

Shorewood On the Sound Community Club Annual Meeting Minutes - November 12, 2015

Meeting Called to Order – at 7:00 PM Barrett Knudsen welcomed all (53 in attendance). Barrett announced that there would be a special presentation regarding recent major projects at Seahurst Park and suggested that moving the order of business such that the guest/presenters could complete their task and avoid having to sit through the rest of the SOTS meeting. Bob Edgar made a motion and Steve Buchsbaum seconded. The members voted to move the presentation towards the head of the agenda.

Special Presentation – Barrett welcomed Tara Luckie of the Environmental Science Center who gave a presentation on the recent rehab and improvements at Seahurst Park.

Introductions – Barrett introduced the Officers and the Board of Directors

Current Board Members:

Officers with one year terms ending 12/31/15:

President – Barrett Knudsen

Vice President – Currently vacant

Secretary – Dana Wheelock

Treasurer – Gary Harris – Appointed by Board

Board Directors with staggered terms:

Chestine Edgar (2016)

Rand Fullington (2016) – Our Data Base Administrator

Patty Knudsen (2017)

Rick Goroski (2017)

Bob Edgar (2018)

Kyle Lonzak (2018)

Board Directors appointed by the Board this past year:

Angelica Spates

Jean Spohn

Lori Buchsbaum

Reading of the Minutes - Dana Wheelock read the Meeting Minutes from the 2014 Annual Meeting that was held November 13, 2014. Dana noted that there was no Secretary in office at the time of that meeting and that the minutes were a compilation of Barrett and Bob Edgars notes. Karen Goroski motioned that the compiled notes be recognized as the official Minutes from the 2014 SOTS Community Club Annual Meeting. Bill Earl seconded and the vote was to approve the Minutes as read.

Annual Report of the Officers

Treasurer - Gary Harris provided an overview of SOTS CC funds as of October 31, 2015:

Savings	\$18,462.19
Checking	<u>4,342.06</u>
Total	\$22,804.25

Gary also reported on the membership and dues – the response this year was better than last year with an increase to 292 households out of the 453 paying dues. He indicated that there has been a gradual increase over the last few years.

He went on to describe that the budget goal was around \$17K with expenses around \$13.5K and how the costs associated with operating the Club fluctuates somewhat from year to year, but have remained fairly close to the budgets.

Lori Buchsbaum pointed out the financial responsibility as the owner of the Beach and the need to build a cash reserve as a contingency measure.

Gary reminded that in the past that there had been costs associated with storm damage, upkeep and replacement of the railing, tables and that there had also been costs associated with mitigating vandalism damage. He also pointed out that as a social club, some of the Club's annual events such as the Easter Egg Hunt and the Salmon Bake are held at the Beach.

One Member asked if the budget was posted on the website. Barrett indicated that he did not think so, but that it could be and used that question to introduce the new website administrator Jesse Tuttle.

Joe Cail asked if there was a line-item in the budget for the Beach. Gary indicated that \$2K was budgeted for the Beach. Joe asked if some of the budgeted funds were for a maintenance and/or some sort of a service contract to maintain the grounds and reported that there were invasive plant species that needed to be removed. Dana responded indicating that the maintenance such as weed-whacking and general clean-up had been performed by volunteers. Guy Lawrence also reminded that the Ecology group had volunteers pulling Ivy and other invasive plants.

Chestine Edgar pointed out that as a Non-Profit organization, the SOTS CC budget should be published. She went on to also say that SOTS CC was not a 'social club'. Gary also reminded that SOTS CC was not a Home Owner's Association (HOA) either and that the club does host a number of social events.

Joe went on about a few other issues with common areas that are supposed to be maintained such as the trail that cuts between Shorewood Drive SW and Marine View Drive SW at approximately the 12000 block and around the signs and creating a line-item in the budget for their maintenance. Gary asked for clarification regarding the signs – was Joe referring to the four signs at the entrances to Shorewood on the Sound – if so, those grounds are normally maintained by the adjacent homeowners. Joe pointed out that the sign at 16th Ave SW / SW 130th St had a lot of growth around it. He also reminded that the area adjacent to that sign and the trail between Shorewood Dr SW and Marine View Dr SW were supposed to be maintained by the City of Burien, but that getting them out there was pretty tough. Kevin DeLashmutt referred to Article 2 of the by-laws [regarding maintenance of properties].

Barrett reminded that the conversation was getting off track and we should move on to reports from some of the other committees. Steve Buchsbaum made a motion to move on and Kyle Lonzak seconded. The Budget discussion was tabled.

Communications – Barrett introduced the Communications Committee – Bob Edgar, Chestine Edgar, Barrett Knudsen, Kyle Lonzak and Betsy Wheelock. Some of the means used by the Communication Committee included the Newsletter, SOTS Website, SOTS Facebook page, SOTS Blog, emails etc.

Bob Edgar inquired as to when the next Newsletter would be coming out. Betsy Wheelock, Newsletter Editor, replied that one should come out early next year in January or early February. Barrett also reported that the SOTS CC Directory would be published in 2016 and the efforts towards that end are starting to ramp up.

Beach - Guy Lawrence reported in Jean Spohn's absence. Guy inquired of Joe Cail as to what kind of invasive plants was he referring to when he brought it up during the Budget discussion. Guy noted that Jean was very knowledgeable regarding native plants and such and that if there was an issue, surely Jean would be aware of it.

Guy also reminded that volunteers were always welcome at any of the Work Parties – please get involved. Betsy added that the Work Parties are educational and fun for the family – kids are welcome to pitch in.

Ecology/Path Maintenance - Guy Lawrence also reported for this committee in Jean's absence. Guy made note of the plaque that was provided by the City of Burien and dedicated to Fred Henzi in appreciation of the dedication he showed and the work he had done in the Shorewood Park during his lifetime. Guy reported on some of the Work Party activities from the past year and that a lot of effort was put into removing ivy and that volunteers were welcome and needed for those efforts. Lori Buchsbaum suggested that more outreach might help with recruiting volunteers. Guy said that Jean usually puts out a plea for volunteers via email and posts on the website regarding upcoming Work Party events.

Welcome Wagon – Patty Knudsen reported on the activities of the Welcome Wagon for her and Angelica Spates. Patty gave a brief description of the process and indicated that there had been increased activity over the last year as new neighbors had moved in. Patty also requested that folks let her know of any new neighbors that have moved into the community. Angelica pointed out that there were a couple of white boards in the back of the room where the Board is collecting input from the members as to 'why SOTS is such a great place to live'. With that info, they will add something to the Welcome Wagon packages.

Election of Officers and Directors

Barrett moved on to the agenda item regarding election of the Officers and Board. He read some of the qualification stated in the By-laws and expressed his understanding that a person running for President must be in good standing as a SOTS member, must have been on the Board last year and attended at least 50% of the Board meetings. He requested that the Secretary Dana Wheelock write positions and candidates on the board. He also indicated that any nominations from the floor are valid and appreciated. He went on to report that several additional people have expressed an interest in serving and that anyone who is not elected is encouraged to let the Board know of their interest and to attend monthly Board meetings.

Nominations and voting presented the following Officers:

President – Angelica Spates

Vice President – Rand Fullington

Secretary – Dana Wheelock

Treasurer – Gary Harris

Further nominations, discussion, and voting produced the following Board and expiration date of term:

Chestine Edgar (2016)

Patty Knudsen (2017)

Rick Goroski (2017)

Bob Edgar (2018)

Kyle Lonzak (2018)

Jean Spohn (2018)

Lori Buchsbaum (2019)

Eli Tuttle (2019)

Barrett Knudsen by virtue of 'Past President' provisions in the By-laws (2016)

Even though the Treasurer is appointed by the Board, Gary Harris' term as a Director was also renewed for three years. All nominations were made and seconded by members. All votes were unanimous and no objections were voiced.

The 2016 Directory

Barrett reported that efforts are underway to publish the 2016 update of the SOTS Directory. He noted that the committee is comprised of Jesse Tuttle, Rand Fullington, Steve Buchsbaum and Barrett Knudsen. Some of the things that are being considered is remove the SOTS history and publish that on the website and remove advertising. He acknowledged Kevin DeLashmutt and Cal Spate's efforts in the past. Karen Goroski indicated that the Directory was a great tool and asked who receives a copy. Kevin DeLashmutt said that dues paying members get a copy. Patty Knudsen added that the Welcome Wagon committee provides a copy in the welcome package. It was further noted that new neighbors moving into the SOTS area are given their first year membership for free.

Amendments to the SOTS By-laws

Barrett reported that there have been some inquiries regarding the existing By-Laws and the possibility that some of the content may be outdated. He indicated that the Board was reviewing the By-Laws, which were last updated in 1999, and was considering updating them. He was trying to present the proposed process as listed in the Annual Meeting Agenda (below),

1. The goal is to make it easier for SOTS members to participate & clarify the role of the board
2. We will follow the update process outlined in the current by-laws
3. All SOTS members will be invited to give their input
4. Any changes will be voted on at a meeting announced to the community and open to all SOTS members
5. This process will begin in 2016
6. Feedback

but was interrupted by multiple members. The conversation(s) were going in different directions and the Secretary was only able to capture part of one. Kevin DeLashmutt was waving a document with black and red text and inquired of Barrett regarding its content and asked if the Board had developed it. Barrett explained that the document that Kevin had appeared to be a copy of a portion of the By- Laws that had been used to capture some of the ideas that had been presented to the Board. Pat Haugen spoke up indicating that a letter to the members is required to announce any process to change the By-laws. Angelica Spates said that any process to update the By-laws will be communicated to the membership and the process will be transparent – everyone will be asked to participate. The conversation was reeled in by a reminder from Betsy Wheelock that the venue (Shorewood Elementary School Cafeteria) was only rented until 9:00 pm and that we were running out of time. Barrett successfully tabled the spirited conversation and reiterated that the process, if advanced, would be transparent and in accordance with the current By-Laws.

Discussion of Abandoned House – Laurel Fullington thanked Marve Jahnke for his vigilant work regarding the abandoned house at the northeast corner of Marineview Dr SW and 26 Ave SW. She explained how squatters can actually get some sort of legal protection via the laws of adverse possession if not removed in a timely manner. If you see people coming or going report it to the Burién Police Department (or any of the SOTS Board members).

Any Other Items – Karen Goroski asked what happens if the SOTS CC were to be dissolved – some discussion followed.

Kevin DeLashmutt expressed his approval of the current Board and added "...that he was happy to see such harmony".

Chestine Edgar requested that the next annual meeting agenda be posted on the website in advance of the meeting. She also recommended that there be a bigger slate that can be written on. She also

inquired as to why the previous recorded Minutes on the website are only posted up through March 2015.

Adjournment – Meeting was adjourned at 8:49 PM