

Tiffany Park Neighborhood Association
Steering Committee Meeting Minutes
April 7, 2011 - 7 PM
Thorkildson home

The Steering Committee meeting was called to order by President Laura Silbernagel at 7:06 PM.

Those attending were Bill Roenicke, Donna Thorkildson, Laura Silbernagel, Daniel Goldman, and Amy Thomas. Those unable to attend were Pam Carino, Bob Garlough, Clint Maurer, Marina Higgins, and Lisa Brines.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Discussion and approval of minutes from the February meeting. Those members present acknowledged receipt of the minutes. Donna moved to approve them as written and Daniel seconded the motion. They were approved unanimously.
2. Discussion and approval of minutes from the annual meeting. Those members present acknowledged receipt of the minutes. Daniel moved to approve them as written and Donna seconded the motion. They were approved unanimously.
3. Treasurer's Report
Bill reported a balance of \$1,901.29. Laura mentioned she had not submitted her expenses yet for the annual meeting. Bill mentioned he may be missing Marina Higgins expenses from the annual meeting. There are currently 26 paying members.
4. Laura presented the mailing that went out to paying members for the annual meeting. It was agreed they came out nicely. Laura suggested mailing the reminder to everyone in the neighborhood next year. This will be decided at a later date.
5. Laura has gathered all the Ginger Creek Park history and will be scanning it soon to put on to the Egroup. Laura asked if it was ok that we spend money to take the larger documents to Kinkos to be scanned as her scanner cannot handle larger documents. Daniel suggested asking the city to scan the larger documents instead.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Ginger Creek Park Redesign
Bill gave an overview of the grant for which TPNA applied for.
 - a. The grant will go towards removing weeds with vinegar and spreading wood chips that TPNA will get from PSE for free.
 - b. Moss killer will be purchased to remove moss.
 - c. Two round picnic tables will be purchased.
 - d. A concrete garbage can will be purchased. TPNA must dispose of the waste collected in garbage cans. Norma McQuiller from the City of Renton suggested putting the garbage can where people cannot stop in their car and easily dispose of their waste. Donna agreed with this and suggested putting it inside the park maybe between the picnic tables.

- e. Metal signs will be put in place stating that owners must pick up after their pets. TPNA will purchase plastic bags for dog poop so that people can clean up after their pets.
 - f. The bushes are being trimmed by Doug Ferneau and Bill. They are almost complete with the trimming. Bill also noted that all bushes must be chest high to prevent people from hiding behind the bushes.
2. Set dates for Ginger Creek cleanup

A date for the cleanup will be determined after we have received the grant from the city.
3. Grant announcements

There is no word yet from the city on the status of the Ginger Creek grant and the communications grant.
4. Postcard Mailings

Laura mentioned we have many postcards that can be used to send to neighbors for announcements. Donna thought we might want to send out postcards to advertise for the neighborhood picnic but we will need to wait until the date is set. Carol Knutson had been getting addresses for everyone in the neighborhood but it wasn't clear how she was obtaining the addresses. Daniel thought that the city provided this information. Laura will check into this. It was agreed the postcards should go out two weeks before the event.
5. Grant Program Overview

Laura provided an overview of the different grant programs the City of Renton offers.

 - a. The first grants to get approved are the communications grants which are \$1 per household in the neighborhood.
 - b. The next grants to be approved are the major grants that are \$3,000 and greater. The communications grant and major grants the city plans on having enough funds to cover.
 - c. The last grants to be approved are the mini grants of \$1,000 or less. It will be announced soon when we can apply for these grants. There will not be enough funds to cover all applicants for the mini grants so it is based on first come, first served. Perhaps we could apply for a mini grant for more plants and/or a garden.
 - d. There is not a specific grant for the neighborhood picnic, however there are only a certain amount of available dates to have the picnic and it may have to be shared with another neighborhood. There will be hot dogs provided by the city and neighbors will need to bring food to share. TPNA cannot use grant money to purchase food. Bill will check to see if he can determine which of TPNA's funds are grant related and which is not. The picnic application may already be online. Donna will call Norma regarding the application.
6. Giveaways

Laura received from the city 192 boxes of biodegradable bags to distribute to neighbors. The bags will be included with the newsletter distribution. An explanation will be in the newsletter as well as a list of merchants where the bags can be purchased.
7. Work Party for Path

Laura has tried to organize a work party to clean up the path near Tiffany Park, but it has been continually cancelled due to weather. Donna Bukoski cleaned up the needles for two hours since the parties were cancelled. It was noted we need to recognize her for these efforts. The graffiti still needs to be cleaned up. This is contingent on Richard

Thorkildson's schedule as to when he can help with his pressure washer. Donna thought this might be in late May.

8. Annual Meeting Postmortem

- a. Laura noted we need to check with the school next year for any conflicting events.
- b. It was agreed there were too many refreshments. After discussion, it was agreed that next year TPNA will make a best guess as to how many people will attend and determine a dollar amount per person to spend on refreshments. After Bill has collected all the receipts from this year's meeting he will report how much was spent this year. Daniel suggested \$1 to \$2 per person. He mentioned just provided some chips, drinks, and cookies.
- c. It was agreed that the door prizes were a good idea but perhaps there were too many for the amount of people present. It was noted there might be more members present if we could have the meeting at the park building in the neighborhood instead of at the library. Donna suggested we prepare three door prizes but if there are less than thirty people then only two door prizes are awarded and the remaining door prize could be used at the picnic. Daniel asked if Starbucks could donate the gift certificates instead of TPNA purchasing them. Donna said this needed to be done at the beginning of the year.

9. Annual Picnic

- a. Laura noted she has some gift certificates already for prizes at the picnic. She asked for members to keep a lookout for gift certificates that can be used for this purpose. Usually a merchant will trade a gift certificate for advertising in our newsletter.
- b. Laura suggested inviting businesses and services in the area to come and set up a booth at the picnic such as the library, historical museum, waste management, and emergency preparedness. It was agreed this is a good idea.
- c. TPNA needs to start thinking about kids prizes at the picnic. We need to figure out how many, what to give, and get them ready in time for the picnic. It was thought that there will be around 100 kids.
- d. As part of the city's requirements for the neighborhood picnic, there needs to be a community project associated with the picnic. TPNA has many projects that could fit this role. Donna suggested a food drive. It will be determined later what the project will be after Donna speaks to Norma about what project would be appropriate for our neighborhood.

10. Message Board

It was discussed to have a message board put up in Tiffany Park. This topic has been approached before with the city and it was not approved by the city. Perhaps later TPNA can approach them again with the suggestion.

11. Cracks on sidewalk

Laura noted there are deep cracks in the sidewalk near Tiffany Park Elementary and she took pictures to send to the city. There has not been a response except for white lines being painted around the cracks. Daniel suggested emailing the city to find out the status and Laura agreed she will contact the city.

12. Maps

Laura presented maps she obtained from the city that showed where the neighborhood

lines were drawn for city projects. It was noted that smaller neighborhoods were combined to form larger areas on the map.

The meeting was adjourned by Laura Silbernagel at 8:13pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Thomas, Secretary

The next Steering Committee Meeting will be held on Thursday, June 2, 2011 at Bill Roenicke's house.