on the board. Neighborhood got to give feedback on the Lorraine Ellis playground.

- **South Hill**  
Neighborhood board has a new president, Scott Jones. Next meeting will have Greg Hope, Bellingham Fire/OEM, speaking about emergency preparedness. Concern over vegetation on sidewalks and City Ordinances about taking care of vegetation.
- **Samish**  
Looking into doing a summer picnic this year. Going to look into doing a land acknowledgement as well.

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**Future Topics for Discussion [01:43:50]**

The following topics were brought up for future discussion:

- Recycling in Bellingham and single-stream recycling
- Keeping renters safe/renter protections
- Street trees/tree preservation
- Breakout neighborhood sessions for brainstorming public engagement at the neighborhood level
- Presentation from the Port of Bellingham

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Meeting Adjourned by Mayor Seth Fleetwood at 8:27 p.m.