

Birch Bay Incorporation Association Steering Committee

Minutes of 2024 BBIA Annual General Meeting (Approved) **Thursday November 21, 2024 at North Bay Community Church**

1. Call to Order

The Birch Bay Incorporation Association Annual General Meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm.

2. Roll Call:

Position	Name	In Person	Via Zoom	Regrets
Chair	Matt Berry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Vice Chair / Communications	Lisa Guthrie	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Treasurer / Chair Finance	Sharman Burnam	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Secretary	Michael Stringam	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Co-Chair Research	Chuck Kinzer			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Co-Chair Research	Jonathan Mallahan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Steering Committee Member	Caprice Pine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Steering Committee Member	Brian Bell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Steering Committee Member	Barney Yorkston	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Steering Committee Member	Cecil Robinson			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Steering Committee Member	Jason Polverari	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Steering Committee Member	Patrick Alesse	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Steering Committee Member	Wayne Kortlever			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Steering Committee Member	James R. (Bob) Aiken			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		10	0	4
General Association Attendance		29	n/a	

3. Approval of Minutes.

Minutes of the Oct. 17, 2024 Steering Committee were approved.

Moved: Lisa Guthrie	Second: Caprice Pine		Vote: Yea: 10 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0
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4. Executive Committee Report.

Matt Berry presented a brief report on slides highlighting the accomplishments of BBIA over the past year, including Quarterly Association Meetings with guest speakers, and increasing stakeholder outreach.

The Executive also secured funding of up to \$150,000 from Whatcom County for a new Incorporation Feasibility Study of the Birch Bay UGA. The study should start within the next few months and be completed by August of 2025.

5. Communications Committee Report

Lisa Guthrie presented a brief report on growth in the number of e-mail contacts by BBIA over the past year and use of local media such as Cascadia Daily News and the Northern Light. Equipment was purchased to provide an information booth at other community events, such as Rollback Weekend, Derby Days and the Fall Festival. The committee has also initiated presentations at HOA meetings and other community outlets.

6. Research Committee Report.

Jonathan Mallahan presented a brief report on the activities of the Research and Feasibility Committee over the past year, including a community survey with a statistically significant response rate. The committee analyzed budgets and services from other comparable cities in Whatcom County and identified the types of revenues that a new City of Birch Bay might expect.

7. Finance Committee Report.

Sharman Burnam presented a brief report on the activities of the Finance Committee over the past year to secure the funds required for the BBIA room rentals to hold its monthly meetings, provide Zoom access, provide Survey Monkey for research efforts, purchase some research data, purchase tents, tables and signs for an information booth and produce literature for distribution. The Finance committee has a current balance of more than \$4,000 and is seeking further funding for the next year.

8. Open Session.

Questions received at the time of the Committee Reports and during an open session included:

- The County proposes to increase property taxes by 10%, would incorporation reduce that increase
- If the current revenues collected in the Birch Bay UGA exceed the current expenditures, does that include capital expenditures
- Why are Steering Committee Members only elected for one-year terms
- How are the UGA boundaries decided; are they coordinated with other jurisdictions such as Blaine to eliminate dead zones.

9. Steering Committee Election.

Matt Berry noted that fifteen applications for the 2025 BBIA Steering Committee had been received and each was identified in the handout with a Statement. Matt invited any other nominations to be made from anyone at the meeting. None were received. Matt then invited each person listed in the handout to introduce themselves to the meeting attendees. Raymond Chladny and Lisa Black were not in attendance, but all others made short remarks.

Doralee Booth was introduced as the independent controller for the election. The meeting attendants were provided with ballots, and reminded that they could vote for up to 15 candidates. Completed ballots were collected and given to Doralee and her assistants to verify and count. The following votes were recorded and the fifteen candidates were duly elected, having attained sufficient votes.

Name	Neighborhood	Votes
Jason Polverari	Central Reach	26
Jan Barnes	Cottonwood Reach	29
Lisa Guthrie	Birch Point Village	28
Raymond Chladny	State Park Reach	24
Jonathan Mallahan	Central Reach	28
Caprice Pine	Birch Point Village	26
Lisa Black	Central Uplands	24
Patrick Alesse	Central Reach	28
Sharman Burnam	Central Reach	29
Pauline Nefcy	Central Reach	25
Michael Edward Rutkowski	Hillsdale	25
Matt Berry	Cottonwood Reach	30
Yorkson Jeen	Birch Point Village	30
Michael Stringam	Birch Point Village	27
Holly Hamilton	Cottonwood Reach	31

10. Adjourn:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:02 pm on a motion by Lisa Guthrie, seconded by Caprice Pine, with no objections.