

Skylands Annual Meeting
Minutes - FINAL
11 December 2024

The annual meeting of the Skylands Neighborhood Association was held at the residence of David Roche on December 11, 2024. The following are the minutes of the meeting. A copy of the agenda is attached to these minutes.

At approximately 6.30 pm, David Roche, SNA president welcomed the attendees to the annual meeting and then turned the gavel over to Steve Donaghy, Vice president to run the meeting. Approximately 50 people attended the meeting.

At 6.40 pm Steve called the meeting to order and introduced the board members and area representatives. David Farrell, our newly elected Sec/Treas. was out of town on a business trip and unable to attend. Area representative Joy Bottinelli attended the meeting and Wayne Abbot and Bitsy Ellis were unable to attend.

Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report which is detailed in the agenda shows an ending balance of \$19,027 in the general fund plus separately earmarked funds for "annexation" of \$10,843. Total general fund balance before expense for this annual meeting stands at \$29,870.

The Road Maintenance Fund with a beginning balance of \$52,541 raised \$59,550 during the year. In the summer the committee engaged Knife River to pave a number of different roads at a cost of \$110,881. The remaining balance is \$1,279.

Road Maintenance Committee and Project

Steve announced that the Road Committee had completed its assigned tasks since forming some five years ago. All roads which needed immediate repair and attention were repaved. This work is a combination of county, city and our own private resources. Big picture, the City of Lake Oswego invested approximately \$900,000 in road repairs in Skylands, and privately we raised approximately \$400,000 for repaving repairs to privately owned streets. The \$400,000 represents contributions by SNA members who voluntarily contributed in \$1,000 or more increments to the Road Repair Fund. These contributions were in addition to an ask of \$100 per year for the SNA General Fund.

Steve pointed out that while these repairs have been completed and paid for, there is still a need to maintain funds in the treasury for miscellaneous items including unexpected road repairs.

Bill Howe did raise the point that much of upper Skylands Drive will still require attention at some point. There was a short discussion about this but it was table for further discussion by the board.

Voluntary Annual Contribution

Accordingly, Steve made an effective pitch to the neighbors to contribute annually \$250 to the general fund. With enough contributors, we should be able to stay ahead of unexpected repairs and maintenance and other costs of running the SNA. There was general consent among the members to make this contribution annually. Accordingly, reminders will be sent to the SNA at year end and into 2025 to make this annual contribution.

Question from the Neighbors

A lengthy discussion ensued about a specific water drainage issue on Skylands Drive and East Ridge Lane. The source of a major leak or something more severe is unknown, but now that winter is upon us, the standing water is subject to freezing which impedes both driving and walking in that area. There was extensive discussion about whether this was a "Skylands Water Board" matter or one for the SNA. No solutions were finalized but Steve committed to referring the matter to the full board for follow-up.

Road Sign Upgrade Discussion

Ian Bell presented a proposal to the neighborhood regarding the enhancing the uniqueness of and quality of signage for Skylands. Ian cited other neighborhoods which have invested in unique identifying signs at the entrance to the neighborhoods as a method setting it apart from Lake Oswego. Ian was not advocating such a project, necessarily, but pointed out it had come up in discussions with other neighbors.

Discussion ensued including pro discussion for consideration pointing out that Skylands is a unique and desirable neighborhood and one that is oftentimes cited in real estate ads as being set apart from just being part of Lake Oswego.

An opposing point of view was presented that the residents of Skylands are private and independent and not particularly in favor of attracting undue attention. There was no consensus from the discussion and the matter was tabled for future consideration.

Election of Officers and Board Membership

Steve pointed out that both he and David Roche had served as officers of the SNA for many years and were ready to retire. In the last year, Paul retired as President and David took on that role as acting president until a new candidate stepped forward. Steve served as VP and Chairman of the Roads Committee. Since the Roads Project was now complete, it is time to find a new vice president. Accordingly, David and Steve announced their retirement from the Board effective immediately but would serve until new officers were selected and elected by April 30, 2025. Steve and David both made a pitch to the neighbors to consider carefully the opportunity to join the Board as an officer and contribute time to Skylands. While no one volunteered on the spot, there are a couple who may be good candidates. David will follow up with these individuals privately.

Lastly,

Joy Botinelli presented on behalf of the Board and the SNA a warm thank you to Steve and David for their work these past years while serving as officers of the Association and presented a gift certificate to each as tangible expression of time served.

There being no other business for the meeting Steve adjourned the meeting and turned the gavel over to the Skylands Water Company Board to conduct their 2024 Annual Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,