Minutes of the November 19, 2014 Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Tiffany Park Neighborhood Association (TPNA)

Meeting was held at the home of Laura Silbernagel and called to order by president Donna Thorkildson at 7:05 p.m.

Attending were these steering committee members: Dave Beedon (secretary), Pam Carino, Marina Higgins, Patty Phillips representing Dave Phillips, Bill Roenicke (treasurer), Laura Silbernagel (vice president), and Donna Thorkildson (president). Absent were Renate Beedon, Ed Eixenberger, and Doug Fawcett. Guest: Vivian Maxwell.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There was no approval of minutes. The minutes of September 17, 2014 still need to be approved. They had been distributed by e-mail in September with an inappropriate addendum and re-distributed without an addendum in October.

REGULAR BUSINESS:

1. NEXT MEETING

The Committee agreed to have the next meeting at 7 p.m. on January 14 at the home of Dave and Patty Phillips (1517 Newport Court SE).

2. TREASURER'S REPORT

Bill reported on the association's finances. Checking account has \$317.09. Savings account has \$1297.31. Those figures are current.

Laura mentioned that she thought some members of the association's board had not paid their dues.

3. GINGER CREEK PARK

Bill reported that there had been one work party, during which pruning took place to increase public visibility of the grounds. [Secretary's note: it took place on October 11.] A second work party was canceled by rain. The annual dropping of leaves has helped to solve the visibility problem. There is a healthy supply of plastic bags for collecting dog feces. There has been no damage to the park caused by wild drivers. Bill conducted his most recent trash pick-up effort about a month ago and while doing it witnessed a motorist's tossing of trash onto the property as he drove by. The trash he encounters during such efforts is mainly related to food and drink. One concrete bench has cosmetic damage that does not interfere with use of the bench; it does no require repair.

Donna mentioned that a Boy Scout troop will be collecting Christmas trees this year

and wondered if it would make sense to get those trees in chipped form for the park. Bill thought we should pursue that possibility. It is only an idea at this point; nothing is definite.

Bill mentioned that the City has still not moved the rocks.

Pam Carino asked permission to post a business-related flyer on the park's bulletin board. It was approved by a casual vote.

OLD BUSINESS

1. PAST-DUE TPNA MEETING MINUTES

This was a discussion of the TPNA's out-of-date website and the efforts taking place to rectify it. Laura reported that lately she has not been able to work on the problem because her computers had been infected by the "FBI virus." That disabled some of her software and made access to her files difficult. Backing up her data files took hours because of the effects of the virus. Her data files are all right, but her webmanagement software might be permanently disabled unless she purchases a new subscription for it. There was no discussion of purchasing of software.

Dave mentioned that in light of this virus mess it would be wise to have all the TPNA data files stored in another place as a safety measure. Laura agreed. Dave gave Laura a 32-gigabyte thumb drive so she could copy all relevant files in all formats to the drive. Dave would then store those files at his house. Laura agreed to get the files copied within a week.

Discussion did not include the specific steps we would take to get files posted to the website. Dave remarked that this concern for the website was not just one of cosmetics, but one with legal issues concerning the City's rules for neighborhood association's. He also mentioned that the current state of the website is an embarrassment and reduces the credibility of our association.

2. COOKIE EXCHANGE:

Donna is eager to see the exchange take place and explained the rules for it. Participants bring three dozen home-made cookies of any type, contained in bags of six cookies. Preferably, cookies are accompanied by recipes or stories about their creation to make the cookies more interesting. Any cookies containing peanuts MUST be labeled as such to protect people who are allergic to peanuts. At the exchange, cookies are displayed and participants swap cookies with one another.

Date and time is Tuesday, December 2 from 7 p.m. to about 8:30 p.m.. Location is the RYAC building in Tiffany Park.

3. CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

Marina explained that there will be three awards for light displays. Judging will take place on the Monday before Christmas (December 22). Donna said that her son Erik

is available to help string lights. He can be hired at reasonable rates that are negotiable.

4. HOUSING DEVELOPMENT IN THE TIFFANY PARK WOODS (The Reserve at Tiffany Park)

Dave reported that on November 18 the City's Hearing Examiner heard testimony about two appeals that had been filed against the City's recent environmental determination for the project. One appeal, filed by Henley, contests some environmental mitigation efforts required by the City. The other, filed by the Tiffany Park Woods Advocacy group (TPWAG), challenged portions of the environmental determination, citing inadequacies and poor organization of information used to make the determination. The hearing ran out of time so a second phase will take place on December 8.

Pam stated that in her experience, members of the PTA are not concerned about the probable effects of the development on the local schools. Bill added that the staff at Tiffany Park Elementary School is similarly unconcerned. Some attendees found both conditions unbelievable.

Marina mentioned that something the traffic studies have not considered is that all the traffic from the development that goes toward downtown Renton must go down Puget Drive.

NEW BUSINESS

1. TRASH PICK-UP IN THE COMMON AREA ON PIERCE AVENUE SE: Marina brought this up to get advice on an issue that affects the Tiffany Park Homeowners Association (TPHA). The little park on Pierce Avenue is not technically a matter for the TPNA to resolve. The discussion included the idea of getting the City to pick it up, which would require TPNA to get a waste container for such pick-up.

Dave volunteered to help out with casual pick-up for the immediate future, using his own trash container.

ADJOURNMENT

Donna adjourned the meeting at 7:53 p.m.

Minutes recorded and submitted by Dave Beedon, Secretary