

From: Larry Ames  
To: Richard Zappelli and David Dearborn

Sent: 4/29/2011 11:28:14 P.M. Pacific Daylight Time  
Subj: WGNA Nominating Committee Report

Richard,

Thank you for sending me the “minutes” from your dinner engagement of April 25. While it might have been interesting to have witnessed, I was otherwise engaged at work.

Your event was not a meeting of the Nominating Committee. You are not the chair, and it is not your prerogative to call a meeting. That you chose to send me your notes on WGNA letterhead does not make them official. Your event was, to rephrase Suzy’s comments, just an empty show.

The WGNA Nominating Committee has held weekly meetings for nearly a month. You received an invitation to each. These meetings were the official meetings of the Nomination Committee whether or not you chose to attend, and your lack of participation does not detract from their standing as the official Nominating Committee meetings. That you do not appreciate the findings of the Nominating Committee does not affect their legitimacy.

The WGNA Nominating Committee has issued its official report stating that there is no recommended slate for WGNA Officers and Board for 2011-12: after due consideration and after the lack of response from many of the prospective candidates, we on the Nominating Committee chose not to endorse any member of the current Board. Some names may appear on the ballot, as the Bylaws state that anyone submitting a written request to be on the ballot can be on it, but these names are to be listed without official recommendation.

The Nominating Committee did recommend a full slate for the 2011-12 Nominating Committee: it is comprised of five experienced and dedicated individuals, each a past WGNA President, and each of whom has contributed decades of volunteer time for the betterment of the Willow Glen community. It is not within the purview of you and your dinner club to pass judgment on this slate: at most, you could request that your names be added alongside the official slate, although your names would appear without recommendation.

Richard, you just do not appear capable of understanding how grossly inappropriate your actions have been. The Willow Glen Neighborhood Association’s Nominating Committee has always been comprised of members of the Association who have dedicated years of service to the community and who have striven to ensure the Association’s continued relevance, legitimacy, and well-being. They have been accomplishing this by recommending other community members who in turn strive to carry on in their footsteps and to continue the Association’s tradition of dedication to representing its members on issues of neighborhood enhancement and preservation. One just does not go off and appoint oneself to the Nominating Committee, decree oneself to be chair, nominate oneself to an Officer position on the Board, and kick off officially selected Nominating Committee candidates to put oneself on the Committee for next year! One might just as well decree oneself to be Emperor of Willow Glen and do away with the pesky elections outright.

David:

As President, you are expected to know the rules and protocols of the Willow Glen Neighborhood Association, and so you should have put a stop to Richard’s nonsense. You know the By-

laws, and you know that they explicitly exclude your participation in the actions of the Nominating Committee. Thus your presence “observing” Richard’s “event” merely reaffirms that it was nothing more than a “dinner engagement” and that his “minutes” were nothing more than a recounting of the event.

The Nominating Committee has transmitted to you our official recommendations: no recommendations for Officers and Board, and a slate of five past WGNA Presidents for the 2011-12 Nominating Committee. We fully expect you to publish our report in its entirety in the WGNA newsletter for the May General Meeting / Election.

Sincerely,

Lawrence Ames, elected WGNA Nominating Committee member.