

## Minutes of the June 19, 2014 Annual Meeting of the Tiffany Park Neighborhood Association (TPNA)

The annual meeting was held at the Tiffany Park recreation building in Renton, courtesy of the staff of the Renton Youth Activity Center

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by president Laura Silbernagel.

Attending were these steering committee members: Dave Beedon (interim secretary), Renate Beedon, Pam Carino, Doug Fawcett, Marina Higgins, Dave Phillips, Bill Roenicke (treasurer), Laura Silbernagel (president), and Donna Thorkildson (vice president).

### WELCOMING

Laura welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained the purpose and activities of the association. One of the goals of the association is to promote familiarity among residents, as that contributes to a safe environment. In response to someone's question, it was stated that the association was founded in April 2006.

### STEERING COMMITTEE

Then Laura and Donna introduced members of the steering committee, noting that members of the committee (except for the treasurer) are limited to three consecutive one-year terms. Then they had members of the audience introduce themselves. There were about 20 people in the audience.

### PRIZE DRAWING

The first drawing provided this prize: a free massage.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Bill Roenicke reported on the association's finances and membership level (87 paid members, the highest number ever). An audience member asked about the expenses of the association, to which Bill mentioned the major expenses:

1. maintenance of Ginger Creek Park
2. promotion of the annual Christmas decorations contest
3. staging of the annual meeting
4. maintaining a domain name for the association's Web presence
5. printing of newsletters and other materials.

Bill also mentioned that he recently bought a used walking sprinkler for Ginger Creek Park and got a good deal on it. Donna added that the steering committee is frugal, giving the example of hand-delivering of newsletters and announcements.

## GINGER CREEK PARK

Bill also reported on maintenance of Ginger Creek Park. Highlights:

1. the park has been sprayed to get rid of “junk grass”
2. bushes have been pruned or removed to maintain good visibility for the police
3. wood chips (obtained for free from tree surgeons) have been dispersed to keep weeds under control
4. plants having invasive runners have been removed or had their runners removed
5. trash gets picked up as needed by Laura
6. grass gets cut (Erik Thorkildson has just taken over this task).

Bill also mentioned that the association maintains the “connecting path,” the sidewalk that connects Index Avenue with a cul-de-sac off of Lake Youngs Way. Volunteers are needed for all maintenance projects.

## WOODS

Renate reported on the status of the development of the Tiffany Park woods: unchanged; still on hold by the City. A brief discussion followed.

## VOTING

After an introduction of the voting process by Donna, votes were cast for members of the steering committee. Paper ballots were used in accordance with the bylaws requirement for a secret ballot. Results are as follows (“NEW” = “for the new term”):

1. New president: Donna Thorkildson (ran unopposed)
2. New vice-president: Laura Silbernagel
3. New Treasurer: Bill Roenicke (ran unopposed)
4. New Secretary: Dave Beedon (ran unopposed)
5. New non-officer members of the steering committee: Renate Beedon, Pam Carino, Ed Eixenberger, Doug Fawcett, Marina Higgins, Dave Phillips  
(thus six of the seven possible positions have been filled).

## RYAC

Staff of the Renton Youth Activity Center described the purpose of RYAC and mentioned some problems facing school-age residents. RYAC provides activities for children, such as arts and crafts, music, and sports. RYAC is planning to get away from being a de facto child care provider and concentrate on older students. Volunteers are needed.

## BREAK-INS

Laura mentioned the recent break-ins in the neighborhood. Audience members asked some questions. Laura, Donna, and Bill provided answers. The City’s Block Watch program can be used to deal with this.

## RECOGNITION

Laura was presented with a recognition certificate for her tireless efforts as association president. Some of her efforts have been managing the annual garage sale, planning the annual meeting, co-ordinating the publication and distribution of newsletters and announcements, overseeing the Christmas decorations contest, dealing with the City, and recruiting new members for the association.

## DRAWING

The second drawing provided these prizes: two cookbooks, two gift certificates, and a plant.

## GARAGE SALE

Laura reported on the upcoming garage sale and stressed that the more participants, the better the turn-out. Unsold items can be delivered to a designated house for disposition. The cost for participating is \$5 per day for two days (the third day is free). People who help plan the sale do not have to pay to participate.

## BYLAWS

Attendees voted per the bylaws to do two things. The first vote allowed Bill Roenicke to remain as treasurer for another year (to justify his being voted in during the earlier balloting activity). The second vote was to change the bylaws to make official the first vote. This changing of bylaws will take place at the next annual meeting or at a special meeting if one occurs before the annual meeting.

## PICNIC

Laura described the picnic. It is sponsored by the City. It is held on a weekday evening rather a weekend because City employees don't want to work on a weekend (there are many picnics throughout the city). Instead of hot dogs, this year the City is providing chicken fillets.

## COMMUNICATIONS

Laura talked about the association's website and the "e-group" (a Yahoo mailing list/bulletin board function). The latter is for association members only. Both are vehicles for disseminating information about the neighborhood. Typical subjects: association events, lost animals, burglaries.

## NEW BUSINESS

Renato Santos told about his dog's getting injured in the "woods" at the Tiffany Park playground. The dog sustained an injury to his neck and died. Mr. Santos was concerned that if something in the woods could harm a dog, it might also harm a child, and suggested that clearing some of the brush might be wise. Someone pointed out that the City is responsible for maintaining the property and does not want citizens doing it.

## DRAWING

In this final drawing, two plants were awarded as prizes.

## ADJOURNMENT

Laura Silbernagel adjourned the meeting at 8:50 p.m.