

BRIDLE TRAILS COMMUNITY CLUB

www.bridletrailscommunity.org

March 2010

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BRIDLE TRAILS COMMUNITY CLUB GENERAL MEETING

Date: Thursday, March 18, 2010

Time: 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Refreshments: 8:00 - 8:30 pm

Location: Cherry Crest School

March 18 General Meeting Agenda

1. Club business
2. Treasurers Report
3. Crime Prevention
4. Keeping the Power On in Bridle Trails
5. Olympic Pipeline Screening
6. Neighborhood Enhancement Program
7. Parks & Open Space Levy Update
8. Neighborhood Issues - Got gripes?
9. New Business
10. Refreshments

TREASURER'S REPORT – JILL LUM

Membership renewal notices have been sent out to all of those who are due to renew their memberships in 2010. Please remember to renew, as membership dues are our only source of income. The year-end financial reports were presented at the last Board Meeting, and a 2010 budget was approved. One of our main goals for 2010 is to increase our membership and strengthen our community network. Please encourage your neighbors to come to a meeting!

UPDATE ON A NEW PARK IN BRIDLE TRAILS – LORETTA LOPEZ

The Park Levy Committee of the BTCC continues to work with the City to determine project feasibility and cost for either acquiring new land or improving existing parks in the Bridle Trails area. The Park Levy Committee will try to complete its work in the next few weeks. The Park Levy Committee plans to make a recommendation to the general membership at the BTCC meeting in May. Please attend the May meeting and vote. The next step after the May meeting is that the BTCC will present its recommendation to the City Parks Board.

If you have any questions, please contact BTCC member and chair of the Committee, Michelle McBeath at ParkLevy@j.jimmc.org. For more information, go to the City's webpage: www.bellevuewa.gov/bridle_trails_levy.htm.

BRITISH PETROLEUM/OLYMPIC PIPELINE MEDIATION- NE 24TH FACILITY SCREENING – NORM HANSEN

A Bridle Trails Committee of five will meet with the City and BP/Olympic Pipeline officials on Friday, March 12th at City Hall. This is a City sponsored Mediation Program to help resolve issues between the community, the City and BP/Olympic

Pipeline. Members from the Bridle Trails Community attending are: Loretta Lopez, Pat Janes, Jim Binder, Cindy Ludwig and Norm Hansen.

In our January 2010 Newsletter we stated a Community request to install appropriate fencing and gate to provide screening until the Neighborhood Enhancement landscaping matures in 5 to 10 years. In addition, we have requested that British Petroleum reimburse the City for the approximately \$25,000 for the existing landscaping installed through the City Neighborhood Enhancement Program. We noted that the City requires non-City managed utilities to provide landscape screening and architecturally compatible details for all support facilities.

We are looking forward to British Petroleum being a responsible, good neighbor.

For more information see our January 2010 Newsletter at www.BridleTrailsCommunity.org

KEEPING THE POWER ON – ELLEN KERR

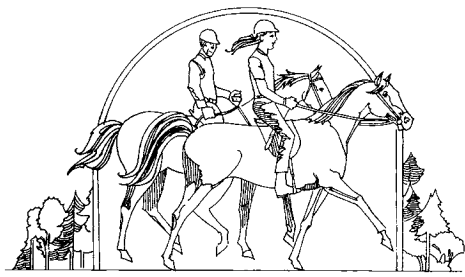
The City Manager's office is very close to making a decision about an outside consultant for the power project. The project is moving along, slowly. Our multi-neighborhood meeting in November was not held but we received positive neighborhood support from Bellmeade and Somerset. We will send an introductory letter to all neighborhoods in Bellevue, have a meeting, and organize communities to support the project. We will let you know the date of the meeting and would appreciate your attendance. Contact Ellen Kerr or Norm Hansen with questions or comments (contact information on masthead of newsletter).

UPDATE: ART WITH AN EQUESTRIAN THEME IN BRIDLE TRAILS – LORETTA LOPEZ

The City and the artist Bruce Meyers continue to work on implementing the Neighborhood Enhancement Project (NEP) that the community requested. In the most recent poll, the residents of the Bridle Trails area requested art with an equestrian theme.

In February, the artist presented alternatives for concepts to the selection Panel and community members. The group generally agreed that some of Myers' ideas could be combined into an art work that is placed in 3 locations, each art work somewhat different from the others based on its location. The artist is developing this approach into a design which he will present to the Panel, most

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P.O. Box 1534
Bellevue, WA 98009

likely in May. Once the Panel makes its selection, the City will display the design for public comment. All Panel meetings are open to the public and your participation is encouraged. Contact Mary Pat Byrne for the dates and the times.

The City has not yet selected the site. There are four sites under consideration:

1. NE 24th St. and 120th Ave. NE (Pike's Peak Entrance),
2. 132nd Ave. NE and NE 40th (near S-curve),
3. 132nd Ave. NE and NE 60th (NE corner of State Park),
4. 140th Ave. NE and NE 60th (near the golf course).

For more details about the project check the City's website: www.bellevuewa.gov/neighborhood_art.htm. If you have any suggestions or comments about the art project contact: City Art Specialist, Mary Pat Byrne at MPByrne@bellevuewa.gov or call her at 425-452-4105.

SAVING BRIDLE TRAILS STATE PARK – LORETTA LOPEZ

Ten years ago the State announced its intention to close Bridle Trails State Park due to budget problems. It is often impossible to change the course of State action. Most people would have accepted the State's decision. But, Alice and Don Prince did not accept the end of Bridle Trails State Park. Instead, they directed their energy and skills and formed a goal: Keep Bridle Trails State Park Open.

Alice and Don started calling neighbors, equestrians, park supporters and anyone who could help launch a campaign to save Bridle Trails State Park. They founded the Bridle Trails Park Foundation and worked relentlessly to meet their goal. The Foundation, under the leadership of Alice and Don, raised awareness, raised funds and began the long process of negotiating with the State to keep the Park open. The State did not have enough money to continue

to operate the Park without assistance. As a result, the Foundation took over the responsibility of paying 50% of the operating expenses of the Park for 40 years.

The Foundation had to raise a substantial amount of cash in order to pay the State. Once again, Alice and Don lead the Foundation in asking for donations, publicizing the need for cash and reaching out to groups outside of the Bridle Trails area and outside of the equestrian community. The Foundation started the annual Party in the Park, created outdoor education classes for children and adults, published newsletters and continued to work with the State to improve the Park. In the past 6-7 years the Park has become full of more activity and promise. The Foundation's work is not finished since it must continue to raise money to pay the State each year for the remaining 32 years to keep the Park open. Fortunately, due to the leadership of Alice and Don, the Foundation has a strong framework upon which to continue its fundraising.

Alice and Don Prince have been at the forefront of the Foundation for many years and are stepping aside from the leadership of the Bridle Trails Park Foundation. We want to take this opportunity to thank Alice and Don. Without their efforts and their indefatigability the State would have closed the Park. And although they will not be in the same leadership roles in the Foundation, they will continue to be active and infuse our community with their energy and their enthusiasm. Thank you Alice and Don.

CRIME PREVENTION MEETING

Tom Eng arranged to have Detective Michael Chiu discuss crime prevention to a group of 63 Bridle Trails residents in February. Detective Chiu clearly stated the police want you to call 911 when you think a crime is about to be committed, or something is out of place.

Bridle Trails is one of the safest neighborhoods in Bellevue. And, according to the FBI reporting statistics, within Washington, Alaska and Idaho, Bellevue is the safest large (greater than 75,000) city with no close second. Our increased communication with each other has led some to believe that crime in our neighborhood is increasing, but that's inaccurate. Neighborhood security is increasing due to our improved communication, information, and awareness.

Detective Chiu offered these tips: An overwhelming majority of burglaries occur between 9 AM and 4 PM. Burglars usually knock and ring first to see if there's a dog. The vast majority of criminals are not solicitors, and 56% enter through front doors. Most front-door deadbolts are easily beaten by criminals. Visit the BTCC website to learn about better door locks.

Solicitors have a legal right to come to your door. Do not open the door, but do let them know you are present. Det. Chiu suggests you let solicitors see you on the phone through a window, and wave them off.

To read detailed and helpful notes from the meeting, go to www.bridletrailscommunity.org.

IMPORTANT DATES

- **March 12** - Mediation between BT residents and BP/Olympic, City Hall
- **April 22 at 7:30 pm** - BTCC Board Meeting, Cherry Crest School
- **May 20 at 7:00 pm** - BTCC General Meeting, Cherry Crest School
- **May TBD** - NEP Art Meeting, City Hall