

SHOREWOOD ON THE SOUND COMMUNITY CLUB – JANUARY 14, 2016 MEETING MINUTES

Call to Order - Meeting called to order at 7:17 PM. Present Board Members were Patty and Barrett Knudsen, Angelica Spates, Dana Wheelock, Jean Spohn, Rand Fullington, Gary Harris, Lori Buchsbaum and Bob Edgar.

Welcome Guests if any – Past Presidents Cal Spates and Pat Haugen, and Betsy Wheelock.

Communications of the President – Angelica welcomed all to the first meeting of the 2016 SOTSCC Board and thanked Betsy and Dana for hosting the meeting. She also thanked Barrett for his many years of service to SOTSCC and his resolve to keep things positive and not being hindered by some of the negative things that have gone on during his time as President. She presented him with a nice card and a gift certificate. Barrett was most grateful, he read the card and showed the gift card for Anthony's and went on to thank everyone for their support.

Brief Introductions of the New Board – Angelica asked all to tell when they moved into the Shorewood area and what inspired them to become members of SOTSCC.

Angelica – 1999

Jean – 1993

Pat – 1996

Cal – 1999

Betsy – 2004

Rand – 1991

Barrett – 1998

Patty – 1998

Lori – 2005

Gary – 1985

Dana – 2001

Bob – 1985

Everyone provided positive comments and their commitment to keeping SOTSCC a positive organization that is interested in building community.

Minutes and report of Secretary – Minutes from the October Meeting and from the Annual Meeting in November had been sent to the Board in draft form in advance of the meeting. Additions and corrections had been solicited and edits made accordingly. For the October Meeting Minutes Lori moved to approve and Cal seconded – voted approved. Bob moved to approve Annual Meeting Minutes and Gary seconded – voted approved.

Report of Treasurer – Gary Harris provided a yearend Balance sheet and a yearend Statement of Cash Flows. Current balance is \$22,719.37. Statements added to the Secretary's book.

Bob inquired about the 2016 operating budget. That will be discussed at the February meeting.

Standing Committees & Events

Welcoming – (Patty K, Angelica) – Angelica put together an introduction to SOTSCC using an article from a past Newsletter to include with the Welcome Baskets. Patty indicated that they are out of Directories to include.

Discussion followed regarding Directories and Dues for new neighbors. Normally a Directory is only provided to dues paying members. For new neighbors a Directory is normally included in the Welcome Basket and dues are waived for the first year. SOTSCC wants to be welcoming to new neighbors and wants to encourage them to be involved in the community.

Lori asked if new neighbors get the code to the Beach – much discussion followed. It seems that everyone has the code to access the Beach – even non-members and even some that don't even live in SOTS. Pat mentioned that the code isn't necessary as some can just walk around the gate. Angelica noted that Susan Gibbons, a 30th Avenue resident, maintains the code to the gates. She will reach out to Susan to follow up on some of the gate issues.

Ecology / Path Maintenance – (Jean Spohn) – Jean indicated that she would organize a work party soon. Most likely in April around Earth Day. Last year they worked in the Shorewood Park in the morning and pulled Ivy down at the Beach in the afternoon – will try to do something similar this year. Angelica inquired about outreach for volunteers. Jean has used many methods in the past including signs, Newsletter, the blog, website, email, phone calls and word of mouth. She will do something similar this time.

Communications – (Bob, Chestine, Barrett, Kyle, Betsy)

Newsletter – Betsy said that she was taking articles for the upcoming Newsletter.

Barrett suggested an 8 ½" X 11" format. Others thought that size would be too small to have enough content on a one page Newsletter.

Lori inquired about advertisements as there had been some in the past – a short discussion indicated that SOTSCC didn't want to use the Newsletter for advertisements. Angelica thought that information regarding future SOTSCC Board meetings might be a good submission for the Newsletter.

Rand mentioned that the mailing list (i.e. SOTSCC Roster) was up to date as of November.

Gary brought up the subject of raising dues – the \$40/\$50 dues are extremely reasonable and somewhat outdated. While the Club is maintaining a positive balance from year to year, there is very little available as a contingency fund. Lori suggested that an article in the Newsletter regarding the Beach, its costs and the potential for expensive repairs from something like a damaging storm or some other event would warrant having reserve funds. Past experience has shown that damage to the property at the Beach can easily deplete the SOTSCC reserves and could lead to an emergency assessment to the membership – having a balance that could be used to respond to an expensive emergency makes good business sense. She volunteered to draft an article for the Newsletter regarding the Beach and reserve funds. Cal added that the article should remind the community members that they own the Beach and have a vested interest in both the Beach and the positive impact that having it has on their property values.

Gary also reminded that only slightly more than half of the SOTS households pay dues and suggested the possibility of a Newsletter article regarding the events and associated costs might be helpful in getting more participation.

Angelica suggested exploring the idea of an article in the Newsletter regarding what is good about the community and SOTSCC

Web Page – Jesse and Eli are the new website administrators. They are not necessarily responsible for all of the content on the website so anything that the Board or other members suggest to improve its content are needed.

Facebook Page - (Kevin D) – the Facebook Page was not discussed as time was running short.

Shorewood Blog - (Lynn Crockett) – The Shorewood Blog was not discussed as time was running short.

New Directory – The new Directory is due out this year. Steve Buchsbaum had agreed to work with Rand on the updates. Discussion to be continued at the February meeting.

Beach – Jean covered the Beach in her comments above regarding the Ecology / Path Maintenance committee.

City Items – Bob Edgar reported that the new Burien City Council met on January 4th. They discussed plans for future community and economic development as well as recruiting and retaining new businesses in Burien. They also discussed the City of Burien branding – to date is getting positive reviews.

Events for 2016 (based on 2015 Events and open for discussion)

Easter Egg Hunt – Betsy and Lori will once again coordinate the Easter Egg Hunt. Betsy checked the tides and it looks like Saturday March 26th (the day before Easter) will work best. Probably around 10:30 or 11:00 – to be firmed up and published in the first Newsletter of 2016

Summerfest – Barrett will research and provide a date for Summerfest.

Salmon Bake – Jon Newton has once again volunteered to head up the Salmon Bake. More information will be available later in the year.

Annual Meeting – Second Thursday in November – November 10th

Christmas Lights – Kyle headed up the 2015 Christmas Lights contest and presented the awards (bragging candy canes). He will submit an article for the Newsletter. More information regarding 2016 will be available later in the year.

Any Unfinished or New Business

Keys – A quick survey of the keys. Angelica has a key to the post office box and for the storage unit. Gary also has a key to both the post office box and the lock for the storage unit.

Non-Profit Status – Betsy took care of reinstating the Non-Profit status with the Washington Secretary of State – apparently a past Board member had used their home address for correspondence and the renewal notices never reached the appropriate person last year. The Non-Profit status with the Internal

Revenue Service was not in question – Gary Harris (Treasurer) has handled the IRS filings and ensured that SOTSCC non-profit status did not lapse.

Communication to Board – The Secretary (Dana) reported that he had received an email from one of the members that included some suggestions regarding outbound communications with the community. Most of the suggestions sounded reasonable and were in line with the direction that the present Board is headed anyway – such as publishing the Minutes on the website in a timely manner, announcing upcoming SOTSCC Board meetings in advance. One of his suggestions was to publish the Minutes in ‘draft’ form as soon as they were available. Dana objected to that suggestion citing that there is a reason that there is an approval process and that publishing the draft Minutes could end up putting out erroneous and or confusing information that was solely based on his notes, questionable shorthand and ‘over 50’ memory. Discussion followed and all agreed that it would be inappropriate to publish the Minutes before they were approved by the Board.

Next Meeting – February 11 – Angelica will host.

Adjournment – 9:05 PM