

York Neighborhood Association
Board Meeting Minutes
October 12, 2016, 7pm
at Garden St. Methodist Church

Attendees: Cory Anderson, Don Hilty-Jones, Ben Larson, Anne Mackie, Kim Niederhauser, Audrey Roberts, Tom Scott, Mark Schofield, Edward Tabor

Excused Absence: Kim Owen

Guests: Lex Rivers, Catholic Community Services; Officer Eric Osterkamp, Bellingham Police Dept.; Mark Walker; Lisa Anderson

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

I. Minutes of previous meetings

MOTION 2016.10.12.1: Mark Schofield moved and Edward Tabor seconded to accept the minutes of the Sept. 14 York Public Forum on “Community Housing Concerns.” Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION 2016.10.12.2: Cory Anderson moved and Edward Tabor seconded to accept the minutes of the Aug. 10 Board meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION 2016.10.12.3: Cory Anderson moved and Audrey Roberts seconded to accept the minutes of the May 11 General Membership meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION 2016.10.12.4: Mark Schofield moved and Ben Larson seconded to accept the minutes of the April 13 Board meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

II. Catholic Community Services (CCS) parking & congestion issues

- Parking: Lex Rivers, CCS, attended the meeting to hear York neighbors’ concerns about parking and safety concerns. CCS clients are taking up on-street parking in the 1300 block of Humboldt, which is preventing people who live here to be able to park near their homes at the end of the work day.
- Suggestions: investigate if these homes are providing their own off-street parking in compliance with zoning requirements; ask CCS to encourage clients to use the parking lot at 600 Lakeway Dr., after 5pm; suggest CCS staff to use the empty real estate office parking lot at Franklin and Lakeway Dr.
- York may look into the possibility of obtaining Residential Parking Permits.
- Vehicle safety concerns: when cars exit the CCS parking lot it can be dangerous for pedestrians and other vehicles in the alley or on the sidewalk. Possible remedies might include a “stop sign” on the inside of the parking lot so that cars exiting are aware that oncoming traffic may be in the alley; the possibility of a convex mirror for the alley and the exit to Humboldt St.; speed bumps inside the CCS parking lot at the exit might be installed to slow traffic down.

- Neighborhood safety and respect: possible criminal activity associated with clients was discussed. Lex said the agency is trying to convey the idea to staff and clients that this is a neighborhood that CCS is part of. The idea of a video that would explain more about the neighborhood was discussed.
- TO DO: We will follow-up with CCS to find out how many clients are attending group sessions at one time? How many staff are full or part time?

III. Police Report: Officer Osterkamp reported that Julia Burns has been hired to fill the position of Coordinator for the WWU Campus Community Coalition. Together they will work on party noise complaints. He reiterated the importance of neighbors calling 9-1-1 to report problems.

IV. November General Meeting

- The video on Homeless in Bellingham will be shown and a panel presentation will follow with Mike Parker, *Director, Homeless Service Center*; Kate Robertson, *Street Outreach Team Lead*; Lisa Spicer, *filmmaker, Homeless in Bellingham Film Project*.
- Officer Osterkamp volunteered to participate on the panel and recommended we invite Katie Franks, City Planner, and possibly Steve Nordeen, Parks Dept., to participate.
- TO DO: Anne to invite these additional new speakers.
- It was agreed to serve Harvest Soup (prepared by board members) and to try to get rolls donated from Great Harvest.

V. November Newsletter

- Editor Kim Owen was absent but submitted the following report: “The newsletter is on schedule. Anne and I are doing most of the articles and are only in need of the updates about Rock Hill and the president's report. Our new design person, Mark, will work on the layout. It should be ready to go out by the beginning of the month, so we will have it time to let people know about the general meeting and the Christmas party.”
- Graphic designer Mark Walker was introduced.
- TO DO: Tom will write an article about theft of computers and how to prevent it.

VI. Newsletter Distribution

Kim N. and Anne will identify people who may be able to help distribute with the goal of assigning people to their own blocks.

VII. City Council Public Hearing Oct. 17

- The draft board letter to City Council was discussed and changes were recommended: to add more about tenants; rearrange the section on “exclusivity” to focus on “inclusiveness”; Ben and Edward volunteered to present the letter at the hearing.

- TO DO: Anne will submit a second draft to the board for review via email.

VIII. Planning Report

- Inspections of York neighborhood rentals began Oct. 1. The first round of inspections in Sehome had a 50% failure rate. Private inspectors are doing approximately 30% of rentals; those reports have not been completed yet and their contents are not expected to be submitted for public record.
- Anne and Sean Wheeler met with Rick Sepler, Planning Director, on Oct. 7 to discuss enforcement of zoning regulations. This was a meeting Rick initiated.

IX. Treasurer's Report

- Anne reported that the fundraising letter raised \$1,165 in donations. The checking account balance is \$686, with expenses paid of \$116 for the Sept. newsletter printing and \$200 for the picnic.
- In addition to the donations for the fundraiser income included \$122 from the pie raffle at the picnic and \$60 donations at the picnic. A reimbursement request will be submitted to the City for the annual \$500 for newsletter printing costs.
- The savings account has \$2,021.
- TO DO: Tom volunteered to contact BGO to ask if they will co-sponsor the horse wagon in December along with On-Site Computers and Nelson's Market.

X. Parks Report

- **Franklin Park:** Mark reported there's a work party (the Hurricane party) scheduled for Sat. Oct. 15, 10am to noon. Refreshments provided by Woods Coffee. A full discussion about maintenance of the trail berm will be scheduled when Rae Edwards, Parks Dept., can attend our board meeting in early 2017.
- **Renaming Franklin Park:** Anne and Don are attending a meeting Oct. 14 with Sehome Neighborhood to hear an update on the renaming proposal. The new name would be Harriet Spanel Park, named for former 40th District State Senator Harriet Spanel who died last February. She was also the Sehome president and had lived near Franklin Park many years ago and was instrumental in getting the park converted from school property. The YNA Board had previously voted via email to support Sehome's proposal to rename the park.
- **Rock Hill Park:** Edward reported that a work party will be held Sat. Nov. 12, 10am to noon.

XI. Board recruitment for 2017

- Board members were asked to start thinking about new people to nominate to the 2017 board. All in attendance agreed that they would serve on the board again. The board will select new officers in Feb. to replace Don, Tom, and Anne who have served their terms many times. Cory Anderson volunteered to serve as Treasurer in 2017. Initial nominations for the board included all board members present at this meeting. Ben Larson notified the board that he would be

- graduating from WWU in the spring and will likely resign at that time.
- TO DO: The President's Message in the November newsletter will give a very positive spin to how much fun it is to serve on the board.

XII: Meeting and event scheduling for remainder of 2016

Anne distributed the upcoming "Calendar of Events" for the Nov. newsletter (below).

The meeting adjourned at 9:25pm.

Minutes submitted by Anne Mackie, Secretary.



Upcoming Calendar of Events

York General Meeting, Wed. Nov. 9, 7pm

Rock Hill Park Work Party, Sat., Nov. 12, 10am to Noon

York Wine & Roses Garden Club, Annual Holiday Progressive Dinner, Fri., Dec. 2, 6pm

Annual Holiday Horse Wagon Ride and Holiday Caroling Party Sat., Dec. 10, 5:00 to 8pm, at Nelson's Market, 514 Potter St.

York Board Meeting, Wed., Dec. 14, 7pm

York Annual Membership Meeting, Election of 2017 YNA Board, Wed., Jan 11; Supper, 6:30; Meeting, 7pm