

MINUTES

West Hill Cambridge Neighborhood Council General Membership Meeting

Tuesday, April 23, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.

Fire Station - 26512 Military Rd S, Kent, WA

Introductions & Welcome

At 6:00, the meeting was called to order by Holly Isaman, filling in for Mike Scuderi. She welcomed Mayor Dana Ralph and Tracy Taylor. Approximately 30+ members were present.

Holly announced the resignation of Mike Scuderi and commended him for his excellent service to the neighborhood council over the last 5 ½ years.

She gave a quick review of the evening's agenda including a presentation by the mayor followed by some Q&A, then council business including a slight revision the bylaws and election of officers.

Minutes Approval

The Minutes from April 17, 2023 General Meeting were approved as submitted. (Note that it had been one year since the general membership last met.)

Treasurer's Report

Dawn shared that over \$1000 remains in our account. There was some discussion on grants. The council will proceed with applications for those that apply. There may be further discussion on the possibility of project-type grants.

Presentation – Mayor Dana Ralph

Mayor Ralph shared mostly of the City's effort to fill and activate trained police officers. Kent still struggles with low numbers of officers per capita. The mayor shared of legislation that could have offered revenue for about 30+ additional officers for the city, but the legislation failed to come to the floor for consideration. This effort will be encouraged again next year. Holly reminded neighbors of the importance of knowing who their legislators are, how they vote, and to not be reluctant to connect with legislators. Neighbors questioned the mayor on issues related to roads, safety, speeding, code violations and the parks. The Council decided to create a formal letter to the mayor's office highlighting all issues presented at the meeting. One group of neighbors brought forth a petition for safety reviews on S. 262nd Street. Holly will append that petition to the letter going to the city. Copies of both will be appended to these minutes. The mayor and Tracy were thanked for their generous time.

Review and Acceptance of Bylaw Changes

The membership approved wording changes to the bylaws that include the use of "co-" related to shared offices and technical changes related to banking.

MOTION (passed by voice vote)

These revisions were offered to the membership for approval:

- Within section 5.02: "~~at~~ three (3)"
- Within section 5.04 an addition: "An office may be shared by two members servicing as "co-officers", each having a vote if approved by the membership at the annual meeting. In this instance, the number of officers will exceed three (3).

- Within section 11.01 an addition: “In the event of a co-chair appointment, only one will need to establish signatory authority on behalf of the organization.
 - Within section 11.02 an addition: “In the event of a co-chair appointment, only one will need to represent the position for these purposes.”
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Elections

The following slate of officers was presented to the membership for approval. Lanae Miller and Dennis Hampton, co-chairpersons; Dawn Genzlinger, treasurer; Holly Isaman, secretary; and Gaby Hampton, Alex Lepeska, Mark Videen, and Kim Wise; Officers at Large. The floor was opened for additional nominations.

MOTION (passed by voice vote)

The slate of candidates including **Lanae Miller, Dennis Hampton, Dawn Genzlinger, Holly Isaman, Gaby Hampton, Alex Lepeska, Mark Videen,** and **Kim Wise** was approved by the members present and all candidates were elected for a one-year term.

Direction / Ideas / Plans / Concerns

Lanae and Dennis led discussion with members on future programs. Kim Wise spoke of and encouraged members to consider taking the coursework on CERT (Community Emergency Response Training). Dennis Hampton and others are likewise trained in CERT. The idea of centering a future meeting around this topic was considered. The Council will consider this.

Other events were mentioned and will be promoted by the Council: June 1 clean up; a summer collective garage sale (date TBD); and National Night Out were mentioned.

Future Meetings

The membership would like to consider quarterly meetings. The board will meet, discuss and come up with a plan.

Other

Grants to be discussed and the Communications Grant will be applied for so that a mailer can go out promoting the council. Lanae reminded of the need to develop better signage promoting the Council.

Holly encouraged all to go to the city website and sign up for the Mayor’s weekly newsletter as well as to visit the [West Hill Cambridge Neighborhood Council](#)’s website and sign on to receive notifications from the Council.

Adjournment

If ever you have questions or wish to communication with the organization, please email the Council leadership at whcncouncil@gmail.com.