

YORK BOARD MEETING MINUTES

February 9, 2016, 7p.m.

at Garden St. Methodist Church

Vice President Tom Scott called the meeting to order at 7:05pm

Attendees: Cory Anderson, Don Hilty-Jones, Anne Mackie, Tom Scott, Mark Schofield, Eddie Tabor

Absent/excused: Kim Owen, Jim Owen, Audrey Roberts

Guests: Lisa Anderson, Ben Larson, Kim Niederhauser; Bellingham Fire Dept. members: Ty Blouin, Jake Jarvis, Dustin Michaels

Announcements:

- Lisa Anderson submitted a letter of resignation from the Board because she has been appointed to the Planning and Community Development Commission, approved Feb. 7 by City Council.
- Fire Dept. representatives invited people to attend their Saturday pancake breakfasts.
- On Feb. 2 former Washington State Senator and current Sehome Neighborhood President Harriett Spanel died. Her memorial service will be held at Assumption Church Sat., Feb. 20, at 10:30a.m.
- Sehome Neighborhood annual meeting is 7pm Tues., Feb. 23, at WECU education center on Holly St. Guest speaker is Steve Swan, WWU Vice Pres. of Community Affairs. York board members were encouraged to attend.

I. OLD BUSINESS

1. Approval of minutes

MOTION 2016.02.09.1: Don Hilty-Jones moved and Cory Anderson seconded to approve the minutes of the Annual Meeting, Jan. 13, 2016; and the Board Meeting, Nov. 11, 2015, with a wording amendment by Tom Scott. Approved unanimously.

2. Room rental at GSUMC

MOTION 2016.02.09.2: Anne Mackie moved and Cory Anderson seconded to donate \$100 for meeting rooms at the church for 2016. Approved unanimously.

3. Aloha Motel Site: At its Feb. 7 meeting the City Council approved the proposal by the Bellingham Housing Authority (BHA) to acquire and redevelop the former Aloha Motel site as a mixed-use, mixed-income, and multigenerational housing project. BHA will relocate its offices to the site, which will include commercial space and possible restaurant and a central open space for residents' use. Both the YNA and Sehome neighborhoods submitted letters to Council of support. A "straw poll" was taken by the Board to support increased height, if requested by BHA.

4. Comprehensive Plan Update: The Planning Commission is holding a series of work sessions to review updates to the Comp Plan subsections on land use, housing, and transportation. A public hearing is scheduled in April, after which proposals will go to City Council.

TO DO: Anne will re-activate York's Planning Committee.

5. March 9 General Meeting: A Taco meal provided by the Board, assignments later. Meeting topic: "Town & Gown Relations" – higher education, off-campus students and neighborhood relations; panel to include: Steve Swan, WWU Vice Pres. Community Relations; Whatcom Community College; Bellingham Technical College; Carmen Rasmussen, Campus Community Coalition; BPD Officer Eric Osterkamp; and York Board member, WWU student Ben Larson.

TO DO: Anne and Tom to invite speakers. Anne to coordinate a list of questions from the board for speakers.

6. Aslan Brewing Conditional Use Permit Request: No new information to report. Binyon Vision provides parking spaces for Aslan employees.

TO DO: Tom will follow-up with the city on the status of the CUP request.

7. Crosswalk Safety: Lisa and Kim O. met with Public Works prior to the end of last year to submit signed petitions from York residents requesting crosswalk improvements at Ellis and Gladstone streets. Subsequently, Hearing Northwest has removed a tree and vegetation, which improves visibility. BPD will be asked to monitor speeding along Ellis. Funds are not available for crosswalk improvements at this time.

TO DO: The board agreed to send a letter of thanks to the hearing center; Anne to write.

The intersection at Ellis, Magnolia and Potter was also discussed with Public Works.

TO DO: Tom will follow-up with Public Works to request a change in the signage so that drivers are informed that a "free right" from the Magnolia southeast bound center lane onto Ellis,, is not permitted.

8. **Treasurer's Report:** Don reported that total funds are \$4,026 with \$1876.68 in General Funds; \$20 in Historic signs; \$130 in Historic Preservation; \$1000 in Rock Hill; \$1000 in Franklin Park. A fund raising letter was distributed for review. It will be mailed out this month.

II. NEW BUSINESS

1. **New Board Members:**

MOTION 2016.02.09.3: Anne Mackie moved and Tom Scott seconded a motion to approve Kim Niederhauser and Ben Larson as Board members. Approved unanimously.

TO DO: Anne will provide copies of the Board Manual to new members.

2. **2016 Officer Election:**

3. **MOTION 2016.02.09.4:** Mark Schofield moved and Eddie Tabor seconded to approve Don Hilty-Jones as President, Tom Scott as Vice President, and Anne Mackie as Secretary/Treasurer. Approved unanimously. The shared duties of secretary/treasurer will be a temporary solution, and as soon as possible the positions will be split. Don Hilty-Jones and Anne Mackie will be the signers for the WECU bank account. **Board Assignments:**

Cory Anderson - Samish Way liaison, annual picnic, holiday wagon, dumpster day;

Don Hilty-Jones - President, MNAC Rep, holiday caroling party, meeting signs; GSUMC keypad

Anne Mackie - Secretary/Treasurer, Planning Committee Chair, MNAC Alternate;

Ben Larson - Campus Community Coalition rep;

Kim Niederhauser - Newsletter distribution coordinator;

Kim Owen - Newsletter Editor;

Jim Owen - to be determined;

Audrey Roberts - Rock Hill Park Co-steward;

Mark Schofield - Franklin Park Steward;

Tom Scott - Vice Pres.; Listmaster, webmaster, Next Door lead, wagon ride chair, Planning Cmte.; GSUMC keypad

Eddie Tabor - Tenant Waste Task Force rep; Rock Hill Park Co-steward.

4. **March Newsletter:** The board was provided a list of articles for the newsletter.
5. **Lincoln Square:** Tom is working on a report to identify if elevated criminal activity may be associated with the vicinity of this residence.

II. REPORTS

1. **Franklin Park:** Mark reported that a big work party with Parks Dept. is planned for April 16, 10am to noon.
2. **Rock Hill Park:** Audrey is organizing a work party for Sat. Feb. 20.
3. **Tenant Waste Task Force:** Eddie reported that the task force met for a second time on Jan. 19. WWU students presented survey results on several waste-related topics: 30% said they did not have a "walk through" when renting their homes; many had left-over furniture and rubbish from previous tenants; many think landlords don't care; people don't have means to take stuff to the dump; 50% say they have taken free items off the street; etc. Several new ideas were discussed at the Task Force meeting: rummage sales, sponsor trucks for removal, more education about good ways to get rid of materials (like House-To-Home), provide info through social media, yard signs, landlord and tenant education, work closely with SSC, etc.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Anne Mackie, Secretary/Treasurer