*Dear Mount Baker Rim Community Club Members:*

*Mount Baker Rim’s Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday, June 26th, 2021. Because our neighbors in Canada are still unable to cross the border, and because large indoor gatherings are still not recommended, we will be holding the 2021 MBRCC AGM via Zoom again this year. Please mark your calendars! As we did last year, the online meeting will have an initial setup period to allow everyone to join and get acquainted with the format. The setup period will start at 12:30pm—with the meeting called to order at 1:30pm.*

*Online voting will start the day after the meeting has concluded and will be conducted using ElectionBuddy—the same as last year. Results will be sent out via email after voting closes.*

*Additional information on how to join the online meeting is enclosed. If you don’t have access to a computer, you can dial in with just a phone. If you are unable to find a way to join, please contact us ahead of time at**office@mtbakerrim.com**, and we will do our best to find a way for you to participate.*

*We understand that the efforts we have all had to make during this massively challenging time due to COVID-19 have been difficult for nearly everyone; however, there have been some positive changes that have come from the pressure to adapt. Holding the AGM via Zoom and holding the voting via ElectionBuddy last year was one such positive adaptation. While the technology may have been new to some, the result was that we had very strong AGM and voting participation:*

* *Over 80 AGM attendees.*
* *146 ballots cast.*
* *All measures passed with 80+% approval.*

*This level of participation was highly gratifying and feels incredibly important to the health of our community.*

*Since my three-year term is up this June, this will be my last letter to you as president, which I feel makes this a good opportunity to share my thoughts on the impact of this board and on the state of our community. There is no doubt that 2020-2021 has been a far more challenging period than most of us could have anticipated. However, I feel strongly that we have made significant progress—even in the midst of so much challenge—and I believe better days are ahead. We have adapted, and we have worked very hard to support the health and safety of all those involved with MBRCC—so now, as vaccination rates climb, as the deciduous trees leaf out, and the flowers start to bloom, it feels like a new beginning.*

*State of MBRCC by Board and Staff Positions:*

***Treasurer/Financials:***

*Chris Park is also ending his term this June, and I would like to take a moment to share my profound thanks for everything he has put into his role over this three-year period. Chris has been a steady and dependable member of the board. He always takes the input of his fellow board members into consideration, works to build consensus, and keeps the overall health and well-being of the community as the top priority. It has been a great pleasure to work with Chris on the board. We have been truly lucky to have his expertise and guidance.*

***Secretary:***

*David Hill joined the board after last year’s AGM, and having been on the board before, he knew full well what he was getting himself into. And even though he may have had some trepidation about the demands of rejoining, he has generously lent us his experience and his wisdom. He took on the challenging roll of Board Secretary, and he has helped us improve our processes and has shared immensely valuable historical context. Knowing that David will be staying on as a steadying force, I know MBRCC will be in good hands.*

***Property Standards:***

*Property Standards is a particularly challenging board position—and it is even more challenging given the staggering volume of new construction and renovation we’ve been seeing in recent months. Ben Williamson joined the board roughly four months ago and has been brave enough to take on this challenge--jumping right in to help the board stay on top of all of this new activity. He has been ramping up quickly, and we very much appreciate his efforts.*

***Legal and Insurance:***

*Steve Pand attended a board meeting approximately five months ago to let us know about a concern he had about drivers speeding in the Rim. Through the conversation, Steve shared that he is a practicing attorney, and we told him that we happened to be missing a Legal and Insurance Director. While Steve cannot be counsel for MBRCC, his generous decision to join the board to fill the Legal and Insurance vacancy has been monumentally valuable to us. Steve has lent an amazing amount of time and talent toward helping us start to get our MBRCC critical documents in order to help prevent future boards from being at a disadvantage while trying to uphold MBRCC bylaws, covenants, and rules. The board also voted to install new signage to prevent the speeding Steve originally brought to our attention.*

***Violations + Vice President:***

*Rheannon Schoephoester has done a fantastic job of implementing the fine schedule that was adopted and ratified last year, which has resulted in far greater compliance with MBRCC rules and regulations. By educating new members and implementing small initial fines, most MBRCC members come to understand how picking up after pets, keeping noise under control, registering rental guests, and complying with minimum property standards makes them good neighbors; it helps keep community harmony, and it increases the likelihood of neighborly reciprocity—without having to escalate complaints to the board. Also, in keeping with the goals of the revised fine schedule, Rheannon and the rest of the board have focused all larger fines on repeat and flagrant violations—and the good news is that overall compliance is much improved. Our goal continues to be to apply MBR rules as evenly and fairly as possible, and Rheannon’s deep and longstanding love of this community has meant that she has put in countless hours to make this a reality. I can’t thank her enough for her efforts.*

***Member Relations Director:***

*Sheri Hargus quietly works magic behind the scenes and has done more this year to improve communications at MBRCC than most individuals could accomplish over several years. Sheri revived Baker Bits, has keep the website up to date, and has worked tirelessly on the new MBRCC portal, which has the potential to make interactions—including updating contact information and making payments—far easier going forward. Like all of our current board members, Sheri has gone above and beyond to not only serve the community but to improve how we do things. And in case you haven’t noticed, now you can even purchase Mount Baker Rim swag on the website!*

***Grounds and Maintenance Director:***

*Understanding what it takes to manage our Mount Baker Rim grounds is another challenging board role. Rip Robbins has taken the time and interest to get to know our staff and to become acquainted with what it takes to keep MBR looking great. Rip has also lent his efforts to revising job descriptions and helping the board determine what will be required in terms of MBRCC staffing long term. Rip’s efforts are aimed providing improved continuity for MBR’s future—which is tremendously important work, and is tremendously appreciated.*

***Member at Large:***

*In addition to helping with a number of research and planning efforts this year, Josh Lozman has also been part of a group working to inform the MBRCC Board of Directors about options for improved internet connectivity in the Rim. While this is ongoing work, Josh has leveraged his knowledge, experience, and connections to try to help improve something that has the potential to improve the lives of all MBRCC members for years to come. While Josh has recently left the board, his input and assistance over the past year has been greatly appreciated, and we will miss his involvement.*

***Bookkeeping/Accounting:***

*While much of her work is done behind the scenes, Laura Meyer has done a brilliant job of keeping MBRCC’s books. She is efficient and effective, and she always keeps the board well informed on all financial matters. She learned her job quickly, is happy to help the board out with a number of additional ad hoc office tasks, and is professional and highly responsive in everything she does. I hope that as pandemic conditions improve you will have the opportunity to meet Laura and to thank her for her exemplary work on behalf of MBRCC.*

***Caretaking/Groundskeeping:***

*Many of you have known Kenny Sather for years, and Kenny continues to care deeply about Mount Baker Rim, and he takes great pride in keeping our community looking great. The flowers at the entrance look terrific—all newly mulched. And new flower pots made from tree logs are now on display at the clubhouse—brightening things up this spring. Kenny is also scheduled to take a course on pool maintenance this spring, which will only enhance and expand his capabilities. On several occasions this year, Kenny has more than gone above and beyond to serve this community, so please take a moment to thank him for his efforts when you can.*

*We are also in the process of hiring a new MBRCC Community Manager, whom we hope will be in place ahead of the AGM—and all of your volunteer board directors will provide year-end reports to bring you up to speed on more of the progress we’ve made this year.*

*So, until then, please be well. I wish you and your family health, safety, and much happiness in the days ahead.*

*Sincerely,*

*Lisa Beliveau, President, Mount Baker Rim Board of Directors*

*206-331-2600*