



# COLUMBIA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

<https://columbianeighbors.org>

**Location:** Greg  
**Date:** 1/16  
**Time:** 6:30 p.m.

## Board Meeting

<p><b>Board Members</b></p> <p><b>President</b> Renee Running</p> <p><b>Vice President</b> Maddie Marvin</p> <p><b>Secretary</b> OPEN</p> <p><b>Treasurer</b> Christina Tawes</p> <p><b>Communication Chair</b> Zoe Harper</p> <p><b>Member-at-Large</b> Jon Running</p> <p><b>MNAC Rep</b> Deborah Valentine</p> <p><b>MNAC Alternate</b> Greg Hope</p>	<p><b>Agenda Item</b></p>
	<p><b>1. Welcome &amp; Call to Order</b></p> <p>“Get to Know You” introductions called to order at 6:36</p>
	<p><b>2. Reports</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Treasurer’s Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Money In, Money Out (why), Forecasted Spend, Remaining Balance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Received \$1479.92 &gt; Deborah</li> <li>• Balance \$ 836.30</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>○ President’s Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WA State Annual Report &amp; EIN <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual report returned by SOS, old EIN, cannot change EIN, \$30 to update EIN</li> <li>• BOI report, due from all entities</li> <li>• Greg will update responsible party on EIN after WA confirms update of EIN in their records</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>○ MNAC Representative Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parking reform was only topic on agenda. Third and final reading of accepted ordinance on Monday in council. Three items: reduce developer hurdles (1 spot/unit to be reduced for multifamily) which will hopefully lead to more affordable housing. This should yield more “middle housing” in community (2-6 units). Whatcom county is forecasted to need +34,000 units by 2045. Demand is shared roughly between Bellingham and other cities in the county. Annual reimbursement for neighborhood associations is increasing from \$750 to \$1000 in 2025.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>3. New Board Roles Alignment</b></p> <p><u>Secretary Role</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Any updates on filling this role? None yet.</li> </ul>	

Review R&R Matrix

- What questions do you have about the tasks?
- What changes/swaps do you want to have with the tasks?
- Are we missing any tasks?
- Any tasks to remove (or put on hold)?

Meeting Schedule

- Monthly Board meetings (Current: third Thursday)
  - Second Wednesday
- General Meetings (Current: third Tuesday of the 2<sup>nd</sup> month in the quarter)
  - No change in 2025
- ~~○ Board meeting to finalize General meeting agenda (Current: Thursday before general meeting)~~
- Action to publish a calendar
  - Retrieve calendar file from 2024 and update for 2025
  - Update web site with new meeting and event schedule details

**4. Introduction to CNA Google Drive & 2025 Set up**

- General layout
- Key documents
  - Passwords, expense tracking for reimbursement, ???
- What folders and files to move over to 2025?
- Setting up access for people
- Anything else?

**5. Managing Expenses**

- Reimbursable expenses from City – Limit \$750 (\$1000 in 2025). Must have proof of purchase and payment.

**Allowable Expenses - Neighborhood Association Support Services**

Neighborhood Association meeting notice preparation, printing, and/or mailing  
Neighborhood Association database and website development and/or maintenance  
Events that are part of a City-sponsored program (National Night Out Against Crime)  
Room rental for Neighborhood Association meetings  
Facilitation services for Neighborhood Association meetings  
  
Fees paid for workshops or training to improve association effectiveness  
Mediation services for dispute resolution on City service related issues  
Professional consultation for services that improve association effectiveness

- Needs for year:
  - Room Rentals for General Meetings (Deb with info)
  - Signage
    - CNA has two sandwich boards with plastic box for flyers
  - Website (should be paid to 2026)
  - Printing
  - Other?
    - Venues for meetings: ReStore (\$20/hr for 49 seats, \$15/hr for 15 seats); St. Paul's Parish Hall (free but no wifi); BPS \$11/hr for library, \$15-20/hr for cafeteria plus hourly for custodian at \$50)
- Board members and committee members must confirm eligibility of expense and submit receipts for reimbursement, deadline for receipts is November 15

## 6. 2025 Goals & Subcommittees

### What are our Goals for 2025?

- Previous community ideas include:
  - Tree planting project
  - Develop map of fruit trees in neighborhood (those willing to share fruit?)
  - Dog baggy stations
  - Activities/build things that cause neighbors to stop and talk (building community)
- Team Brainstorming
  - Block party with theme (emergency preparedness or Night Out Against Crime)
  - Mail postcards to neighbors with calendar of events, URLs, etc.
  - Build/buy/acquire sandwich boards for roadside notifications
  - Upgrade old monument sign on Monroe and Elm
  - Request lighting at crosswalk on Broadway via SeeClickFix (and submit request as CNA), also investigate small triangular median nearby
  - ShareShack... what next in 2025?
  - Halloween map (similar to garage sale map)
- Narrow to Top 3 to propose on General Meeting
 

*Potential theme for 2025 is communication, increased participation*

### Subcommittees in 2025?

#### 4<sup>th</sup> of July

- Leader, team identified?

#### Share Shack Committee

- Leader, team identified?
- Carla Zainie has requested to join

Others?

### **7. Next General Meeting Planning**

- ReStore, Feb 18 6:00 for setup 6:30-8:30 for meeting (Jon will book)
- Guest Speakers
  - Bellingham Shipping Terminal, Tiffany DeSimone – may not be available in Feb (consider for May)
  - Good Time Girls (Greg will contact and try to book)
  - Lighthouse Mission (Deb will contact and try to book)
- Recruit committee for July 4
- Draft agenda
- Contact ShareShack committee before February meeting

### **8. Adjournment**

- 8:48