

North East Neighborhood Association (NENA)
Virtual Spring Update Meeting
Thursday, May 13th, 6:00 - 7:30 PM

Attendees:

NENA Board Members:

- Reno Walsh, President
- Jeremy Mistretta, Vice-President
- Nelle Devitt, Communications Director
- Vacant, Secretary
- Vacant, Treasurer

Agenda:

- 2 Min: Welcome from the Pres. & WebEx Intro
- 5 Min: Treasurer and Secretary Election
- 5 Min: Idaho Pole Update
 - Presenter: Roger Hoogerheide, EPA, Hoogerheide.Roger@epa.gov
- 5 Min: Wildlands Development - Wild Crumb Building Redevelopment
 - Presenter: Jeff Lusin, 45 Architects, jlusin@45arch.com; Eric Ladd – Principle of 45 Architects
- 2 Min: Brewery Site and Tinworks Update
 - Presenter: Erik Nelson, Think Tank (Absent; Update presented by Reno Walsh)
- 15 Min: North Central Development Update
 - Presenter: Lindsay Pittard, Home Base Partners (HBP), lpittard@hbpartners.com
- 5 Min: Vision NE Committee Update
 - Presenter: Karen Filipovich, Vision NE Committee Director, karen_filipovich@hotmail.com
- 10 Min: Solar Array Concept Update
 - Kevin Cray, Mountain West Regional Director Coalition for Community Solar Access (CCSA)
Contact: Dani Hess, Neighborhoods Program Coordinator, dhess@BOZEMAN.NET
- 2 Min: Building Heights Code Update
 - Presenter: Jacob Miller, City of Bozeman Planning, jmiller@bozeman.net
- 5 Min: Affordable Housing Fund Raiser
 - Presenter: Sahra Beaupre, sahra@echoarts.net; at <http://www.bozemanartdistrict.com/superfun>
- 2 Min: Front Street Connector Update
 - Presenter: Matt Marcinek, GVLt, mattm@gvlt.org
- 3 Min: Indreland Audubon Wetland Preserve Update
 - Presenter: Chris Nixon, Sacagawea Audubon Society, Saschrisnixon@gmail.com;
Bozemanwetlands.org (introductory video)
- 3 Min: Parks & Rec: Forestry Update on the Trees of Bozeman's Northeast Neighborhood
 - Presenter: Alex Nordquest, City Forester, ANordquest@bozeman.net
- 3 Min: Aspen Bridge Update
 - Presenter: David Fine, City of Bozeman Economic Development, dfine@bozeman.net
- 10 Min: Quiet Safe Rail Crossings
 - Presenter: David Fine, City of Bozeman Economic Development, dfine@bozeman.net
- 2 Min: Rouse/Peach Intersection; Bikes/ Bike Lanes
 - Presenter: Jason Delmue, Acting Chair, Bozeman Area Bicycle Advisory Board, delmue@yahoo.com
- 3 Min: Membership & Committees
- 5 Min: Misc. Items

Summary of 2021 Spring Update Meeting:

- Welcome from the Pres. & WebEx Intro
 - 1 Min: Treasurer Report presented by Amy Hoitsma (former NENA President)
 - Current budget of \$687.43 – With several donations through the website totaling \$115 last year. Contribution of \$5(+) buys you a ‘Last Best Neighborhood’ NENA sticker.
- NENA Treasurer and Secretary Election
 - Action to nominate new board members by Reno Walsh
 - Deidra Booth, Secretary nominee (elected)
 - David Chambers, Treasurer nominee (elected)
- Idaho Pole Update
 - Presenter: Roger Hoogerheide, EPA, Hoogerheide.Roger@epa.gov
 - Summary - Update to previous discussion on the recently revised floodway area, and how that would impact the Idaho Pole Site south of I90.
 - EPA & DEQ determined that portion of treated soils on site are within the regulated floodway and must be relocated. Potential to place on the repositories located South of Cedar St.
 - Potential purchaser’s current intent is *not* to use the property for residential purposes. Previously, EPA determined that existing extraction/treatment of groundwater wasn’t fully effective to remove contaminants and has continued to evaluate alternatives. With no residential occupancy proposed, plans to expedite feasibility study by Sept 30th, 2021. This will be followed by a proposed plan and record of decision completed by 2022.
- Wildlands Development - Wild Crumb Building Redevelopment
 - Presenter: Jeff Lusin, 45 Architects, jlusin@45arch.com; Eric Ladd – Principle of 45 Architects
 - Summary - MT based group, called outlaw Real Estate Partners, is seeking to improve the Wild Crumb site by surrounding the existing building structure to incorporate more residential and office space, while also improving the existing outdoor space, and increasing interaction and outdoor engagement.
 - 13 condos; 3 new commercial spaces; Keep elevation low @ 3 stories.
 - Parking provided includes 35 spaces, half dedicated toward public parking.
 - Upcoming NENA Townhall: Thursday May 20th, 6-7 PM
- Brewery Site and Tinworks Update
 - Presenter: Erik Nelson, Think Tank (Absent; Update presented by Reno Walsh)
 - Summary - Reno spoke with Erik this week and both projects are still on track. Erik will continue to provide updates as the projects progress/ anything changes.
- North Central Development Update
 - Presenter: Lindsay Pittard, Home Base Partners (HBP), lpittard@hbpartners.com
 - Summary - Presentation on new mixed-use urban development called ‘North Central’ which is currently being built 2 blocks off Main Street. Opportunity to focus on infill and urban/ walkable pedestrian access; activated alleys; greenspace, walkability, and flexibility.
 - Project comprised of 4 block sections, presenting a combination of mixed-use, for lease residential, for sale condos, townhomes, retail, office, and coworking spaces.
 - Discussion time provided to answer questions related to market demand and current housing shortages, community input to planning process, urban accessibility without a car, and concerns about relocating current homes/ structures on the site.
 - Upcoming NENA Townhall: Home Base Partners Central Development Update – June 3rd, 2021
- Vision NE Committee Update
 - Presenter: Karen Filipovich, Vision NE Committee Director, karen_filipovich@hotmail.com

- o Summary – VNE’s objective is to characterize what makes our neighborhood great and determine how to keep and cultivate these qualities as the neighborhood grows and changes.
- o Born out of the Photos NE project used to visually catalogue neighborhood qualities and attributes. VNE is currently working with MSU to record and match those elements to city codes and planning, while inventorying buildings to determine what makes NENA?
- o Learn more about NENA Committees by going to the NENA site and clicking on ‘Objectives’
- Solar Array Concept Update
 - o Presenter: Kevin Cray, Mountain West Regional Director Coalition for Community Solar Access (CCSA)
Contact: Dani Hess, Neighborhoods Program Coordinator, dhess@BOZEMAN.NET
 - o Summary - Overview of community solar initiatives, where they are currently being utilized, and opportunities that may be available for Montana. Community solar framework is intended to be localized, where residents and businesses who participate receive solar credits.
 - Benefits: Enables access to ALL electric users regardless of socio-economic positioning, structure type, site condition (brownfield, post-use developments, etc.).
 - Actioning would likely require legislative changes such as loosening the Public Utilities Act to allow an exclusion for community solar. Communities can also work through energy co-ops, or through metering aggregation.
 - CCSA’s website has model legislation/ model rules
 - DOE funded site - National Community Solar Partnership Program (semi-social media resource for those interested in/engaged in solar)
- Building Heights Code Update
 - o Presenter: Jacob Miller, City of Bozeman Planning, jmiller@bozeman.net
 - o Summary – This week the City Commission passed an ordinance with amendments to alter current allowable development code building heights:
 - Height Increase for all R-districts – The addition of 1.5’ per allowable story. Currently code is built for planning 8’ ceilings; however, that could limit total unit count for larger builds.
 - Height Increase for B2 and RO, to promote more housing development in areas with increased goods and services, and access to employment opportunities.
- Affordable Housing Fund Raiser
 - o Presenter: Sahra Beaupre, sahra@echoarts.net; at <http://www.bozemanartdistrict.com/superfun>
 - o Summary – The Bozeman Art District in collaboration with NENA is hosting an Artist led FUN(-draiser) to connect community members in important dialogue, have fun, and raise money and ideas toward Bozeman’s affordable housing problem in Bozeman.
 - o Event: July 31st, 10 AM – Bozeman’s NE-side Neighborhood
- Front Street Connector Update
 - o Presenter: Matt Marcinek, GVLt, mattm@gvlt.org
 - o Summary – Construction review and bidding process is complete, and Parks & Rec is initiating process to build the path. The project was initiated in 2015 with support by NENA/ Urban Renewal board; however, was put on pause for Rouse Ave reconstruction.
 - o Primarily funded out of the City of Bozeman’s Trails, Open Space and Parks bond. Additionally, GVLt received a recreation trails grant to purchase bridge; with additional funding from NEURB, and Collins Coalition (safety advocate).
- Indreland Audubon Wetland Preserve Update
 - o Presenter: Chris Nixon, Sacagawea Audubon Society, Saschrisnixon@gmail.com; Bozemanwetlands.org (introductory video)

- o Summary – Objective is to document the human influence on the wetlands in our community, and restoration enhancements in the area through 10 key goals which were developed in alignment with organizational partners.
 - Goals include creating a wetland bank within the city of Bozeman, so we can absorb impacts of wetland functions to benefit Bozeman.
 - Restore open water in the area with 7 smaller ponds to bring back waterfowl and absorbing another 7 acres into the site.
- Parks & Rec: Forestry Update on the Trees of Bozeman's Northeast Neighborhood
 - o Presenter: Alex Nordquest, City Forester, ANordquest@bozeman.net
 - o Summary – Parks & Rec Forestry Dept. is responsible for planting trees, pruning trees in boulevards, city parks.
 - Updated items: Planted 3 city trees on the edge of Centennial Park as a community event. Discussion on the type and locale of trees, as well as the need to diversify the urban forest.
 - The City of Bozeman provides an interactive map of all boulevard trees in the City.
 - Call if any tree services are needed, or if you would like to schedule a community event. Residential request for new trees is a shared cost that can be coordinated with the City. Additionally, residents can request free mulch from the city for water conservation (recycled from tree debris).
- Aspen Bridge Update
 - o Presenter: David Fine, City of Bozeman Economic Development, dfine@bozeman.net
 - Summary – The Board prioritized money for the design of the Aspen bridge this past fiscal year, which was completed and submitted for review with the City's Engineering Department last week. The goal is to have a project approved and permitted to be completed in a new fiscal year.
 - Bridge Design is being completed by KLJ Engineering.
- Quiet Safe Rail Crossings
 - o Presenter: David Fine, City of Bozeman Economic Development, dfine@bozeman.net
 - Summary – Update to discuss progress on establishing a 'Quiet Zone' for the three rail crossings in NE located at Wallace, Rouse, and Griffin railroad crossings. The Montana Transportation Board (MTB) requires upgrades to all three sites before they will agree to a quiet zone to ensure community safety.
 - Board is looking into funding options for part of the upgrades; Discussed NE Urban Renewal District support, and other alternatives. Currently will work toward locating design resources, which review process of the designs could take up to 18 mo.
 - Griffin will not have an over/underpass, but the intent is to widen to a 3-lane road with multi-use paths.
- Rouse/Peach Intersection; Bikes/ Bike Lanes
 - o Presenter: Jason Delmue, Acting Chair, Bozeman Area Bicycle Advisory Board, delmue@yahoo.com
 - o As Rouse is state-owned/ run by MTB, the community lost the bike lane on this road, which means that if you are on a bike – you are considered a vehicle as soon as you leave that intersection.
 - Jason Delmue – West of Peach, there's a bike lane option now to use instead. You can either use the paved 'shoulder' that allows you to use the crosswalk or can divert to an additional swath of sidewalk (outside pedestrian walkway).
- Membership & Committees
 - o NENA Membership: Anyone who lives within the boundaries is a resident of NENA.
 - To be an Active member of NENA, go to NENA page and register, which adds you to the email distro to engage in more community events and goals.

- o Summary – NENA is working to increase ACTIVE membership within the community. Efforts include increasing communication through social media, email campaigns, NENA Townhall, PSA and interview on KGLT, NENA sticker, etc.
- Misc. Items
 - o Emailed concerns to NENA:
 - Light Pollution - Particularly from the new streetlight located on the Tamarack/ Rouse intersection, but also neighbors lighting, lighting from construction, etc. can affect the night skies, and even quality of life of residences.
 - Residents on Rouse lost their alleyway due to the construction, which has resulted in snow management concerns, as well as garbage can displacement on bike lanes and sidewalks – please be patient with changes on Rouse.
 - o The meeting was not held in person due to ongoing COVID concerns. However, community members can volunteer to host events, member engagement, etc.
 - o Nelle Devitt – Welcomed as new NENA Communications Director.
 - o Upcoming Townhalls: Bozeman.org under events for log in details
- Minutes Recorded by Deidra Booth, Volunteer
- Minutes Approved by Reno Walsh, President