



Annual Report



In Partnership with



INTRODUCTION

The Fairhaven Association is a 501c6 nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting Fairhaven's history and thriving small business community. We are a group with members representing business owners, non-profit organizations, residents, neighbors, and friends who support the preservation and business success of Fairhaven Village.

Vision Statement:

To promote Fairhaven as a community while preserving the historical character.

Mission Statement:

To preserve and inspire a vibrant village by creating and fostering unique experiences and connections.

Our over-arching purpose is:

- **ADVOCACY:** Provide a consistent voice and advocacy for Fairhaven as a district.
- **CONNECTION:** Support community and create connections through communication, education, and action.
- **EXPERIENCE:** Promote and support the beauty, history, welfare, and vibrancy of the district through events and activities that attract visitors.

Through community events, social gatherings, and beautification work groups we celebrate the people and the history that make Fairhaven Village the very special place it is.

OUR TEAM

Executive Director: Heather Carter (2022)

BOARD MEMBERS 2024: Elected to a 2-year term with term limits of 3 consecutive terms.

Executive Officers:

President: Chris Caldwell (2021)
Director of Sales & Marketing, Chrysalis Inn & Spa

Vice-President: Marissa Powell (2023)
Manager, Peoples Bank Fairhaven Branch

Treasurer: Sarah Woelkers-Prescott (2023)
Owner, Fairhaven Gold

Secretary: Jessica Gigot (2024)
Owner, Eointegral Coaching

Directors:

Tim Anderson (2021)
Financial Advisor, North Harbor Wealth Management

Daniel Agosta (2024)
Owner, Reconnect Chiropractic & Sports Rehab

Dr. Amber Machin (2024)
Owner, Fairhaven Pediatrics

Traci Bjorklund (2024)
Financial Advisor, Edward Jones

Kelly Evert (2025)
Owner, Village Books & Paper Dreams

Kellie Moeller (2025)
Director of Sales & Marketing, Solstice Senior Living

ADVOCACY

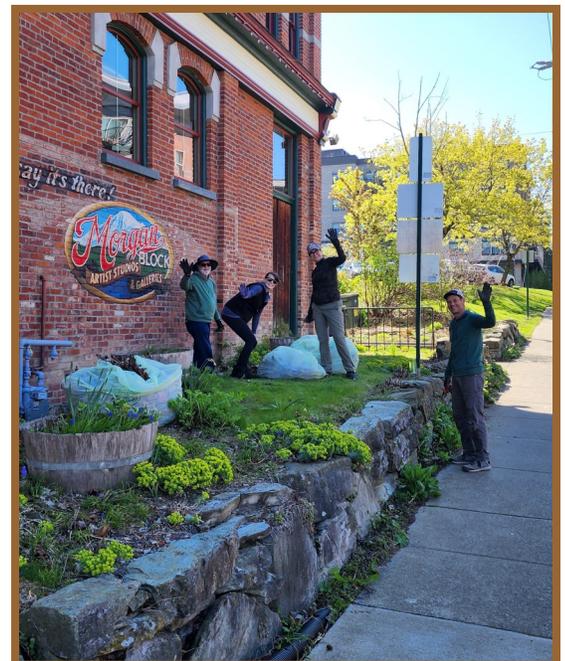
The Fairhaven Association is your dedicated advocate, championing the interests and welfare of our historic district.

- Participation on the Board of the Bellingham Whatcom Tourism –Heather has been a director on the board since 2023
- Meetings with local officials to represent concerns of Fairhaven with quarterly check-ins with our Bellingham City Council representative
- City of Bellingham funding partner
- Regular meetings with city departments re: upgrades to streets, parks, village planning

CONNECTION

- Ken Imus Community Day (April) where volunteers picked up trash throughout the village & spruced up the garden at the corner of 10th & Harris
- 2024 Fairhaven Village Map Created (10,000 maps printed)
- Shop Local Holiday frequent shopper card program during Winterfest, distributed 500 / 213 returned (drew weekly prizes)
- Operated the Visitor Kiosk in partnership with Visit Bellingham
- Re-design & re-launch of our website with an integration with our member management software, Growthzone
- Member benefits that include village discounts and free parking
- Monthly membership meetings with Association and Member announcements
- Quarterly networking gatherings, ABCs of Membership & one-on-one member connections
- Annual Member Meeting
- Fairhaven Association Member Holiday Party
- Event sponsorship opportunities for our members

Be a part of a community that values connection, education, and collective action.



EXPERIENCES

Chocolate Walk (February -since 2021)

Highlights: Sold out! 325 ticket holders happily collected sweet treats in cute pink bags from 17 supporting businesses in Fairhaven. VIP opportunity included champagne/port tasting, souvenir bag & special raffle prizes.



Sponsored By:

Chocolate Hosts - \$150

- 12th St Shoes
- Adored Boutique
- Babygreens
- Bella Rose Boutique
- Bellingham Training & Tennis Club
- Berkshire Hathaway Bayside Realty
- Current & Furbish
- Fairhaven Coffee
- Gallery of Echo Chernik
- Quinn & Foster
- Lululemon
- Redwood Group Realty
- The Garden Room
- Three French Hens
- Village Books
- Whatcom Art Market
- Whimsey

Dirty Dan Murder Mystery Weekend (April -since 2020)

Highlights: A new murder mystery is created each year and “gumshoes” are invited to solve it. Clues are collected from supporting member businesses while the sleuths have a chance to interview the suspects who wander the district. Sunday hosts the “Whodunnit Day” including live music and local vendors.

Sponsored By : Presenting Sponsor: Village Books \$1500

Murder Mystery Newspaper Advertisers - \$100

- Blessings Salon & Spa
- Fairhaven Post & Parcel
- Fairhaven Village Inn
- North Harbor Wealth Mgmt
- Peoples Bank
- Robin Lynn Kagan
- Southside Living Magazine
- Stones Throw Brewery
- The Heron’s Nest
- The Black Cat

Clue Hosts - \$200

- Firehouse Arts & Events Center
- Peter James Gallery
- Corner Taphouse
- 12th St Shoes
- Current & Furbish
- Belle Bridal
- Cryptid Escapes
- Edward Jones
- Fairhaven Pediatrics
- Whatcom Art Market

- Three French Hens
- Berkshire Hathaway Bay-side Realty
- Evolve Chocolate + Cafe
- Whimsey
- The Garden Room
- Bella Rose Boutique
- Fairhaven Village Inn
- Adored Boutique
- Barrett Lizza Design
- Minted Method
- Bellingham Training & Tennis Club
- Community Boating Center
- Fairhaven Coffee

Fairhaven Festival (May – since the 1980s)

Highlights: The biggest street fair in Bellingham historically brings in an estimated 10,000-25,000 attendees with over 100 volunteers helping to run the event.

The Fairhaven Festival includes the Entertainment stage with live music, local craft beer garden, food and local artisan craft vendors. This beloved event is a wonderful way to celebrate the local Ski to Sea Race and Memorial Day weekend.

Sponsored By:

- Superfeet-\$2500
- Louis Auto Glass-\$2000
- OVN Wood Fired Pizza-\$2000
- Friends of Fairhaven-\$13,500



Chicken Festival (Summer – since 2021)

Highlights: Our quirkiest event is an homage to the backyard chicken with a bit of old fashioned carnival game flair and plenty of “the chicken dance” with all ages. Estimated 500 attendees. Live Entertainment, carnival games, community partners.

Sponsored By:

- Galloway’s Cocktail Bar - \$1000
- South Bay Suites - \$800

Fairhaven Outdoor Cinema

(Summer in Fairhaven for 20 years, operated by Fairhaven Association since 2021)



Highlights: The Saturday night summer outdoor movies have delighted patrons for decades. Grab a blanket, listen to fun entertainment, and watch a movie into the night as the skies darken around you.

Estimated 1,972 attendees. 8-week movie series with live entertainment and community partners and weekly promotions.

Sponsored By:

- Presenting Sponsor – Village Books \$5000
- Season Sponsor—First Fed \$2500
- On-Screen Sponsors: \$1000
 - North Harbor Wealth Management
 - Keenan’s at the Pier
 - Bellingham Training & Tennis Club
 - Firehouse Arts & Events Center
 - Fairhaven Post & Parcel
 - Ben Kinney Real Estate
- Special Night Sponsors:
 - CASCADIA International Women’s Film Festival & Maggie Crane Insurance

Annual Sidewalk Sale (September-since the 2000s)

Highlights: This member-led event is a wonderful walk-about in Fairhaven with businesses offering special deals on the sidewalks in front of their businesses. The association lets members borrow canopies and tables.

“FEAR” Haven Village Trick or Treat (on Halloween - since the 1990s)

Highlights: It fills the heart to see our streets filled with trick or treaters all decked out in costumes for all ages. At our Photo Booth, we welcomed 1,000 amazingly costumed celebrators of all ages and businesses gave out 1,000s of treats. New for 2024—Brick or Treat Celebration at the Village Green.

Photo Booth Sponsored by: Peoples Bank \$1000



Sponsored By:

Presenting Sponsor – Connie & Gene Shannon
\$5000

Village Books & Paper Dreams - \$2400

North Harbor Wealth Management - \$1500

Fairhaven Village Inn - \$1500

\$1000

- Fairhaven Pediatrics
- Jacaranda
- SPIE
- The Chrysalis Inn & Spa
- Galloway’s Cocktail Bar
- Avenue Bread
- Solstice Senior Living
- Groundworks
- Greenleaf Accounting

\$600

- Fairhaven Behavioral Health
- OVN Wood Fired Pizza

Winterfest Celebrations

(November-December - since the 1990s)

Highlights: Our Winterfest events make Fairhaven a magical winter scene with Lighting the Village, Visits with Father Christmas, Horse Drawn Carriage Rides, Tree Lighting Celebration, Luminary Walk, and Santa’s Mail Box. Estimated 5,000-10,000 winter visitors who delighted in the season.



Year Long Support

Fairhaven Village Map - \$500

Fairhaven Post & Parcel, Fairhaven Pediatrics, Whimsey, North Harbor Wealth Management & Galloway’s Cocktail Bar

Website Sponsors - \$3000

- Bellingham Training & Tennis Club
- Fairhaven Village Inn

BY THE NUMBERS

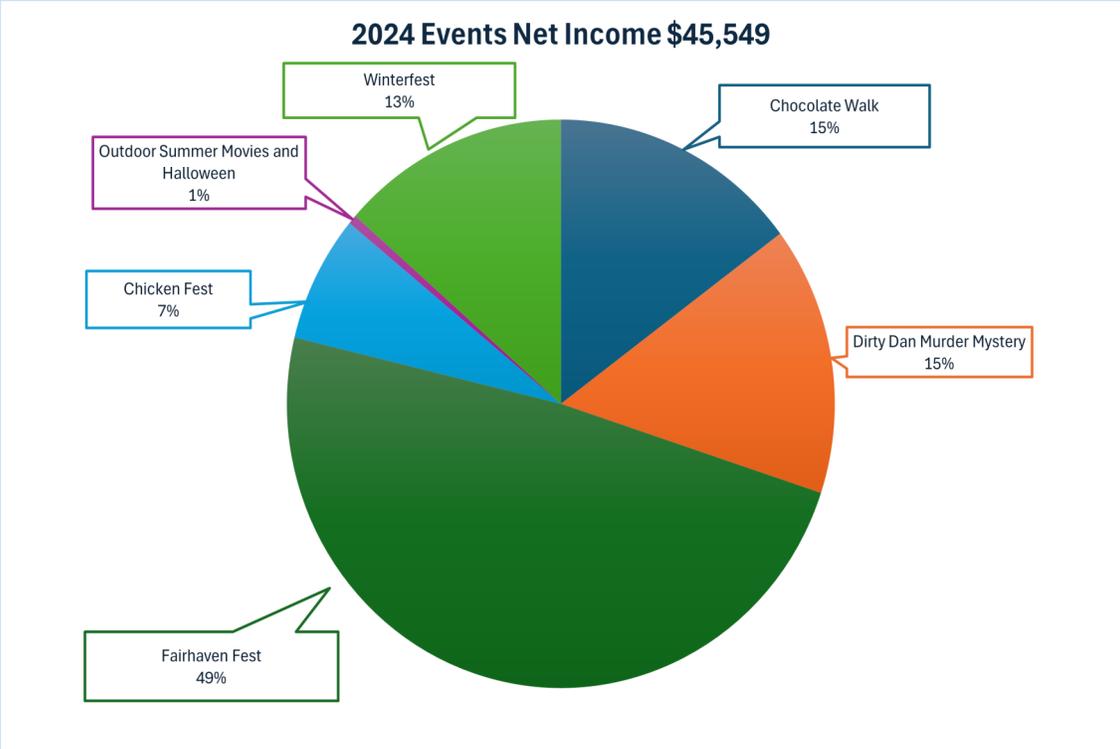
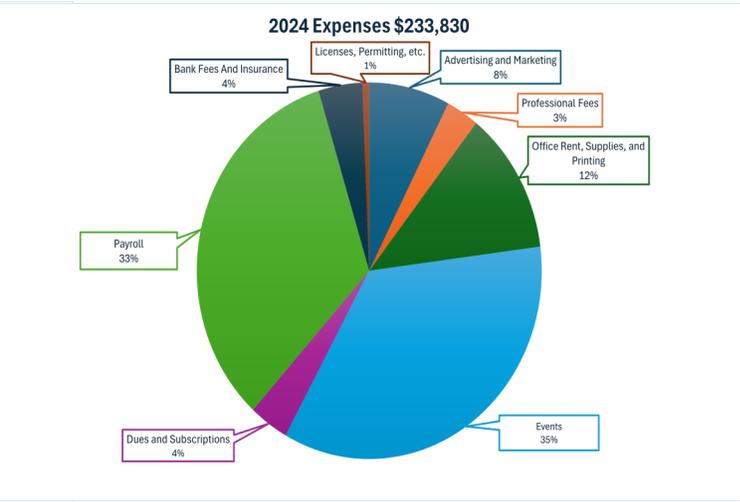
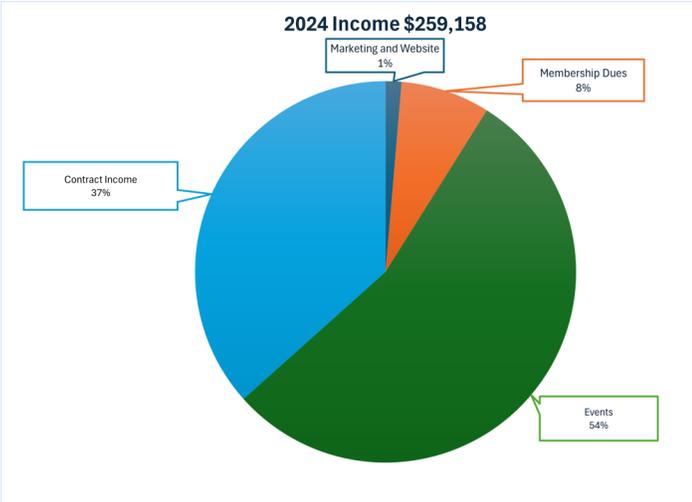
Fairhaven Association Members = 154

- Business Members = 130
- Non-Profit Members = 14
- Individual Members = 10

Website Visits = 29,000 visits

Social Media = Facebook 304,000 post reach & Instagram 95,000 post reach

Total number of people drawn to our events = 30,000+ event visitors to the village!



FAIRHAVEN ASSOCIATION HISTORY

The “Old Fairhaven Association” was originally founded in 1971 by a group of volunteer citizens and business owners to promote the Fairhaven District while preserving its historical flavor. The OFA advanced its status into a 501c6 organization in 1984 still operating with all volunteers.

In 2019 the first part-time Executive Director was hired and the name changed from OFA to a dba as Fairhaven Association (too much confusion with the fairhaven historical society).

In 2022 we opened our office at the current location in Finnegan’s Alley and hired a full-time Executive Director. Our volunteers are the heart of our organization along with leadership from our Executive Director and Board of Directors.

We are grateful for the support of our Members and supporters and look forward to continuing the good work of the Fairhaven Association.

FAIRHAVEN ASSOCIATION

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366-8246

Email: contact@enjoyfairhaven.com

Website: www.enjoyfairhaven.com

Social Media: [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#)

