

An Open Letter from the President of the Association:

Unfortunately, the Special Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, October 24, 2023, was canceled before it even started. I want to explain the circumstances.

The Senior Center closes at 4:00 p.m. each day; after this time, individuals/groups can rent the space. On Tuesday, a Zumba dance class was held from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. That gave us a short window to get the room set up for our meeting, which was **noticed** and **posted** to begin at **7:00 p.m.** Due to that short window, the Building Manager came in from home to help us with the set-up. Prior to the meeting, it was reported that a few of the attendees had been going door-to-door, telling folks that the meeting would start at 6:30 p.m., which resulted in a large group arriving too early to be seated.

As the Building Manager pulled up to the building, she witnessed a **couple** of the attendees engaging in aggressive behavior with the Board Member, asking everyone to wait. The Building Manager was uncomfortable with what she saw and called the Lacey Police **from her vehicle**. She then entered the building to tell us she had made that call and asked us what was going on. She also said she was confining the attendees in the vestibule of the building (due to the rain) until the Police arrived. We advised that our Lawyer would be arriving soon as well. At this point, **the entire situation had been taken out of the HOA's control.**

The Police arrived and spoke to us, as well as some of the attendees waiting outside. The Lawyer arrived and was advised of the situation. After the Police had completed their conversations, they gathered with us and asked for a resolution. They advised that they could not make everyone leave but would respond if needed. At this time, as the Building Manager, she decided to cancel the meeting, thereby asking everyone to leave the premises. Our Lawyer was part of the discussion and then asked to address the group. **I**, nor the other Board members were **not** part of any of the discussions other than to listen. I went to help the group put the meeting area back in order (a condition of our rental agreement). When I left the premises, the Lawyer was still addressing the group outside.

I want to say this: the Board is not God; we are fallible and make mistakes~~not intentionally nor willfully, but more by omission or unknowingly. I thought we were the kinder, more considerate type of board than you hear about in HOA horror stories. I thought the meeting on Tuesday was to be the beginning of improvement and change.

There is a famous line uttered by a very famous actor from a great movie that states:

"You can't handle the truth!"

BUT, if you **can** handle the truth, the Board has issued the document enclosed with this letter to give you some insight regarding the confusion swirling around the HOA over the past three months. We give you parts of, and the links to, the Washington State RCWs that govern HOAs; we note our own governing documents (which are available on the website for cross reference) adhering to those same state laws; and we address the misinformation allegations, innuendo and lies being passed around.

I **strongly encourage** you to read this document, take it to heart, consider the information, and make up your OWN mind how you feel about what you have read. If you still have concerns, you may attend a Board meeting and address the Directors during the Homeowners Forum.

I deeply regret that we were unable to complete the meeting on Tuesday. I feel that a good deal of what I have expressed here, what the Board has written, and what the Lawyer would have presented during the meeting would have gone a long way to putting us back on track as the great neighborhood and community that we are and can be proud of.

Respectfully,

Bridget A. Gilleese

Bridget A. Gilleese, President