BRIDLE TRAILS COMMUNITY CLUB NEWSLETTER



www.bridletrailscommunity.org

March 2012

GENERAL MEETING

Thursday March 15 7-8:30 PM

NORTH BELLEVUE COMMUNITY CENTER, 4063 148TH AVE NE, ROOM A

Meetings are planned to return to Cherry Crest Elementary after construction in Sep.

- 1. Welcome
- 2. Club Business
- 3. Electrical Update
- 4. New Park, Scott VanderHyden, City Parks Planner
- 5. We Want To Hear From You
- 6. New Business
- 7. Refreshments

Creating A New Park on NE 24th and 134th: A Community Effort

What does the park look like in your mind when you think of the property at NE24th and 134th? How do the planners merge all of our various pictures to a plan for the park? What else goes into the plan? How do you make sure that your ideas are heard? This is all part of the Master Plan process.

The City has completed surveys and studies on the corner property located at NE 24th and 134th. That was the first step to create a Master Plan.

At our BTCC meeting on March 15, Scott VanderHyden, City Parks Planner, will explain the planning process, specifics for this site, and answer general questions. This site has unique opportunities and constraints due to steep slopes and wetlands.

Contribute your ideas at the first community planning meeting on Thu March 29 at 7:00 at the North Bellevue Community Center. The City will send notices to all residents of the entire Bridle Trails area to attend. The purpose of that meeting is to gather public comments about what type of park the community wants to create. If you have any questions, contact Loretta Lopez at 425-885-1851 or <code>llopez@mstarlabs.com</code>





Property Location at Ne 24th and 134th -King County Property Information

BTCC Member appointed to the Parks Board

We are pleased to announce that Stuart Heath, a member of the BTCC Advisory Board, was appointed by the City Council to the Parks and Community Services Board. His term will start this month. Congratulations to Stuart.



Stuart Heath

BTCC Members On Local News!

Ellen Kerr

The BTCC attended the recent PSE proposed rate increase hearings held by the State at City Hall. We spoke about PSE recently receiving a rate increase in 2010 and asked what value we were getting in Bellevue from the proposed rate increase. Afterwards, Norm and I were interviewed by two local news channels and both aired our interviews that night!

Email Me This Newsletter!

Postage and printing of this newsletter is a major club expense. Help save money and paper by sending your email address to BTCC Treasurer, Jill Lum at Jill_Lum@msn.com



Treasurer's Report

Jill Lum, Jill_Lum@msn.com

Are your dues up for renewal in 2012? If so, you will have received a yellow renewal notice in February. Please remember to remit as soon as possible with any updated contact information. Thank you to those who have already sent theirs in. Dues payments are our only source of income. These funds are used to pay all expenses of the club – newsletter printing and mailing, general meeting room rental, website hosting, community block party, etc. The Bridle Trails Community Club is your civic watchdog and keeps you informed of issues affecting your neighborhood.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT

Tell Us What is Happening in Your Backyard?

What is the best source of information about your neighborhood?

Are you following the progress of any city or neighborhood projects? Does the city do things that you don't agree with?

Come share your neighborhood stories. Help us better understand what concerns you have and how to better connect with our neighbors at the March 15 meeting.

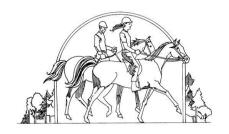
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Mark Your Calendar

- March, Return Dues Renewals
- Mar 15, 7 PM General Meeting
- Mar 29 7-8:30, Community Planning Meeting for the NE 24th and 134th Park

North Bellevue Community Center

- Apr 19, 7 PM Board Meeting
- May 17, 7 PM General Meeting



BRIDLE TRAILS COMMUNITY CLUB P.O. Box 1534 Bellevue, WA 98009

Got a Project?

What improvements are needed on your street? Bellevue residents seeking to improve their neighborhoods can obtain up to \$5,000 in matching grants from the city. The money is available for projects such as an upgrade to an entry or common area, new mailboxes, neighborhood signs, or a community art project. To qualify, neighbors need to provide 50 percent of the project cost in dollars or labor, and the project must be approved by the city. The club is interested in helping residents access these funds as well as coordinating projects. Please contact one of our board members if interested.

Electrical Reliability Study Update Ellen Kerr

The outside consultants have made and prioritized recommendations for the city to implement, which the city has reviewed. Without going into painstaking detail, these recommendations involve Bellevue becoming a more active stakeholder and advocating for its citizens with PSE and the State. We are working with the city to further define implementation and will be meeting with several Council members, the Mayor and city Manager to solicit additional suggestions and direction. Questions or comments please contact Norm Hansen or Ellen Kerr; contact information on masthead.

Electrical Work Complete on 134th

Stringing tree wire, replacing equipment (poles and more), and undergrounding at NE 24th should provide increased reliability in our neighborhood. We all have varied power distribution experiences as there are 3 separate lines providing power in BT. The last couple of times when we have had strong winds, our power has stayed on.

Snow Postpones City Manager Talk

Since the January meeting was canceled, Steve Sarkozy's budget talk has been rescheduled to our May Meeting.

Prevention of Burglaries

Bellevue Police are suggesting ways you can help us prevent residential burglaries in your area. We do not have an exact description of the burglars. Their method of operation is to knock on the front door and if someone answers, they say they are looking for a lost pet or a friend's home and move on. If no one responds to the knock, they go around to the back door and force their way in.

When there is a knock or a doorbell ring at your door:

- Look out the window and see if you recognize the person.
- If you don't have a window, ask "Who is there?" and "Why."
- If you don't recognize the person(s), don't open the door or let them in. But, do let them know you are there. Remember you want that locked door between you and the stranger.
- If you can, try to take a digital photo of the unknown person(s) knocking on your door and then forward me the photo (rchinn@bellevuewa.gov) with date and time.
- If you see a questionable or unknown vehicle in the area take a picture of that and send it to me Call 911 to report any suspicious actions or vehicles.
- If you see a possible suspect walking to another home, call that house and suggest that they take the same precautions as you should.

Be a good neighbor. If you see someone knocking on your neighbor's door, try to photograph that person. If you see the person(s) go around to the back of any residence call 9-1-1 immediately.

Recently, we caught members of a burglary ring because of great photographs sent in by an alert neighbor. Hopefully, that ring will spread the news that Bellevue residents know what to do to prevent and identify burglars.

Detective Richard Chinn Bellevue Police Department 425-452-6915 425-452-2812(fax) rchinn@bellevuewa.gov (edited from "The Vine")

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