

March 1999

Our Fifth Year

Your association is now in its fifth year of operation and is going strong! We've had our "hits and misses," but by in large, we've managed to accomplish many tasks that have made our community a better place to live. The best way to inform our members, other than at the Annual Meeting (the next one will be **Thursday, November 4, 1999**) is to publish a newsletter. Yes, it's late again, but hopefully we'll get back on track.

Board of Directors

- * President: Larry Crandall
738-9726
- * Vice President: Meredith McEachern
676-9565
- * Secretary: Rick Stroebel
650-9008
- * Treasurer: Diane Lano
738-3621

All members are encouraged to attend Board meetings. Call for dates and place.

Garage Sale

It's almost time for the 4th annual Northern Heights garage sale. This year the date of the garage sale is **Saturday, April 24, 8 a.m. – 1 p.m.** Chris Simpson Timothy Court has again volunteered to coordinate the big event. If you would like to participate on the 24th, please give Chris a call at 676-8163. We will be placing an ad for the sale in the Bellingham Herald.

Dues

Notices will be mailed to all homeowners on the first of April. The amount is \$105.00 and covers the period from January 1 – December 31, 1999. Please make your

payments by May 31 to avoid penalties and late fees.

Annexation

Annexation drive to get underway this Spring. A committee has been formed to investigate the possibility of Annexation of the Northern Heights Community into the cooperated limits of the City of Bellingham. The intent is to begin a canvassing of the community for signatures during the month of March. The submission of the collected signatures to the City of Bellingham is scheduled for early June this year.

Bob Knutson has graciously agreed to head up the signature drive and is looking for volunteers to assist him. If you would like to volunteer to collect signatures or have questions concerning the annexation please feel free to contact one of the board members.

Board Is Seeking 5th Director

As some of you may have noticed, the board at this time has only four directors instead of five. We, the board, are actively seeking a fifth member to come and help out our community. Anyone interested in filling this position or if you have any questions please contact a board member.

Committees

At this time, we would also like to seek your involvement as a committee member. We know that there is a wealth of talent among our members. We also know that you have dreams of how you'd like the association to serve and represent you. One of the best

ways of making this happen is to join a committee. Many of you expressed an interest at our annual meeting about joining a committee or expanding your community involvement. With that in mind, below are committee forms for those of you who would like to become more involved in our

community. The board welcomes your ideas so please call one of the board members with your thoughts of how to improve our community.

Committee Volunteers and Suggestions

Sign Committee

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Block Party (Fun/Barbecue) Committee

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Annexation Committee

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Hospitality Committee

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Neighborhood Watch Committee

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Children's Park Committee

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Suggestions:

Please return Volunteer and Suggestion list to: 3980 Darcy Court

Northern Heights Newsletter



March 1999

Board of Directors

- * President: Rick Stroebel
650-9008
- * Vice President: Mohammed Farook
647-2370
- * Vice President: John Roberts
738-6910
- * Treasurer: Meredith McEachern
676-9565
- * Secretary: Fred Keske
738-6680

The Board will meet the second Thursday of every month (schedules permitting). All members are encouraged to attend and participate in meetings. Call for time and place.

Spring is Upon Us

Once again, the board of directors would like to remind residents to inspect the trees and shrubs in front of their property to determine if they are a nuisance and/or danger to pedestrians using the sidewalk. Boats and RVs have a way of popping up this time of year. The board would like to remind everyone that they are supposed to be screened from the front of the house unless being cleaned or loaded/unloaded.

Garage Sale

The Northern Heights 5th annual garage sale will be held on Saturday, April 29 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. John Roberts on Tamarack Road has agreed to coordinate the sale. Ads will be placed in the Bellingham Herald and notices placed on the mailboxes. The board will be making maps of the participating homeowners. For those of you who would like to be included on the map give John or

another board member a call. Maps will be distributed to participating homeowners so that all participants can be found. Please plan to participate in this event and help make it a renowned annual sale. John 738-6910

Dues

Notices will be mailed to all homeowners during the first week of April. The amount is \$105.00 and covers the period from January 1, 2000 December 31, 2000. Payments are due May 1, 2000. Your dues pay for landscaping of the median on McLeod and Children's Park, street lights and community maintenance issues such as the stormwater pond.

Stormwater Pond

Many of you may or may not be aware of our Stormwater pond and the issues related to it. Last year, the county asked the association to rehabilitate the pond back to its original condition. Since maintenance has not been done in at least five years, this is a large and daunting task. When the board first began to work on this problem, we found that there were not any guidelines for us to follow. This is about to change. The county recognized this problem and has set up a stormwater management workshop. The workshop is for communities like our own to attend and to learn how to manage and maintain their stormwater facilities. Two board members from our association will be attending this free workshop. After the workshop, the board will be developing a plan to restore our pond back to its original working condition. You can also help by improving the drainage around your home and yard. This would help keep runoff out of the storm drains and ease the burden to the stormwater pond.

Traffic on McLeod

A number of homeowners have complained about the increase of traffic and the rate of speed of the vehicles that use McLeod Road. The board is attempting to control the situation by asking the county for assistance by stepping up patrols and by asking them to monitor the road to see if a stop sign is necessary. While we can not limit the use of the thoroughfare, we can ask that everyone obey the 25-MPH posted speed limit.

New School

The Bellingham school bond issue passed. A new elementary school will be built at the end of Magrath Road north of our development. The school for kindergarten through 5th grade will help ease crowding at Silver Beach and Roosevelt Elementary schools.

New Resolution

The board has adopted and approved a new resolution. This new resolution covers the enforcement of CC&R violations. In the past, the board would have to bring suit against chronic offenders of the CC&Rs. The board has adopted a new policy that gives homeowners due process in regards to violations as well as protecting the community standards. The board has adopted this resolution in the hopes of lowering attorney fees and creating an equitable solution for all parties involved. The resolution will be included with the dues billing.

Committees

Two committees have been formed and are in the initial development stage. A welcoming committee has been formed but needs more involvement from the community. The committee is searching for people interested in greeting new homeowners to our community.

A landscape and property review committee has also been formed. This committee is looking for individuals who are interested in maintaining and improving the aesthetics of our community. Anyone interested in joining one of these committees or forming one of their own please contact a board member.

Thoughts and Ideas

The board would like to hear from you. We recognize that we do not have all the questions or answers. We would encourage everyone to speak up if you have a concern, idea or issue that you would like to address. For instance, one homeowner recognized that in our community there are many dog owners. An idea was passed along that maybe the dog owners would like to meet and walk there dogs together as a way to meet new people and have fun. Does this interest anyone? Let a board member know if you would be interested in a dog walk or maybe you have an idea that would help bring our community closer together. We will let you know what we hear in the next newsletter.

Streetlights

Please contact a board member if you notice a problem with any of the streetlights. This will help us get them fixed as soon as possible. Thanks.

Address

Northern Heights has a new business address. All correspondence should be sent to: 177 Telegraph Rd. #624 Bellingham, WA 98226.



December 1999

Our Sixth Year

Your association is about to start its sixth year of operation and is going strong! We would like to thank everyone who participated in this year's annual meeting.

Board of Directors

The Board is once again at full strength thanks to three new board members.

* President: Rick Stroebel
650-9008

* Vice President: Mohammed Farook
647-2370

* Vice President: John Roberts
738-6910

* Treasurer: Meredith McEachern
676-9565

* Secretary: Fred Keske
738-6680

The Board will meet the second Thursday of every month (schedules permitting). All members are encouraged to attend and participate in meetings. Call for time and place.

Annual Meeting

The Annual meeting was November 4, 1999. Some of the highlights of the meeting were the adoption of the new Bylaws and Budget. These were sent to all homeowners prior to the meeting. The Board in the coming year will continue to address the rehabilitation and maintenance of the stormwater pond.

Dues

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Committees

At this time, we would also like to seek your involvement as a committee member. We know that there is a wealth of talent among our members. We also know that you have dreams of how you'd like the association to serve and represent you. One of the best ways of making this happen is to join a committee. The board welcomes your ideas so please call one of the board members with your thoughts of how to improve our community. The Board thinks it would be a great idea to have a Welcoming Committee that would greet new homeowners and welcome them to our neighborhood. Ideas such as baked goods or a bottle of wine, etc. have come up. Do you have any ideas?

We need a few volunteers that would be willing to help with this committee. Please contact one of the Board members if you are interested in doing so or if you would like to assist the Board with any other aspects of our community. Thank you for your support.

CC & R VIOLATIONS

As many of us moved into the neighborhood, we did not take the time to read the huge packet known as the Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, Reservations and Restrictions of the Plat of Northern Heights. These are the rules that we as homeowners in our community need to follow. It keeps our neighborhood looking good and increases the value of our homes.

If any CC & R's are violated then there are potentially penalties and fines for the homeowner.

Here is a modified version of some of the general use restrictions that are commonly violated:

- 3.2 Recreational Vehicles. All boats, utility trailers, trucks of more than one-ton rating, campers, recreational vehicles, travel trailers, motor homes and similar items...shall at all times be enclosed within a garage or otherwise neatly stored behind the front wall line of the residence and reasonably screened from view from the street running in front of said lot...
- 3.6 Garbage/Refuse. No owner shall deposit or permit the accumulation of any such trash, ashes, garbage or other refuse or debris on or about such owner's lot or any other property...except in appropriate covered trash receptacles...
- 3.7 Vehicles. All automobiles and all other permitted vehicles ...shall be in good order and in working condition. Partially wrecked vehicles, discarded vehicles, unlicensed vehicles or vehicles which are in a state of disrepair shall not be kept on any lot...
- 3.9 Wire/Chain Link Fences. All wire and/or chain link fences in excess of

four (4) feet in height from the ground are prohibited.

Again, this is just a sample of the CC & R's that our community must follow. Help keep our neighborhood looking good and make sure you are not in violation of any of these rules.

LANDSCAPING

Once again, the board of directors would like to remind residents to inspect the trees and shrubs in front of their property to determine if they are a nuisance and/or danger to pedestrians using the sidewalk. This includes trees in the median strip between the sidewalks and the street.

It suggested that tree branches be trimmed away from the sidewalk to about seven feet in height. Shrubbery may also need to be trimmed away from the sidewalk. Suckers should be removed from the base of any trees. If you have any questions, please contact the board and we will be glad to help. Let's keep our sidewalks clear, safe and looking good.

New Address

Northern Heights has a new business address. All correspondence should be sent to 177 Telegraph Rd. #624 Bellingham, WA 98226.

Happy Holidays

The board wishes everyone a happy holiday and a safe, joyous New Year.