

**ATTENTION SHORE WOODS RESIDENTS
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
SATURDAY, MARCH 8, 2008, 12:00 NOON**

For those of you who don't know me, my name is Gerry Kearney. I have lived in Shore Woods for 22 years. I am an attorney and have a law practice in Kingston.

If you are reading this website, you are undoubtedly aware of the controversy swirling around the speed tables that every Shore Woods resident has to cross to get out of Hansville.

The County has officially appointed the Greater Hansville Area Advisory Committee (GHAAC) as the official spokes-organization for Hansville. Article 3 of the GHAAC's Bylaws, "Objectives", states it this way:

Section 4. To negotiate with Kitsap County and other government entities and individuals, and other organizations and individuals on behalf of the GHA community to achieve the defined values and goals of the GHA.

This has created a hornet's nest of problems. One of these problems follows.

The GHAAC's bylaws give Shore Woods representation on this committee. The Shore Woods slot is currently occupied by Wayne Stiles, the current president of the Shore Woods Maintenance Commission who appears to be self-appointed to that position. The bylaws also stated that each of the 26 member organizations – Shore Woods being listed as one of them – agreed to form the GHAAC:

WHEREAS, as an outcome of the Greater Hansville Futures Project begun in 2003; twenty-six community groups united and agreed to form the Greater Hansville Area Advisory Council (GHAAC) and to establish a formal relationship between the GHAAC and Kitsap County; and

The list of member organizations, as stated by the County Commissioners in Resolution 125-2007, was:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE KITSAP COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS that a Greater Hansville Area Advisory Council is established with the purpose and bylaws set forth in Attachment #1, *Greater Hansville Area Advisory Council*. In addition, the Board confirms that representatives of the following community groups will maintain representation on the council as outlined in the GHAAC bylaws.

Organizations

Better Halves
Coffee Klatch
Flotsam and Jetsam Garden Club
Hansville Arts Guild
Hansville Business Community
Hansville Community Church
Hansville Greenway Association
Hansville Ladies Aid
Hansville Neighbors
Solitarians
Thursday Breakfast Group
Young People

Geographic Areas

Buck Lake Neighborhood
Cliffside Beach
Driftwood Key
Eglon/Pilot Point
Finn CreeK Agricultural Community
Foulweather Bluff Neighborhood
Hansville Road Neighborhood
Hood Canal Shores Neighborhood
Norwegian Point Neighborhood
Old Hansville Highway Neighborhood
Point No Point/Hillview Neighborhood
Point No Point Estates Homeowners Association
Shore Woods Neighborhood
Shoreview Terrace Neighborhood
Skunk Bay Yacht Club
South Hood Canal Drive
Sterling Highlands

The Bylaws of GHAAC (Preamble) made a similar representation:

After completion of the Futures Project representatives were sought from every organization and neighborhood in the GHA. Twenty-six groups united and agreed unanimously to form the GHAAC and to establish a formal relationship between the GHAAC and Kitsap County, according to the following Bylaws, in order to fulfill the goals of the identified action items and to mediate other issues important to the GHA.

The Bylaws, at Article V, Section 3, went on to state:

Section 3. The Kitsap County Board of Commissioners recognizes that, in forming the GHAAC, every identifiable organization and geographic area located within the Greater Hansville Area was invited to participate in the GHAAC. Those individual organizations and geographic areas agreeing to membership in the GHAAC shall be confirmed by the Board of County Commissioners. Each organization and each geographic area shall appoint its own representative to the GHAAC.

The Shore Woods membership was never consulted about (1) whether Shore Woods should be represented on the GHAAC at all, (2) who should represent us on that committee, if such representation was appropriate, and/ or (3) if we should take a position on the future of the speed bumps.

The Shore Woods annual membership meeting is coming soon, Saturday, March 8 at noon at the Shore Woods clubhouse. I asked Mr. Stiles via e-mail if he would include on the agenda a discussion about whether or not Shore Woods should take a position on the speed bumps. His answer was:

Absolutely not! Any individual has an absolute right to get involved with the issue. However, Shore Woods, as a non-profit organization and in accordance with our by-laws, cannot take stands on politically charged issues. There was an attempt to place a no-bumps sign on Shore Woods maintained property and we had it removed. The caretakers will take down any signs whether they are for or against the issue.

Mr. Stiles seems to want to have it both ways. He is representing Shore Woods on the GHAAC but doesn't seem to want to hear what the Shore Woods membership has to say about this representation.

I also submitted a short article (without taking sides) for the Shore Woods newsletter, the Beachcomber, encouraging the membership to attend this meeting and make their voices heard. The newsletter is published by Mr. Stiles wife, DeeAnn Stiles. Mrs. Stiles declined to publish the article without really saying why.

I plan on attending this meeting and expressing my opinion and I encourage my neighbors to do so also. For those of you who can't attend and would like your voice heard, I am accepting proxies (please follow this link to find the form). For those of you Shore Woods members who would like me to vote on this issue for you (yes, I would like to see the bumps removed), please print it out, sign and mail it to me at:

Gerald A. Kearney
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You can also contact me at my e-mail address: gerry@kitsapattorney.com. I promise I won't use your proxy to vote for a dues increase.

This is an opportunity to have your voice heard. I encourage you to get involved. If we snooze, we lose.