



Safety Committee Regular Meeting

July 17, 2025, 2:00 PM, LIBRARY CONFERENCE ROOM

2:00

I. Call to order

2:01

II. Land acknowledgment statement:

Land Acknowledgment

I would like to begin by acknowledging that we gather today on the ancestral homelands of the Coast Salish Peoples

Anti-racism Statement

The Sudden Valley Community Association (SVCA) stands against racism of all colors.

2:03

III. Attendance: Members: Rick Asai, Chair; Tom Henning, Vice-chair; Debbie Davolio(excused); Daniel Harris; Kolleen Mitchell; Ted Wang; Judy White (committee is full).

Quorum is 50%, minimum of 4 members present and at least one Board member.

2:05

IV. Adopt the agenda.

2:07

V. Approve minutes from June 19, 2025

VI. Program updates (continuing business)

2:09

VIa. Judy White-Go-bag and emergency preparedness review of presentation. Tom did a great job leading the meeting. Greg Hope (city of Bellingham office of emergency management) and Amy Cloud, (Whatcom Sheriff's Division of Emergency Management).

2:19

VIb. Ted Wang- Water safety-life preserver update. July 10, 2025 dedication and recognition.

2:30

Vlc. Road safety. School is out for the summer. Submit for 2026 budget proposal. Speed/radar signs for speed reader.

2:45

Vld. Alternate evacuation routes. Matt Klein to reschedule.

3:00

Vle. Future meeting topics discussion.

3:30

Vlf. Recommendation to BOD: Make a bylaws amendment to add a Safety Committee as a standing committee. This needs to be submitted to the BOD then as a bylaws amendment at AGM.

3:35

Vlg. As we continue to reflect on climate change and the increased risk of fire also request additional Firewise limb pickup and chip in 2026 budget.(this may be included as use of additional hazardous tree budget item that does not get used.)

3:45

VII. New Business:

In the Wild/Urban Interface (WUI) we need regular (annual) Firewise presentations. Other topics could be explored. Also, emergency preparedness to include alternative communication channels like AM radio 1610. Map your neighborhood.

4:00

VIII. Adjourn

Next meeting: 2:00PM Wednesday Aug 21, 2025. In person at the Library Conference Room. DO WE NEED THIS MEETING?



Safety Committee Regular Meeting Minutes

June 19, 2025, 2:00 PM, LIBRARY CONFERENCE ROOM

1. The meeting was called to order at 2:03pm.
2. Land Acknowledgement and Anti-racism statements were read.
3. Attendance: Rick Asai, Chair; Tom Henning, Vice-Chair; Judy White; Ted Wang; Kolleen Mitchell, and Debbie Davolio. (Quorum achieved: min. of 4 members; one chair)
4. Review of May 15th meeting minutes: an amendment was offered regarding the special meeting that had been planned with Matt Klein of the Sherriff's department on May 30th to discuss emergency evacuation routes. Matt was unable to attend due to a local emergency, and no quorum was achieved. Tom Haney, Judy White, Debbie Davolio talked with Michael Bennett and Fire Chief Mitch Nolze. Daniel Harris will be asked to set up another meeting with Matt Klein. The May 15th meeting minutes were adopted as amended.
5. The meeting agenda was adopted as posted.
6. Program Updates (continuing business):

6a. Judy White confirmed the details of the 2nd event in the Disaster Readiness Series, The Go Bag Event, coming up on Monday, June 23 in the Dance Barn from 6:30 to 8:00. The event will be undertaken with the City of Bellingham and Whatcom County Sheriff's Department of Emergency Management. Greg Hope and Amy Cloud respectively are confirmed as the guest speakers.

Co-chair Tom Haney will MC the event. Residents will be asked to sign in (Name, email, Gate) and will receive a ticket for the Raffle after doing so.

Tom was asked to open up the event by introducing the Safety Committee members, summarizing the Committee's charge and work to date, as well as mentioning the Raffle and Door Prizes.

Libby Fuller, a previous committee member, brought in 10 red "Go Bags" and 6 Go Bag "Starter Kits" left over from their 2019 Go Bag Presentation.

The Association also approved a \$25.00 gift certificate. Someone from the audience will be asked to pick the winning tickets. The Door Prizes will be mentioned in the Weekly E-Blast.

Where a Q & A will follow the presentation, the speakers will again be asked to repeat the question before responding. It was decided that a hand-held microphone will be located at the podium and a 2nd microphone for roaming the audience.

The program survey from the 2019 event was reviewed by the committee; Rick Asai will shorten the survey to 4-5 questions and add a Comment Section.

6b. Ted Wang- Water Safety Life Preserver Project: Ted reported that he met Mike Brock and Michael Bennett at the Marina, and the final location for the rack was approved: gravelly area in between kayak racks and doc. Foundation holes (16 inches, 3 ft, deep) were dug for the posts. Eagle Scout Jack was asked to use 6 x 6 posts to conform to this whole size and depth. (Orange safety cones now capping holes). The Eagle Scout Coordinator's approval is necessary before Jack may begin construction. The work will be done off-site and is expected to get underway the week of June 23rd. It was confirmed that the Association is purchasing the materials.

Ted shared that the DNR is now short on jackets. The SVCA stock stored in the Marina Building will be used first. It was also decided that an unveiling of the rack will be and a good promotional opportunity for the Eagle Scouts and SVCA. An article will be written on the project with photos for The Views. A token of appreciation of some kind will be presented to Eagle Scout Jack.

6c. Kolleen Mitchell provided an update on the Road Safety and School Bus Program.

She reported on a recent incident where she observed a car speeding around a bus unloading students. The driver's name was known so was reported to the School Department. There's been no feedback to date. TH suggested that the Sheriff's Department could also have been contacted; even on SV roads, the Sheriff can cite for reckless driving. KM will follow-up with conversation with the County departments. It was noted that a traffic sign has recently been placed on Alger Road near the intersection with Lake Louise Road.

Tom reported that he has been in contact with a company who make digital signs. He's looking into the types of signs available, sizes, costs, etc. Kolleen affirmed that data collection is a worthwhile first step, suggesting a proposal and funds will need to be prepared in order to purchase a trailer outfitted with the camera, lighting, etc. It's known that the instant feedback available to drivers has a deterrent effect unto itself so effective early step.

KM has also continued to identify local companies versed in Fire Wise practices that provide free property evaluations. She recommends that a list of companies be available for residents.

6d. Future Meeting Topics:

i. Evacuation Planning: It's acknowledged that the issue of evacuation planning is complex and options will need to be explored. This conversation will continue once a meeting with the County Sheriff's department (Matt Klein) can be rescheduled. It was shared that Michael Bennett had shared his emergency management experiences and the tools developed at Suncadia with TH, JW, and DD.

ii. Tom Fields will be asked to speak on Radio 1510. All opportunities will be used to encourage residents to sign up for Alert Sense. A QR Code is published in each issue of The Views.

iii. Map Your Neighborhood: Realizing that Neighborhood Mapping will be a part of the Go Bag event, DD suggested that a full presentation on Neighborhood Mapping still be approached. TM suggested that the community building inherent to Neighborhood Mapping may organic in nature , so a full presentation perhaps unnecessary. DD suggested that we discuss a way to draw in volunteers from the various Gates to participate in a facilitator training using the videos and materials provided online by the Emergency Management Departments.

6e. New Business: Acknowledgement of interest/need to amend bylaws for Safety Committee to be made a standing committee.

ei. Community Fair. Saturday, July 26. JW now has the large Emergency Preparedness banner used by the previous committee. It was suggested that the banner would work well for the Committee s table at the Fair. Information on the programs will be distributed. TH said that he would store the sign after the event.

The next meeting: Thursday, July 17, 2:00 pm, Library Conference Room.

Adjournment: 3:52pm.