

Whittier Heights Community Council General Meeting

Meeting Date: January 11, 2016, 7:00 p.m.

Location: Ballard Church, 1460 NW 73rd Street, Seattle, WA 98117

Purpose: Public meeting to elect 2016 WHCC executive committee members, approve revised bylaws and determine WHCC's priorities for 2016

MEETING SUMMARY

Approximately 50 Whittier Heights community members met to elect new members of the Whittier Heights Community Council (WHCC) Executive Committee, approve revised bylaws and determine key priorities to help guide WHCC's focus and activities for 2016.

The meeting began with Brent Lackey and Hugh Kelso—who have been involved in WHCC in recent years—giving a brief history of WHCC's formation in 1993 as a nonprofit organization. Gina Frank described her role in founding the Whittier Heights Involved Neighbors (WHIN) and the goal of merging the two efforts to create more synergy for the community. Brent then described the need to “reboot” the WHCC to accomplish this, and to elect new officers this year due to the previous officers moving out of the neighborhood and resigning.

Election of WHCC Officers

Prior to tonight's meeting, the following were nominated for WHCC Executive Committee positions: President—Brent Lackey; Vice President—Gina Frank; Secretary—Renée Remlinger-Tee; Treasurer—Hugh Kelso. Before members voted, Dave Moody was nominated for president. However, he declined the nomination. Kendra Howe moderated the officer election, and members unanimously elected the above nominees.

Approval of Revised Bylaws

Brent Lackey presented revised bylaws that better reflect WHCC's purpose and intention, which include: 1) promoting communication among Whittier neighbors, 2) providing a public forum for discussion of community issues, 3) joining other community organizations on issues of mutual concern, 4) representing the community with other public and private organizations and 5) implementing activities affecting the welfare of the community.

Community member Brad Renton mentioned the importance and possible legal requirement to be able to dissolve the organization should it someday be necessary, and moved to amend the proposed bylaws to incorporate “Article VII: Dissolution” from the old bylaws dated May 10, 1993. The motion was seconded and the amendment approved.

Olav Ormseth moved to amend the bylaws to adopt the use of Robert's Rules of Order during all WHCC meetings. The motion was seconded and approved.

David Moody moved that the WHCC bank account be required to include all members of the Executive Committee as account holders. The motion was adopted although the existing account at Home Street Bank already requires such action.

A member asked what percentage of members is needed to approve a vote. The bylaws state a minimum of 10 members is required to constitute a quorum for an allowable majority vote of the WHCC. It was clarified the 10 members need to be present at the meeting during which voting is taking place.

The newly elected President and Executive Committee indicated to members that the revised bylaws could be further revised at future meetings if deemed necessary.

A motion was passed for WHCC officers to hold a public meeting within four weeks to address concerns of neighbors living near Safeway with regard to funds acquired for mitigation of Safeway's impact on neighborhood traffic. WHCC will announce this meeting soon, and all Whittier Heights neighbors are invited to attend and learn more about these funds.

Treasurer's Report

Hugh Kelso, the re-elected incumbent WHCC treasurer, mentioned the city offers small grants for neighborhood improvements—such as the crossing flags along 8th Ave NW—and he encouraged residents to apply for them. WHCC can serve as a fiscal sponsor of the grants by receiving and administering the funds. He presented WHCC's Balance Sheet showing current assets at \$27,416.02 (Balance Sheet attached).

Determining WHCC's 2016 Agenda for Action

During the remainder of the meeting, members discussed key issues and interests to help guide WHCC's 2016 agenda and activities. Members "voted with dots" to decide which of seven suggested topics WHCC should focus on this year. The following four topics are priorities for those in attendance: 1) traffic and pedestrian safety, 2) crime prevention, 3) development and changing neighborhood character and 4) neighborhood events. Members broke into small groups and brainstormed ideas for each area. Following is a summary of the groups' discussions:

1. Neighborhood Events: Barbara Scott volunteered to chair this committee. Ideas included the family festival started last year at Kirke Park with the possible addition of food trucks; Seattle's annual Night Out block party in August, neighborhood yard sale, movie night, group work parties, Ballard Pool family swim night and the city's Play Streets program.

2. Crime Prevention: Tim Heitman and Brad Renton will lead this committee. Gina mentioned SPD has assigned a crime prevention representative to North Seattle after a year of not having one. Crime prevention concerns discussed include: RV's, campers and trash; lack of police presence, car theft, mail and package theft, graffiti—especially in parks—and police response time.

3. Development and Changing Neighborhood Character: Carolyn Clark and Renée Remlinger-Tee volunteered to chair this committee. The small group discussed representing the community in neighborhood development and in the new Crown Hill Urban Village Coalition, increasing city officials' participation in WHCC meetings and increasing public notice of new developments, especially those without parking.

4. Traffic and Pedestrian Safety: Audra Gallegos offered to join this committee. More people are needed to lead it. The group discussed unsafe traffic areas for pedestrians such as NW 85th St. and 13th Ave NW and NW 70th Street just west of 8th Ave NW as well as the overall need for improving pedestrian safety in areas with known traffic safety issues; walking school buses to Whittier and Salmon Bay Elementary schools; the city’s school walk zones and safe routes program/maps; WHCC helping get city neighborhood improvement grants and how does the neighborhood get speed bumps, traffic circles and flashing lights at crosswalks?

Next Steps

The secretary will send a meeting summary to Block Watch captains who have provided their emails to WHCC. WHCC officers will contact members who volunteered tonight to be on committees. The next general meeting is tentatively planned for the beginning of April. WHCC will provide copies of the revised bylaws at the next general meeting.

Meeting summary prepared by Renée Remlinger-Tee, WHCC secretary, January 15, 2016.

Attachment: WHCC Balance Sheet

**WHCC
Balance Sheet
As of January 11, 2016**

	<u>Jan 11, '16</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
HomeStreet Bank Checking	1,110.21
HomeStreet NoSafeWayForGas Fund	26,305.81
Total Checking/Savings	<u>27,416.02</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>27,416.02</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>27,416.02</u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
Opening Bal Equity	27,245.28
Retained Earnings	170.74
Total Equity	<u>27,416.02</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>27,416.02</u>