

Draft
York Neighborhood Association Board Meeting
November 12, 2014 9:00 pm at GSUMC
Minutes

DRAFT

President Don Hilty-Jones called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

Present: Lisa Anderson, Cory Anderson, Robb Correll, Don Hilty-Jones, Tom Scott, Mark Schofield, Paige Anderson

Absent: Kirsti Charlton, Anne Mackie- excused

Guests: Bellingham Police Officer Gutierrez

1. Police Report

(1) Officer Gutierrez inquired if we are seeing a rise in loud parties in the neighborhood. A problem house was confirmed by the Andersons on south Grant . Officer Gutierrez stated some of the occupants were aggressive toward responding officers when they had responded to a really large party and planned to follow up. (2) He also stated they are seeing a return of Mac book thefts. College houses with unlocked or open windows have seen an increase of burglaries. BPD have also seen a rise in thefts from unlocked cars. He encouraged us if we have an upcoming publication, to remind residents to lock their house and their cars. (3) Officer Gutierrez informed the board that we have had a new 'tagger' in our Neighborhood. The graffiti tags are "SLIM" and KLM is their crew name. (4) He would like us to also share a reminder to check our outdoor lights to make sure they are working and replace any burnt out bulbs to help deter the tagging now that it is getting dark earlier. He also asked us to report if we suspect someone is hanging around with intent to tag.

2. Rock Hill Park Report

(1) Paige reported the Rock Hill work party was a success! Thirty-nine volunteers showed up and cleaned up the hill of non-native species, garbage and debris. (2) Paige introduced four members of her caption project and invited all board members to their presentation on November 24 at 10:00 am at WWU. If you can attend, contact her for more information and to arrange a parking pass. (3) She inquired if there were any ideas for future projects for the park. Concerns covered included camping in the park, drug paraphernalia, and lack of visibility from point A to point B creating safety issues. Lisa mentioned the gap in the fence between the concrete wall and the chain link fence facing Lakeway. She asked if that could be fixed. Paige felt that as often as it is fixed, it gets knocked down again so something needs to be installed that is more secure. Lighting was also an issue. (4) Lisa reminded the board that the BPD Chief had outlined how the neighborhood officers will have a more direct link to fix problems by going straight to the city personal for help vs bureaucratic layers. Lisa asked officer Gutierrez if lighting could be addressed by his department with parks as a safety issue. Officer Gutierrez shared an e-mail between the Chief and the Parks Director. Three parks were mentioned as a concern and needed to be reviewed. Rock Hill park was one where lighting can be addressed. He gave Paige Officer Osterkamp's e-mail so she could contact him and offer assistance on an environmental design review that could be implement as soon as January. (5) Tom asked Paige if the one light was still not working. Paige confirmed it was not. Tom remembered the DOT damaged the underground line and never repaired it. He suggested contacting them. Lisa suggested she check with Anne for relevant information to ensure facts were ready. (6) Paige suggested we hold an annual event at Rock Hill like an Easter Egg Hunt.

3. Acceptance of previous Meeting Minutes

Motion: 2014.11.12.1 minutes of September 10 Board Meeting approved unanimously.

Motion: 2014.11.12.2 Minutes of October 8 General Meeting approved unanimously.

4. Lincoln Square fire – Robb

(1) Robb updated the board regarding the fire at Lincoln Square. It is listed as an indeterminate cause. Estimate damage is \$50,000. He stated that since sounding alarms are common, only about twenty-five residents evacuated. The area was not secured later with residents using adjacent areas that had not had the soot cleaned up. When inquiring why residents were allowed to access the fire area (hoping to wash clothing) and to use the adjacent area that had yet to be mitigated, the response was that they had to maintain access to the mail area (on a Sunday). It appears that fire had also caused damage to some wiring and some residents said their strobe lights would not shut off. (2)The residents will be without a laundry facility until January or February. Not all residents are mobile and have transportation so this is a big concern. (3)Robb also shared that he felt the residents council has stalled out. Residents have expressed concern about retaliation if they participate so no one is showing interest at this time.

5. Recruitment to the YNA Board

Motion: 2014.11.12.3 (1)Paige Anderson was unanimously voted onto the board. (2) Board members discussed who may be interested in joining the board. A few residents have expressed interest but may be too busy. (3) It was suggested we may want to invite a business owner or manager to join the board or perhaps someone from Shuksan Health Care Facility.

6. Holiday Caroling/Wagon Party

(1) Tom will contact Rainbow Ranch to see how early they can start and to make sure the larger wagon is used this year. (2) Lisa spoke with Shuksan about sponsorship and inquired if they will have residents ride this year. That decision may be based on how early we can start based on the timing of their dinner (5:30). (3) Tom asked Don to check with both Sehome and Bellingham choir directors to see if both can participate. (4) Further coordination will be through e-mail as needed.

7. Progressive Dinner?

(1)It was agreed it looked like no one was stepping up after Anne's e-mail call for help was sent to coordinate this year's dinner. The board agreed that we will not hold one this year, unless someone from the neighborhood steps up, in hopes that will motivate someone to coordinate next year.

8. Ward 3 Council member appointment

(1) Don informed the board that candidates for Ward 3 will have three minutes to introduce themselves to the City Council on Dec. 17th. Time yet to be determined.

9. Newsletter or flyer

(1) The question was raised do we print a flyer or a four page newsletter to announce our wagon ride and January's general meeting with Mayor Linville as our guest speaker. The decision was to let Anne decide if she had enough content for a newsletter to be delivered early in December and to use a follow up small flier to announce the general meeting. (3) Paige stated she could provide an article on Rock Hill and Tom could write an article about a past board member who is still dedicated to York.

10. January General Meeting with the Mayor

It was agreed upon that we will develop a list of questions for Mayor Linville to address. Lisa felt we should have her speak about Samish Way, and Tom suggested we have someone 'recap' what has happened so far before we introduce her. This will allow the majority of her time to focus on actual updates and what the city is planning for 2015.

11. Status of City Rental Licensing and Inspection Proposal

(1) Don summarized the status of the rental licensing and inspection proposal. It appears we may have four City Council members who are in favor of a program with inspection. Mark encouraged everyone to still contact City Council members encouraging them to support inspections. Don stated he will attend the meeting (no public comment) on Monday November 17th at 1:00. Lisa will also try to make it. It was noted that even though we cannot make a public comment, it was important to show continued support.

12. Committee Reports

(1) Tom reported the Bi-laws, Policy and Procedure Committee meeting held in October the following motion was approved to be brought to the Board for approval: **Motion 2014.11.12.4:** Whereas the York Farm Committee has been dissolved; the York Farm Committee Fund contains money; Said Fund has expenses due to the Association General Fund relating to communications efforts to collect required accounting information; **Be it Resolved that:** The aforesaid expenses be charged to the Committee Fund reimbursing the General Fund; Any remaining money in the Committee Fund be retired to the General Fund; and the Committee Fund be closed. Moved, Tom, Seconded: Cory, passed unanimously. (2) **Motion 2014.11.12.5:** Tom moved that the amended Volunteer Form be accepted by the board, Second: Robb, Mark made a friendly amendment: eliminate all "Parks" from the form but retain "Volunteer Activity". Amendment accepted. Motion approved unanimously.

13. Treasurer's Report

Total funds \$5690.83. (1) Lisa informed the Board that she just received the 2014 city reimbursement of \$500. She submitted a receipt for \$380 for printing, and the remaining amount was from Franklin Park signs. This amount was not reflected in the total for the report. **Motion 2014.11.12.6:** Lisa motioned to deposit \$380 in the general account and deposit the remainder into the park fund. Tom moved, Don second. Approved unanimously. Lisa suggested for the board to consider allocating some of the Franklin Park funds to Rock Hill. Franklin Park currently has \$2675 of which \$825 is a dedicated donation. **Motion 2014.11.12.7:** Tom motioned we allocate \$1000 each to Franklin and Rock Hill park and move the remaining funds back to the general account. Each Park Steward will have \$100 discretionary funds to spend without prior approval. The discretionary portion of the funds can be replenished from the remainder of the fund, by Board approval, at a following Board meeting. Motion Tom, Don Second, approved unanimously.

14. Meeting adjourned

The meetings was adjourned at 9:03.