

**Minutes of the September 9, 2015 Meeting of the
Steering Committee of the
Tiffany Park Neighborhood Association of Renton, Washington**

Original minutes approved on October 25, 2015

Revised minutes approved on July 13, 2016

(See secretary's note at the end of the file)

The meeting was held at the home of President Donna Thorkildson and was called to order at 7:07 p.m. by Donna.

Attending were Dave Beedon (secretary), Pam Carino, Sue Dahlberg, Marina Higgins, David Phillips (arrived late), Laura Silbernagel (vice president), and Donna Thorkildson (president).

Absent were Renate Beedon, Doug Fawcett, and Bill Roenicke (treasurer).

Guests: None

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

1. INTRODUCTIONS

All members were introduced for the benefit of new member Sue Dahlberg, who was one of the members of the original (2006) Steering Committee.

2. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Attendees approved minutes of the meetings of the Steering Committee of March 11, 2015, May 13, 2015, and June 3, 2015. They also approved minutes of the meeting of the general membership of July 30, 2015 (those minutes incorporated changes suggested by Bill Roenicke and Laura Silbernagel).

3. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Steering Committee will be held at 7 p.m. on October 28, 2015 (Wednesday) at the home of Donna Thorkildson.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT

Donna gave the report for Bill, who was out of town. She quoted the dollar amounts on hand as of August 14, 2015. Sue asked why it seemed that the Cascade Neighborhood Association (CNA) has more money than we do. Answer: it is due in large part to its having more households than does the TPNA (grants are based in part on the number of homes in an association). Laura added that the CNA is more aggressive about securing grants from the City than is the TPNA.

In response to a question, Dave Beedon stated that:

- meeting minutes will no longer quote dollar amounts of the Association's finances out of a concern for privacy
- this is based on a Steering Committee vote that took place at the 2015 general membership meeting

- the Treasurer can answer any questions about our finances.

OTHER BUSINESS (listed alphabetically)

1. COOKIE EXCHANGE

Donna wants to have one and stage it at her house (rather than the RYAC building in the park). Tentative date and time is Friday, December 11, at 7 p.m. Event details were not discussed.

1. CRIME PREVENTION

Sue Dahlberg talked about her use of a commercial service for strengthening house window glass so that it does not shatter when broken. Keeping the glass intact makes it more difficult for burglars to carry out their plans. She agreed to provide information on it for the next newsletter.

2. GINGER CREEK PARK

Donna reported for Bill. We got a grant from the City for the planting of bulbs to improve the appearance of the park. We are required to purchase the bulbs before January 1, 2016. Planting will require a work party, scheduled for Saturday, October 3, 9-11 a.m. This date was selected so as to not conflict with the City's "Fall Green and Clean" event at the park in Tiffany Park on October 10.

Martina will purchase donuts and bottled water for attendees and be re-imbursed by the Treasurer, observing the standard dollar limit used in the past.

Larry will check with McLendon's Hardware and maybe with the City about renting or borrowing tools for bulb-planting.

3. HOLIDAY DECORATIONS CONTEST

Judging will take place on Monday, December 21.

2. MEMBERSHIPS

Recently someone suggested that we offer free Association memberships for people who are donating lots of work and this was brought up in the meeting. A brief discussion ensued. The Association has offered free memberships in the past, but the feeling was that this was not necessary because volunteerism is a core value of our organization. All agreed, however, that formally thanking people for their contributions was appropriate and that the annual picnic is a good time for doing so.

At the start of the meeting, Dave Beedon suggested we discuss the Steering Committee membership of Doug Fawcett, but a discussion never took place.

4. NEWSLETTER

(Secretary's note: the last newsletter was published in Summer 2015.)

Dave volunteered to produce the electronic version of the next newsletter with the understanding that articles would be written in electronic form by others and submitted to him and that he would make that electronic newsletter available for printing and distribution but would not perform those functions himself. Donna, who produced the most recent newsletter, expressed her thanks for his taking on the work.

Subjects for the next newsletter should include the cookie exchange, the holiday decorations contest, consumer safety (see CRIME PREVENTION above), and a report on the 2015 picnic. Donna would like to see the next newsletter published this Fall, but no date was specified for it.

3. TRAFFIC

Sue Dahlberg pointed out the dangers present at the “top of the hill,” an area encompassing the intersection of Puget Drive and 116th Avenue SE and the intersection of 116th Avenue SE and SE 16th Street. The City has changed warning signage for the worse. There is no crosswalk at the latter intersection, which is a problem for a blind person who uses the bus stop there. Too many drivers cruise through the intersections too fast, sometimes cutting the corner too sharply, using the opposing lane. The City’s accident statistics for that area do not reflect reality. It’s a messy situation. She is aware of the work done by Bill Roenicke. What can we do about it? How about a petition to the City? Crosswalk flags? Other measures? It’s important that we approach the City with specific suggestions for improvement and make sure we understand the traffic laws when we do it (so that we don’t waste our time suggesting something that is impossible or not required by the City).

The consensus was that the first step is to determine how many residents are willing to get involved with doing something about it. This could be done via the TPNA Yahoo e-group. Dave Phillips mentioned a web-based survey tool called SurveyMonkey, which could be used to nail down issues that people are interested in. If all else fails, the TPNA (rather than individuals) could approach the City about improvements. Donna and Dave are willing to be involved in the process of defining questions for a survey. More discussion is needed to agree on a process for handling this issue..

5. WEBSITE

Dave reported that he completed action items assigned at the general membership meeting by adding an announcements section, a link to the City’s crime prevention page, and a link to the covenants of the Tiffany Park Homeowners Association. He also mentioned that the site contains a history of all changes made to the site. Finally, he stated that the site-hosting company (Weebly) will very soon bill him to renew our subscription and that he will submit documentation to the Treasurer for reimbursement.

ACTION ITEMS

Sue Dahlberg:

Provide information on window strengthening for the next newsletter.

Larry Gorg:

Check with McLendon’s Hardware and maybe with the City about renting or borrowing tools for bulb-planting (for October 3 work party).

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Donna at 8:43 p.m.

Minutes were recorded and submitted by Dave Beedon, Secretary.

SECRETARY'S NOTE

This revised version of the minutes was published in 2016 to correct an error in the original minutes. The original minutes failed to show Sue Dahlberg's name in the list of attending members.

*Dave Beedon, TPNA Secretary
July 15, 2016*