

**Minutes of the January 13, 2016 Meeting of the  
Steering Committee of the  
Tiffany Park Neighborhood Association of Renton, Washington**  
*These minutes were approved on March 9, 2016*

The meeting was held at the home of Donna Thorkildson and was called to order at 7:08 p.m. by Donna.

Attending were Dave Beedon (secretary; present by teleconference), Pam Carino, Sue Dahlberg, Larry Gorg, Marina Higgins, Bill Roenicke (treasurer), and Donna Thorkildson (president).

Absent were Renate Beedon, Dave Phillips, Laura Silbernagel (vice president), Doug Fawcett.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

1. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the October 25 meeting. There followed unanimous approval of the minutes.

2. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Steering Committee will be held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday March 9, 2016 at the Thorkildson home.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

Bill reported on the state of the Association's finances. He recently fulfilled an annual requirement of our non-profit entity by re-submitted the paperwork that affords protection of TPNA members from being sued.

#### OTHER BUSINESS (listed alphabetically)

1. COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Doug Fawcett has been listed as a member of the Steering Committee for at least a year, perhaps in error. Because he never participated as a Committee member, it was necessary to remove him, and the bylaws require a vote of the Committee members to do so. Committee members voted unanimously in the meeting to remove him. This was merely an administrative action and does not imply any personal shortcoming on Doug's part. Donna said she had talked to Doug about it and that he had no objection to his being removed from the Committee.

## 2. COOKIE EXCHANGE

Donna reported that the exchange had a poor turn-out and was not fun. She will not host another one.

## 3. CRIME

Bill explained that recently there has been theft of contents of some mailboxes in the neighborhood. This led to a discussion of the purchase of locked mailboxes (see “MAILBOXES” below).

## 4. GINGER CREEK PARK

Bill mentioned that we still have a solitary pile of wood chips to be spread about but that additional chips are needed to make the effort practical. In the past year we planted 1000 bulbs. Thanks go to neighbor Eileen for voluntarily emptying the dog poop container.

## 5. HOLIDAY DECORATIONS CONTEST

Donna reported that the contest was a success due to the presence of good lighting displays.

## 6. MAILBOXES

Bill has been researching the cost of purchasing locked mailboxes in response to the recent theft of materials from normal mailboxes. Prices vary by vendor. One vendor states that typical locked boxes can be pried open with a screwdriver but that those made by its company are tough enough to withstand such attacks. Locked mailboxes are not cheap. The U. S. Postal Service used to partially subsidize the purchase of locked mailboxes but does not do so now. Donna wondered if it were possible to get a grant from the City for this or use GoFundMe to raise money.

## 7. MEETING MINUTES

Dave asked the Committee to formally cancel a rule it voted in earlier in the year. The rule explained the process for reviewing and approving unpublished minutes from old Committee meetings. The rule required that unpublished minutes be distributed to current Steering Committee members who were present at the old meeting in question so they could review the minutes for accuracy. At the time of the vote, the rule seemed to be in line with the current process of reviewing and approving minutes. However, Dave now believes that the process is unworkable because no one would remember what was said in a meeting that was at least a year old. He suggested that when publishing (on the TPNA website) old minutes that have never been published, a statement be added to the minutes explaining the lack of formal approval due to the late discovery of the minutes. Committee members agreed with him and voted in the new process, canceling the one defined earlier.

## 8. NEIGHBORHOOD COMMUNICATION

Bill explained that a website called “nextdoor” might be a good resource for the TPNA. It is a forum of sorts for neighborhood-related information and is watched by the City's crime people, something the TPNA Yahoo group does not offer. Committee members did not express a lot of interest. But this led to a brief discussion of the Yahoo group and a recognition that having a back-up person to manage that group would be a good idea. Dave Beedon volunteered to be the back-up. The Committee

assigned an action item to the group's manager (Laura Silbernagel). Within a month (by February 13) she is to give Dave the password to the group so he could learn how it operates.

#### 9. NEWSLETTER

Larry mentioned that his history article in the November newsletter had inaccuracies that must be corrected. He will re-write it.

There was a brief discussion about the challenge of getting the paper newsletter delivered. Donna said that the newsletter was delivered in a timely fashion to all areas of the neighborhood except for Pierce Avenue. After Dave mentioned the ease of publishing the newsletter on-line, Sue mentioned that not everyone can or wants to read the newsletter on-line.

#### 10. PONDEROSA ESTATES

Sue talked about a need to give better recognition to Ponderosa Estates as a separate entity within the TPNA. Residents of that area feel somewhat left out of the neighborhood's identity. One idea that came up was to embellish the header of the newsletter. Dave Beedon expressed an interest in discussing the identity issue with Sue outside the meeting. Donna said she would address this matter in her president's letter in the next newsletter.

#### 11. SCHOOL LEVY

An informational discussion was held to inform members what the proposed vote on a school levy is about. The levy does not affect the business of the TPNA but the topic is of interest to residents. Recently there have been public announcements about the levy.

#### 12. TRAFFIC SURVEY

A discussion of this topic was tabled.

#### 13. WEBSITE

Someone said it would be nice to know how much use the website is getting. Dave said he would try to get statistics published.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Donna at 8:26 p.m.

#### SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS OR DECISIONS

Doug Fawcett was removed from the Steering Committee.

Donna will not host another cookie exchange.

Dave volunteered to be the back-up for managing the TPNA Yahoo group.

Laura needs to give Dave the Yahoo group password within a month. (See NEIGHBORHOOD COMMUNICATION above.)

Donna agreed to address the Ponderosa Estates identity matter in her next president's letter.

Dave will publish website statistics.

Minutes were recorded and submitted by Dave Beedon, Secretary.