

March 11, 2014 Westwood Civic Association Steering Meeting
submitted by Karen Strasser, Recording Secretary

Present:

Jim McNulty, Irene McNulty, Joe Corso, Mary Jenkins, Michelle Conda, Karen Strasser, Joel Kimmet, Mary Kuhl, Tom Hodges, Tom Minor, Melva Gweyn, Leslie Rich, Valerie Baumann, Becky Weber

Excused:

Jill Minor

President Kimmet called the meeting to order

The motion from last week's special meeting that failed when a vote was taken to vote to end the discussion and vote on the motion as stated –

Motion by T. Hodges, seconded by L. Rich that the 30 members whose names were stated, will be accepted as members in good standing and will be allowed to vote in this election.

Subsidiary motion by Mary Jenkins that a time certain vote be taken for the above mentioned motion and that the motion be brought to a vote by 8p.m. or before due to the nature, seconded by Tom Hodges.

(A time certain vote allows for discussion up until a certain time at which time that vote will be taken. The vote to determine if a motion can be voted upon only requires a majority to pass.)

Vote to approve the previous motion to allow the 30 members to vote for a time certain vote to be taken at 8p.m. on March 11th

8 yes

joe corso
Mary Jenkins
Michelle Conda
Karen Strasser
Joel Kimmet
Tom Hodges
Tom Minor
Leslie Rich

Abstain -4

Jim McNulty
Irene McNulty
Mary Kuhl
Melva Gweyn

8 yes

4 abstentions

Voting at the time certain time of 8 p.m. passed 8 yes – 4 abstentions

Joe Corso reviewed what has been going on with the membership list per the request of a member. Membership applications are being contested because they were mishandled. The election committee met and voted that these members were not going to be allowed to vote. This vote was questioned by the Board and some Board members felt that this election committee had overstepped their bounds.

Discussion followed with Board members and WCA members.

(Kuhl) We never received a membership list that could confirm with a time and date stamp that the members were input into the computer. The election committee spent 7 hours working on the list after all of the applications were turned in.

(J. McNulty) Per the timeline we decided that on 2/18 the election rules would be finalized.

(Kuhl) I still have not seen proof that the memberships arrived in the hands of Leslie Rich on time on 2/22

(Hodges) Pros often don't get elections right. Let's do what we have to do to get this right. I know that I handed 14 of the applications in question four days before the deadline. Something broke down between the Membership Secretary and the Treasurer of Westwood Civic. If our internal system has broken down, these members in question should not be affected.

(Corso) the list that was distributed to the Board has all of the members listed on it.

(Rich) All 30 memberships were received between 2/18 and 2/20. I input and entered them into the spreadsheet the night of the 20th.

(Corso) Our Constitution is weak on the issue of elections. We have reached out to the League of Women Voters. The LWV has instructed us to let common sense prevail. WCA has experienced a 200% growth during this election campaign. We all did lots of work and cleaned up the membership list when the election committee met.

(Mary Jenkins) Regarding the adjournment of the Special meeting, this item from that meeting was put on this agenda for this meeting. It is true that the issue and

the topic was delayed until today. Last week we were talking about a 2/3 vote to stop debate and move to a motion to vote.

The motion that we will be voting on now is a time certain vote. There was a point of order for the number of votes necessary to pass the motion that is being put on the table.

The motion is that the 30 members whose names were just read into the record, will be accepted as members in good standing and will be allowed to vote in this election.

Roll Call vote:

A yes will mean that the 30 will get to vote

A no vote will mean that the 30 will not get to vote

Yes – 8

Joe Corso

Mary Jenkins

Michelle Conda

Karen Strasser

Joel Kimmet

Tom Hodges

Leslie Rich

Tom Minor

No – 1

Melva Gweyn

Abstentions – 3

Jim McNulty

Irene McNulty

Mary Kuhl

Motion passed 8 yes, 1 no, 3 abstentions

Liquor Control Board

(Kimmet) There will be a 2014 Liquor Control Board hearing for 3344 Glenmore Ave, City Hall, March 17, room B at 1:00 p.m. Michelle Conda volunteered to attend and speak to this. We should also email COPPS to make them aware. (Jenkins will email COPPS) Joel Kimmet wrote to the City and now the City attorney has requested some members of WCA attend the hearing to speak to this.

WCA IRS status

(Kuhl) We need to hire a professional to file the income tax return.

Motion by J. McNulty that we authorize Joel Kimmet and Valerie Baumann to contact three CPA firms to research our IRS status and report to us next week at the WCA General Meeting, seconded by Tom Hodges.

Point of Order – Joel Kimmet

Our 501C4 status was revoked by the IRS. It has been accepted and recorded but has not been formally reinstated.

The motion passed unanimously

WCA Board Book – Michelle Conda

We are forming a Board Book.

Motion by J. McNulty, seconded by Tom Hodges That Mary Jenkins and Michelle Conda contact members of the Board and general membership via Constant Contact regarding working on the WCA Board book.

(Jenkins) We are wanting to send out a template to Board members asking them to help us create a Board Book draft. As we worked on the outline, we could see where many of the holes are in our constitution. The membership should know how WCA operates.

Motion passed unanimously.

Mary Jenkins is working on updating the WCA membership application.

(Rich) We should give members the option to opt in or out of a printed newsletter.

(Jenkins)The Membership committee should address some of these membership issues.

Motion by J. McNulty seconded by I. McNulty that a letter be sent to the CWA membership stating that your personal membership information was used in a partisan manner recently for WCA Board elections. We regret this breach of your trust and measures will be taken to assure that it will not happen again. The Board of the Westwood Civic Assn would like to express our apologies.

**Vote to determine that 2/3 of the Board would like to vote on this motion:
All in favor**

(Jenkins) I respect people's concerns around this. Nothing in our Constitution or Robert's Rules was violated. I sent out an email to many people. I believe it is

inappropriate to send out a letter of apology when there was no violation of a policy.

(M. Gweyn) It was always in the past, an unwritten rule of WCA that we do not share the WCA membership list.

Amend motion:

Strike word "assure."

Motion will now read:

Motion by J. McNulty seconded by I. McNulty that a letter be sent to the CWA membership stating that your personal membership information was used in a partisan manner recently for WCA Board elections. We regret this breach of your trust and measures will be taken so that it will not happen again. The Board of the Westwood Civic Assn would like to express our apologies.

(Kimmet) Time is up so we will carry over this motion to the general meeting next week.

Meeting adjourned by President Joel Kimmet.