Tiffany Park Neighborhood Association Steering Committee Meeting Minutes June 2, 2011 – 7PM Roenicke Home

The steering committee was called to order by President Laura Silbernagel at 7:06PM.

Those attending were Laura Silbernagel, Pam Carino, Marina Higgins, Bill Roenicke, Clint Maurer, Amy Thomas, and guest Doug Fawcett. Those unable to attend were Bob Garhough, Lisa Brines, and Donna Thorkildson.

Old Business

- Discussion and approval of minutes from April meeting. Those members present acknowledged receipt of meeting minutes. Marina moved to approve them as written, Pam seconded the motion. They were approved unanimously.
- Treasurer's Report
 Bill reported a savings account balance of \$1,516.01 and checking balance of \$191.88. Bill put a new system in place to keep track of funds since there is now a checking and savings account.

 See also Treasurer's Notes below under New Business.
- 3. Laura has started scanning Ginger Creek Park history to the website and will continue to work on the project. There was agreement that the material should be posted to the website.

New Business

- 1. Ginger Creek Park Redesign
 - a. Bill noted that using vinegar to kill the grass does not work for long. The vinegar needs to get down to the roots as the roots are deep and the vinegar does not affect them that deep. After some discussion it was agreed that the grass will need to be cut down to the roots, sprayed with the remaining vinegar that Bill has, covered with newspaper, and then spread the 6 inches of wood chips on top. This should kill the grass.
 - b. There was a stolen car with four intoxicated men that crashed into the park recently. They were air born for approximately 36 feet and then crashed and left holes in the ground. The police came and spoke to the men but no arrests were made. Pictures of the damage done to the park will be in the newsletter. A neighbor has volunteered to donate dirt to fill in the holes. There will be a work party soon to haul and fill in the dirt.
 - c. Bill with the help of some neighbors has completed some general maintenance including trimming of bushes and sprayed around the rocks. There is a pile of brush that needs to be removed. The dump fees will be waived by the city. Later in the meeting Clint volunteered to use his truck to remove the brush.
 - d. The grant has been approved by the city. It is noted that all hired workers need to be approved by the city and insured. An insured company has been found that will deliver the concrete tables.
 - e. Thatching was completed for the grass in the park. See below under Treasurer's Notes for additional information.
 - f. Laura is keeping track of sweat equity hours for the grant. It was noted that volunteer hours before the grant was approved can be included in total hours.

g. Clint recognized Bill for all of his hard work at the park. Clint formally stepped down as Ginger Creek Park Chairperson and handed it over to Bill. He noted that he still wants to be involved in the park and contribute volunteer hours, he just doesn't have the time to devote to being the chairperson.

2. Treasurer's Notes

- a. The thatching at Ginger Creek Park was quoted at \$200 however the bill came to \$459.90. It was paid from TPNA treasury. This is a big expense for TPNA and this type of situation needs to be dealt with differently in the future. It was agreed that any expense over \$100 needs to have a written estimate and approved by TPNA.
- b. It needs to be clear that no grant money can have the appearance of benefitting ourselves. As such, no grant money can go towards refreshments and all grant money must be separated from donations to TPNA.
- c. For detail on the items above, please see attachment "TPNA Financial Mistakes"

3. Membership Drive

Total membership is 26, which is far behind what it was at this time last year. Laura wants to hold a membership drive at Ginger Creek Park with refreshments. The garage sale will be an excellent opportunity to go around and ask neighbors to become members.

4. Dog Poop Signs & Trash

The first dog poop signs were put up but someone knocked them down. Bill put it back up and it hasn't been knocked down since. The sturdy one from the city has not been put in yet. Dog poop signs brought up the issue of who will empty the trash when the trash can is put in place. We could do it by volunteer or pay a local neighborhood kid to do it. It will be decided when the trash can is installed.

Garage Sale

Laura noted that she will need more money for the garage sale than in the past as she will have to pay for printing this year.

6. Graffiti

The fence along the path to the school is full of graffiti. There is also a fence just outside of our neighborhood that has graffiti and it has been asked of us if we can volunteer to help remove it. The removal of graffiti is currently dependent upon Richard Thorkildson allowing us to borrow his gas powered pressure washer. If it is unavailable then we will look for a different pressure washer to use. Laura will ask Richard if we could remove the graffiti on June 25th. She will also ask for volunteers to help on the Egroup.

7. Sidewalk Cracks

Laura noted again the cracks in the sidewalk near the school. She will contact the city again on this.

8. Picnic

- a. Picnic will be on July 28th from 5:30pm to 7pm.
- b. There were 100 kids at the picnic last year. After some discussion it was determined that Laura will look on the web to find approximately 50 prizes for kids to be given away midway through the picnic.
- c. We already have some gift certificates as prizes for the bingo game. Laura will ask various restaurants for more.
- d. Pam will talk to the person who provided popcorn to come this year. She will also talk to the person who did face painting to come as well.
- e. Guests at the picnic include the library and waste management. Donna is looking in to doing some sort of safety demonstration or the like for bikes.

- f. The city will provide hot dogs, potato chips, and lemonade. Neighbors will be asked to bring a dish to share.
- g. Donna will set a planning date for the picnic before the picnic.
- h. There will be a food drive at the picnic as the city now requires a charitable activity at neighborhood picnics.

9. Newsletter

The newsletter will be ready to stuff and distribute next week. A stuffing party will be held at Laura's Tues/Wed. Garage sale fliers will be delivered with the newsletter as well as compost bags.

10. Membership

- a. Daniel Goldman is unable to become a member of the steering committee because the bylaws say members must live in the neighborhood to be a member. This can be amended at the next yearly meeting.
- b. Doug Fawcett was voted in as a steering committee member.

11. Abandoned House

Pam noted a house on 19th Court that appears to be abandoned. Doug saw a moving truck there a month ago and the grass is very tall. Bill suggested to call Norma McQuiller at the City of Renton and gave Pam a list of other people at the city that could help. Pam would like to see the grass cut and the property kept up. City will send a letter to the owner to do so, even if it is the bank that owns the property.

The meeting was adjourned by President Laura Silbernagel at 8:24pm.

Respectfully submitted, Amy Thomas, Secretary

The next steering committee meeting will be held on Thursday, July 21st at 7pm at Marina's home.