

**BATEMAN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
MINUTES
BIENNIAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Noon, 19 September 2015
Bateman Mall Park**

Meeting Noticed via: Electronic Transmission to all Board Members, and to all Block Captains' Email lists, as well as via electronic postings on NextDoor.com. Flyers placed on porches of residents not on a Block Captain email list.

Directors in Attendance: Xanthe Berry, Ron Choy, Bob Hamilton, Andy Johnson, Fumi Knox, Steve Medbery, Julie Shearer, and Lucy Smallsreed

Members in Attendance: A total of 33 members attended. (The sign-in sheet is attached. Not all attendees signed in.)

Guests: Councilmember Lori Droste

1. Picnic and Welcome

There were 33 residents at the picnic. We enjoyed snacking and telling stories. Lucy initiated the formal portion of the day by welcoming all attendees and introducing the current board members and Councilmember Droste.

2. President's Review of the Past Year

Lucy reviewed the many issues that BNA has worked on during the past year:

- Hospital matters, including Sutter Health's recently announced plans to close down inpatient care operations at Alta Bates before California's seismic standards deadline of 12/30/2029. Councilmember Droste and the board are both trying to get more information from the hospital.
- Noise from the hospital's rooftop equipment, which has been an ongoing problem, continues to be unresolved.
- Installation of the HAWK light at the intersection of Ashby & Hillegass, promised this year, has been delayed by the city to September 2016. There have been several recent accidents at this intersection involving cyclists and pedestrians getting hit by cars. Councilmember Droste is working with Barbara Lee's office to try to expedite the work, which involves federal funding.
- Promised changes to the traffic lights at the intersection of Ashby and Telegraph are on the same schedule as the HAWK light above.
- Intrusive night-time lighting from the medical building parking lot at 2510 Webster has finally been mitigated, after many BNA communications with the building management and with the city's code enforcement unit.
- A chronic water leak in the grassy area at Bateman & Webster, which is a neighborhood mustering point in the event of disaster, has recently been taken care of by EBMUD after many BNA communications with Councilmember Droste, the city, and the hospital all assisting.

- Councilmember Droste has met with the board and with the BNA president a number of times regarding the issues above, and was thanked for her accessibility and for providing much-appreciated assistance and follow-up on our behalf.
- The board has interacted on separate occasions with the Berkeley Neighborhoods Council and with Councilmember Droste regarding reforming the outdated quota system for allowing new businesses to come into the Elmwood district.
- Board representatives have participated in Go Berkeley community meetings. This is the city's program to revamp parking prices at lots and meters in the Elmwood and other key commercial districts in Berkeley to improve parking availability.
- The board has contacted the city regarding traffic congestion on Alcatraz at College, and offered recommendations for improving traffic flow. The timing of traffic lights was adjusted, which has helped, but further changes are needed.
- Two developments that the board has been monitoring include the conversion of the old Wright's Garage space into a new restaurant (Advocate), and the planned remodeling/expansion of the Chevron station at Telegraph & Ashby.
- Finally, Lucy reported on efforts to renew neighborhood activities related to disaster planning. While the board members each worked on further preparing their own households, efforts to renew DP activities beyond the board have not progressed. Further efforts will be put into neighborhood outreach over the coming year.

3. Election of Board Members

As a result of changes to our Bylaws approved at our last membership meeting in 2013, BNA board members now serve 4-year terms, with half the board up for election every two years. This year's board candidates were introduced, and all five were unanimously elected. They include the re-election of Ron Choy and Andy Johnson to new 4-year terms (2015-2019), the election of new board members Joshua Sperry and Tom Spivey, also to 4-year terms (2015-2019), and the election of Bob Hamilton to complete the 2013-2017 term of esteemed former board member Bill Cain, who unexpectedly passed away last year. Pursuant to our Bylaws, Bob had been appointed by the board earlier this year to fill Bill's vacancy until Bob could stand for election at the meeting of the full membership.

4. Board Member Retirements

Lucy announced the retirement of Xanthe Berry and of Julie Shearer from the board. Both members were thanked for their contributions to the work of the BNA.

5. Special Recognition of Longstanding Board Member Julie Shearer

Lucy invited former BNA president Debbie Levine to speak about Julie Shearer's seminal work on behalf of the neighborhood in stopping the unprecedented bulldozing of dozens of historic houses in our neighborhood for the purpose of unrestrained expansion by Alta Bates Hospital. Debbie chronicled Julie's indefatigable efforts organizing the neighborhood and fighting the hospital during the early days of the BNA and continuing up to the present. Julie's work resulted in the 99-year Hospital-Neighborhood Association Agreement of 1983 that prevents further hospital expansion without a vote of the neighborhood. Lucy noted that the BNA would not exist today without Julie's singular tenacity and leadership. Lucy then presented Julie with a plaque from the board, engraved with a statement honoring Julie and thanking her "for over four decades of exceptional leadership, vision, and courage in protecting and preserving Berkeley's

historic Bateman Neighborhood.” Lucy then invited BNA Treasurer, Fumi Knox, to present Julie with a check in the amount of \$1,000 to benefit the Cazadero Music Camp, a nonprofit with which Julie has had a long association. Fumi reported that this gift was raised from individual donations from the board and other members of the BNA to honor Julie’s legacy.

6. Treasurer’s Report

Fumi reported that BNA currently has \$5,296 in its bank account at Mechanic’s Bank. This is a slight increase over our balance of \$5,270 last year. We spent money on minor items, which was more than offset by an annual donation from Mechanic’s.

7. Open Discussion

The members were invited to raise other issues of interest or that they would like the board to work on next year. There was discussion about the recent trend in the Bay Area for homeowners to either convert long-term rental space, or to build or make available space on their property, available for short-term rentals. Members were aware of properties doing this within our neighborhood. It was noted that the city is encouraging homeowners to build “accessory dwelling units” (ADUs) in their back yards. Board members expressed interest in following this trend in the coming year to determine neighborhood impacts.

8. Adjournment

As there was no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned.

Minutes submitted by Andy Johnson and Lucy Smallsreed

SIGN-IN SHEET

September 19, 2015

	Name (Please Print)	Street and #	E-Mail Address if not on Block E-List Already
1	Lucy Smallsreed	[REDACTED] Hillegass	
2	LINDSAY MAKI	[REDACTED] BATEMAN ST.	f.
3	ANDY JOHNSON	[REDACTED] Batena	
4	TOM SPINNEY	[REDACTED] REGENT ST	
5	Steve McHenry	[REDACTED] Prince St	
6	Julie Sheaffer	[REDACTED] Woolsey	yes
7	Carolyn North	[REDACTED] Prince	
8	Ron Choy	[REDACTED] Woolsey	
9	Fumi Knox	[REDACTED] Benvenue	
10	Susan Choy	[REDACTED] Woolsey St.	
11	BOB HAMILTON	[REDACTED] Woolsey St	
12	JOHN LEATHERS	[REDACTED] Woolsey St	
13	Phil Leven	[REDACTED] Webster St	
14	Debbie Leven	[REDACTED] Webster St	
15	Russ Ellis	[REDACTED] Warton St	
16	SARITA BERRY	[REDACTED] Hillegass	
17	Chris Gartner	[REDACTED] Colby St	[REDACTED]
18	Kate Bartholomew	11	[REDACTED]
19	Xanthe Berry	[REDACTED] Hillegass Ave	[REDACTED]
20	OHANNAH BERRY	"	[REDACTED]
21	Joshua Sperry	[REDACTED] Benvenue	✓
22	Suzanna Yeh	[REDACTED] Prince Street	[REDACTED]
23	LEW LEVINSON	[REDACTED] BATEMAN ST	
24	Ami Zins	[REDACTED] BATEMAN ST.	[REDACTED]
25	LODI DROSTE	[REDACTED] PINE	[REDACTED]

2015 BNA MEMBERSHIP MEETING

SIGN-IN SHEET

September 19, 2015

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**BATEMAN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
2015 ANNUAL MEETING**

CANDIDATES FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

X* are candidates running for election
X are incumbents not up for re-election this year

	CANDIDATE	4-Yr Term 2013-17	4-Yr Term 2015-19
1	Ron Choy (<i>incumbent</i>)		X*
2	Bob Hamilton (<i>to complete Bill Cain's term 2013-17</i>)	X*	
3	Andy Johnson (<i>incumbent</i>)		X*
4	Fumi Knox (<i>incumbent</i>)	X	
5	Steve Medbery (<i>incumbent</i>)	X	
6	Lucy Smallsreed (<i>incumbent</i>)	X	
7	Joshua Sperry		X*
8	Tom Spivey		X*
9			
10			
11			
12			

**BNA's Bylaws require the number of Directors to be no less than 7
and no more than 17.**