

The Shorewood News

December – 2012

Shorewood News Editor: Chestine Edgar
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President's Letter

I want to thank each and every one of you who attended our Annual Meeting last month. We had a very good turnout. I'm told about 45 people were in attendance, and we accomplished a lot.

First of all, we filled our Board. Four new people stepped up: Jessica Harrell as Secretary, Gary Harris (a former President) as Treasurer, and John Kelly and Guy Lawrence as Directors. Thank you one and all.

We discussed our Covenants. Surprisingly enough, there did not seem to be much discussion about the basic venality of many of our Covenants. People seemed to be mostly concerned about their (scenic) views. The discussion was lively and respectful.

We are considering a follow on meeting early next year to keep the discussion going. My own preference would be that we have a Community Meeting in early February after the new Board has a chance to get together and get to know each other. My own focus this year as your new (continuing) President will be to keep our wonderful neighborhood events running smoothly and to keep the Covenants discussion moving forward in good order. We have time to do this right and that's exactly what we should do.

Barrett W. Knudsen – President
206-246-2525

November 15, 2012 was our Annual Meeting of the Membership. If you happen to have missed that meeting here is the meeting agenda:

SOTS ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

11/15/12 @ Shorewood Elementary @ 7:30

- A. Call to order
- B. Communications of the President & Introduction of 2012 Board of Directors
- C. Report of the Secretary – Kevin DeLashmutt
- D. Report of the Treasurer (Balance Sheet)
- E. Review of Community Events
- F. Committee Reports
 - a. Welcoming Committee
 - b. Ecology/Path Maintenance
 - c. Communications
 - d. Beach
- G. Election of 2013 Officers – Board Recommendations:
 - a. President: Barrett Knudsen
 - b. Vice President: Tim Wilhelmi
 - c. Secretary: (Board Approval)
 - d. Treasurer (Board Approval)
 - e. Open Board Director Position
 - f. Open Board Director Position
- H. Neighborhood Covenants Discussion
- I. Adjournment

Elections were held and the 2013 slate of officers and directors is as follows:

2013 Community Club Officers:

President:....Barrett Knudsen (2014)....242-3554
V.President: Tim Wilhelmi.....(2015)....708-1550
Secretary:....Jessica Harrell ... (2015).540-818-6676
Treasurer: ...Gary Harris(2015)....431-0435

2013 Board of Directors:

Joe Cail(2015).....242-6315
Kevin DeLashmutt...(2015).....932-3200
Bob Edgar.....(2015).....
Chestine Edgar(2013).....
Ray Hetrick.....(2013).....241-9079
John Kelly(2015).....
Beth Kleparek.....(2014).....244-7962
Patty Knudsen.....(2014).....242-3554
Guy Lawrence(2015).....

The club would like to take this time to thank those directors who have retired this year for their commitment, time and work to help the Shorewood neighborhood to be one of the most outstanding neighborhoods in the City of Burien. Our out going directors are Gary Gibson, Jean Spohn, Sarah Whitmyre, and Patricia Haugen. Thank you for all of your work!

Lucy Krakowiak was kind enough to serve as transcriber for the discussion on the revision of our covenants. Additional discussions will be announced and held this year. The purpose of these discussions is to revise and update our covenants and put all of them on the same cycle for renewal.

Salmon Creek Work Party

Thoughts from Jean Spohn/Salmon Creek Steward and Leader of the Community Ivy Pull Work Parties-

“There is nothing much from me this time as I have not planned work parties for next year yet. This year the turnout from the SOTS community was very low for the work parties. Dave Wolf, Larry and Bonnie Moormeier and the Spohns were the only ones from our entire community who have really jumped in to help. So I may just do some ad hoc ones when I have offers of volunteers from local schools or churches. Anyone who knows of a group that wants to help with community service please contact me.’

Jean Spohn – Chair
206-433-0848

News From the City

Currently the City of Burien is working on revising the Burien Comprehensive Plan. There will be a public hearing on the proposed revisions in January, 2013. In February, 2013, there will be a public hearing on the proposed changes to the draft Shoreline Master Plan (SMP). For those residents of the SOTSCC that live in the shorelines, it is important that you know what the proposed changes to the plan are and provide your comments to the city as they may affect how you can develop or redevelop your property. Contact the city (241-4647) to find out what the proposed changes are.

The city is also seeking citizens who are willing to serve on the Advisory Boards. As I understand it, there will be 14 positions on the boards that need to be filled. It is important that we, as a community, have representation on these boards. All of the boards will have openings: the Parks and Recreation Board, The Arts Commission, the Economic Development Advisory Board and the Planning Commission. Please think about applying. Further information about the application process can be found on the City of Burien website or by calling the city offices. You don't have to be an expert on any of these topic areas to apply for a position on the boards. You just have to be willing to attend the meetings. Jean Spohn has been a long time member of the Parks and Recreation Board. You may want to call her and ask what the job of being on a board involves.

Lastly, the city is seeking names for the Citizen of the Year Award. Again check the city website (www.burienwa.gov) for further information. Happy Holidays to all of you.

City Councilman Bob Edgar

Neighborhood Covenants

We are continuing efforts to update our neighborhood Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions (CC&Rs). A draft of the proposed update of our CC&Rs was presented for review at October's Annual Meeting. Those residents in attendance were able to ask questions and express wishes and concerns regarding the CC&R format, and to propose changes they would like to see included in any future updates.

A little background for those of you who didn't attend: There are seven main divisions within Shorewood on the Sound. Of the seven divisions six have recorded CC&Rs and one division has none. These current CC&Rs are all similar in content and all automatically renew every 10 years, although all have varied renewal dates. Within the next few years the majority of these CC&Rs will be available for modification. At that time they can be modified, abandoned, or they will automatically renew for another 10 year period.

At the Annual Meeting many were surprised to find they had enforceable CC&Rs associated with their properties. Many others who knew they had CC&Rs thought they had expired or were unenforceable. A recent local court case has proven they are in place and enforceable by all affected residents.

Others believed the Community Club was tasked with enforcing neighborhood CC&Rs – No. SOTS has no authority to enforce covenants. That is the

sole responsibility of homeowners, and will remain so. Regardless of any updates we may pass.

At the Annual Meeting concern for preserving views was highest on people's priority list - trees being the most serious concern. A lot of time was spent discussing height limits for fences and houses too. Most of the neighborhood has a two and a half story height limit (whatever a 2.5 story house is) and a 48" fence height limit. Several in attendance expressed a desire to have these values changed.

Discussion was cut short as we needed to be out of the school multipurpose room by 9pm. The Covenant Committee left the meeting with 8 pages of notes on resident concerns and many ideas for improvements that they will try to craft into a coherent document acceptable to a majority of the neighborhood.

The goal of the Covenant Committee is to assist homeowners in updating their division's CC&Rs to make them relevant, clear, and more easily enforceable, as they were intended to be when originally drafted over 60 years ago. It will be up to the residents of each division to decide if they would like to participate in these revisions, or to kick the can down the road and leave the updating to future generations.

Within the next few years SOTS hopes to have unified CC&Rs available that will cover the entire neighborhood. SOTS Board members will be available to help and guide homeowners in how to update their CC&Rs, and to get them recorded.

Change is not easy though. Most people are satisfied to sitting back and doing nothing. Some will ignore this effort. Others will spread gossip against it to discourage participation. At least until their own view is being blocked, or a questionable business opens up next door, or parts from abandoned car projects litter the street in front of their house.

Instead of waiting for that to happen SOTS hopes we can all work together toward a constructive change. You can review the proposed new CC&Rs on our Facebook group page. The most current draft, along with the neighborhood's current CC&Rs, are also available on the Shorewood website at shorewoodonthesound.org. Look for them under the "Resources" tab, then move down the list to "CC&Rs and Covenants." There you will find the seven divisions listed. Clicking on each division will then link you to the existing CC&R and a plat map for that division.

Direct any comments, concerns, complaints, and suggestions to one of the Covenant Committee members, or to any active Board member you know and trust.

Covenant Committee

Joe Cail242-6315
Ray Hetrick.....241-9079
Tim Wilhelmi.....708-1550
Kevin DeLashmutt.....932-3200