

WPCA Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
Woodley Park Guest House: 2600 Woodley Road, NW
Recorded by Stephanie Zobay

I. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:08pm, on April 19, 2006, by President Nour Jurgenson. President Jurgenson introduced Tony Nuland as Parliamentarian.

II. Agenda Items

A. Establishment of a Quorum: At the request of President Jurgenson, Stephanie Zobay, Secretary, confirmed that a quorum consisting of at least 6 members of the Woodley Park Community Association Executive Committee was present.

B. Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Ellen Passman said she did not have the Treasurer's report at hand and would provide an update at the next meeting, along with the 5-year budget projection

C. The Acorn: Some community members stated that they still had not received a copy of The Acorn in the mail. President Jurgenson announced that anyone not receiving a copy of The Acorn should email her. The electronic copy of The Acorn was emailed on March 21, 2006. The hard-copy black and white edition was mailed shortly thereafter. The editor, Judy Orvis, merged the membership list with a community list compiled by Ellen Passman. The software omits any direct duplicates, but does not distinguish between addresses or the fact that one list may include a person's middle initial. Please email President Jurgenson if you are receiving duplicate copies.

Sally MacDonald stated that money had been paid to The Acorn for advertisements and that two articles were included that had her signature, but she did not write them; what she had written had been edited. How did President Jurgenson intend to justify or ameliorate the matter? President Jurgenson said she had compared the Acorn article to the printed submission. She further instructed Ms. MacDonald to email her with her issues and they could meet with the Editor, Judy Orvis and correct things. Ms. MacDonald asked that further copies of the Acorn not be distributed until the matter had been resolved. President Jurgenson stated the need to edit content due to the limited space of the Acorn. Ms. MacDonald addressed the CERT article and stated that President Jurgenson had misrepresented the classes to the public through her editing. Erin Seckso noted that a system of checks and balances should be established so that issues with the first newsletter could be addressed. Tony Nuland offered the adoption of an editorial policy, and nominated Sally MacDonald to offer guidance on this issue. Ms. MacDonald said she would be happy to assist the editor on this matter.

D. Approval of the Minutes: Stephanie Zobay moved that the February 28, 2006 minutes be approved. President Jurgenson stated she had some comments that were too lengthy to read. Ms. Zobay moved that the minutes be postponed until the May 10, 2006 meeting to allow the changes to be circulated among the Executive Committee. Bill Kummings seconded the motion. **The motion was approved by a vote of 6-0.**

E. At-Large Executive Committee Replacement: President Jurgenson moved to nominate Tony Nuland to fill the vacant At-Large Position following the resignation by Stephanie Clipper. The motion was seconded by Bill Kummings. **The motion was**

approved by a vote of 6-0. Tony Nuland noted that this appointment was only until the Fall General meeting, at which time elections for members At-Large would take place. However, he noted that under the By-Laws, his appointment obligated the Executive Committee to nominate him for the At-Large vacancy at the Spring General meeting.

- F. Acorn Editor: President Jurgenson nominated Judy Orvis as the Editor of the Acorn. Rosemary Reed motioned to accept the nomination. The motion received a second from Ellen Passman. **The motion was approved by a vote of 6-0.** Deborah Jane Lindeman commented that the Acorn printed Ms. Orvis as the editor prior to being approved. She further questioned some of the subcommittee chairs and co-chairs, stating that the previous minutes did not reflect these people being approved either, such as the Oyster subcommittee co-chair. President Jurgenson stated that the Executive Committee voted in cyber-space via email and the vote was confirmed at this meeting.
- G. Committee Reports:
- a. Stanford in Washington: No update was provided as no replacement liaison has been chosen.
 - b. Call Box Committee: Liaison Camille Kurtz was not in attendance to provide an update. Deborah Jane Lindeman inquired whether or not all the call box donations had been received. President Jurgenson stated that one call box payment was still outstanding. Ms. Lindeman stated that having a payment outstanding for this length of time gave the appearance of poor business practices.
- H. Working Group Reports:
- a. Swiss Embassy Update: No update was provided by Liaisons Stephanie Zobay, Mike Lemmon, or Roy Woodall.
 - b. Acorn Newsletter Update: President Jurgenson stated she has been trying to communicate with the community via the Digital Digests. Stephanie Zobay inquired as to whether the Digital Digest emails were a replacement for the standard emails. President Jurgenson said they were. Ms. Zobay then asked if the text of the Digital Digests could be incorporated into the body of the email instead of being sent as an attachment, as people don't like to open attachments. President Jurgenson said to send her an email if you wanted to receive the Digital Digest without attachments. Deborah Jane Lindeman suggested sending the Digest in both forms in the same email, thus people not wanting to open attachments could simply read the email and those wanting the attachment could simply open the attachment. Sally MacDonald asked if the association could go back to receiving email from WPCADC@aol.com and that Barbara Ioanes was the key to this account.
 - c. Tregaron Conservancy Update: No update was provided by Liaison Sally MacDonald at this time.
 - d. Financial Committee: No update was provided by Liaison Nour Jurgenson at this time.
 - e. Maret School: Liaison Sally MacDonald reported no issues at this time.
 - f. St. Albans: Liaison Nour Jurgenson reported no issues at this time.
 - g. Aidan Montessori School: Liaison Anne Marie Bairstow was not in attendance to provide an update.

- h. House Tour: Liaison Nour Jurgenson provided no update at this time.
- i. JGB/Wardman Park Marriott Hotel: Liaison Kurt Vorndran was not in attendance to provide an update.
- j. WPCA Activities: Liaison Erin Seckso provided no update at this time.
- k. Speakers Committee: Liaison Judy Waxman was not in attendance to provide an update.
- l. Oyster Bilingual School: Liaison Stephanie Zobay reported no updates at this time.
- m. Crime: Liaison Nelson Morais was not in attendance to provide an update.
- n. Website: President Jurgenson briefed the community on the status of the WPCA website. The web developer has been gathering photos for the website. He will address the Executive Committee at the next meeting. Any suggestions for the website should be sent to President Jurgenson or any Executive Committee member. The contract has been signed with Jeff Portens at a cost of \$500/month. Community questions included how long are the terms of the contract? President Jurgenson said possibly one year. She has been securing ads for the site to help defray the cost. Thus far she has acquired 2 ads at a cost of \$500/year each.
Barbara Ioanes inquired as to how the vote was taken to hire Mr. Portens, as Tony Nuland indicated at the previous executive committee meeting that an email vote was not sufficient for the Executive Committee to spend money. Tony Nuland clarified his comment saying he said that the Executive Committee could not take an action without a formal in-person vote.
- o. Annual Awards Dinner: Liaison Nour Jurgenson provided no update at this time.
- p. Woodley Triangle Park: No update was provided by Liaison Martin Murray at this time.
- q. WPCA Future: President Jurgenson noted that she first mentioned this subcommittee at the February 26, 2006 meeting. The purpose is to promote the future of WPCA, focusing on what kinds of activities, project, and events can benefit WPCA and the community. In addition, fundraising activities could be included. President Jurgenson moved the creation of this committee. Stephanie Zobay inquired whether the vote could be taken at the General Meeting in May as there might be a bigger response from the community at a general meeting. President Jurgenson stated that it was important for people to know where WPCA will be in the future. The long-term residents with experience in the community could help. The motion did not receive a second and the topic was tabled until the next Executive Committee meeting.
- r. WPCA Kids: Liaison Stephanie Zobay provided an overview of the new subcommittee and moved that the group be granted an annual budget of \$500. The motion received a second from President Jurgenson. **The motion was approved by a vote of 6-0.**
- s. Membership: Armen Tashdian provided an update. 79 new members have been inspired by the hotel issue. However, very few of these made monetary contributions. 550 households are members, but 150 of those are within the grace period. The memberships that fall within the grace period but older than 6 months will be deleted at the end of May 2006. Barbara Ioanes asked about additional members within a household. Mr. Tashdian stated that this would

increase the number of members by approximated 270 for a total of around 800 members. Nan Simpson questioned where the membership “dues” goes – does WPCA file a finance statement with the city as a 501-3c corporation and is it public information? Mr. Tashdian stated that if WPCA takes in over \$25,000 in one year then the organization must file a form with the IRS, but this has never happened. Ellen Passman stated that she has tried to show a year to year difference in the account when she offered a Treasurer’s Report. The report also shows income and expense by project.

D. Old Business

Nominating Committee: President Jurgenson announced that nominations can be communicated to the subcommittee via email, but the deadline is April 20. Nominations should include the person’s name, a brief biography, and why the person wants to serve on the Executive Committee. The April 20th deadline gives the committee time to review the nominations, check eligibility, and recommend a slate of officers. The nominating committee is composed of Adrienne Jamieson, Mike Lemmon, and Roy Woodall. Deborah Jane Lindeman urged President Jurgenson to announce the option that nominations could come from the floor the night of the General meeting. President Jurgenson noted that any nomination from the floor needed written acceptance from the nominee and willingness to serve. Sally MacDonald provided clarification in that, while the nominating committee recommends a slate of officers, all the nominations are placed on the ballot for the general membership to vote upon.

Ms. Lindeman inquired as to what constituted residency of a candidate. Tony Nuland said that it was not defined in the by-laws, but many associations define the term by where you vote. Barbara Ioanes commented that the by-laws define a member as someone who resides in Woodley Park or owns real estate in Woodley Park. Mr. Nuland asked what the term “resides” means, and said that the association should adopt a standard definition. Ms. Lindeman inquired as to the voting status of business members. President Jurgenson stated businesses can be members but they cannot vote. Armen Tashdian stated that businesses such as Aidan Montessori School are entitled to have someone represent them. Mr. Nuland stated that the by-laws define members as being “persons” and not entities, and thus business owners are not allowed to vote unless they reside in the boundaries. Mr. Nuland also commented that the membership form should be reviewed and perhaps modified to verify that one is eligible to join the membership. Nan Simpson commented that people often reside in two places for portions of the year. She offered that it might be desirable to have members who are active in two community organizations. Kathleen Stratton stated that WPCA should encourage business involvement in the Community.

Discussion followed as to notification of the membership with respect to the officer nominations. Mr. Nuland stated that the by-laws require the names of the nominees be published not less than five days before the election. President Jurgenson stated that the candidates’ names could be mailed out on a postcard to the membership. Ms. Lindeman stated that the names could be published in the Northwest Current, as this is considered legal notification for the DC government. Mr. Nuland commented that 82% of the

membership is reachable by email, he is not sure that the Northwest Current is delivered to everyone. Janet Frank commented that more than 1/3 of the WPCA Budget has been spent on the Call Box Project and on the Website developer and mailing is another big expense. Ms. Ioanes suggested that Armen Tashdian provide the list of members without email, and those members could be reached by postal mail, while the remaining 82% of the members could be notified by email. In addition, the list of nominees could be published in the Northwest Current.

E. New Business

Barbara Ioanes stated she wanted the situation about her resolved and entered into the minutes. She wanted to know if the Executive Committee was kicking her out of the Association or suing her. She offered a motion that the Executive Committee vote now on this matter. She stated that she could not continue to be held hostage on this issue since March 2006, that it was unfair to schedule a meeting and not show up, thus she stepped in. President Jurgenson stated that she never said she would kick Ms. Ioanes out of the Association, that she attempted to meet with Ms. Ioanes to discuss this, and finally, she was not sure if a member of the audience could offer a motion for the Executive Committee to consider. Ms. Ioanes stated that the email she received on this matter stated that the matter would be decided at the next Executive Committee meeting. Ms. Ioanes stated that the e-mails were signed by Kurt Vorndran using his title VEEP and were therefore WPCA business. Tony Nuland stated that to his knowledge, he was not aware of any action against Ms. Ioanes. Yes, an email was sent, but this was not an action by the Executive Committee. Ms. Ioanes asked what she was supposed to do at this point. President Jurgenson stated that it would be better to discuss the issue when the author of the email was present and furthermore, it was never discussed at the Executive Committee level. Bill Kummings stated that he would not support any motion to remove Ms. Ioanes from the Association or see her expelled, and he was extremely sorry to see this linger. Mr. Nuland stated that the Executive Committee had nothing to do with the email and that the Executive Committee was not proposing impeachment or following through on any action. Rosemary Reed stated that she received a copy of the email and was called to ask her opinion on the matter. She stated she thinks it is a dead issue as people did not support the matter. Charles Carlsen inquired if any email votes were taken on this issue. President Jurgenson stated that no cyber-votes were taken. She added that no one on the Executive Committee has had any discussion or initiated action. Ms. Ioanes asked for a resolution that the Executive Committee was not going to expel her from the association. President Jurgenson stated that the Executive Committee cannot do anything, as there has not been a motion on this issue, and that Ms. Ioanes should send her an email and we could address the issue. Wes Bizzell asked if the issue could be brought up at the next general meeting. Mr. Nuland stated that, thought the Executive Committee was reluctant to address the matter, it could be put on the Executive Committee agenda for next month.

F. Announcements

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be Wednesday, May 10, 2006 at 7pm at Pesto Ristorante. The next General Membership meeting will be held Thursday, May 11, 2006 at 7pm, at St. Thomas Apostle Church.

VII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was offered by Rosemary Reed. Ellen Passman seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 8:28 pm.

List of Executive Member Attendees:

Nour Jurgenson, President

Stephanie Zobay, Secretary

Ellen Passman, Treasurer

Bill Kummings, At-Large Member

Rosemary Reed, At-Large Member

Erin Seckso, At-Large Member