

June 1, 2014

Subject: Disenfranchisement of Chartered Members of the Stony Creek Association.

To: Executive Committee of the Stony Creek Association.

I have read the meeting minutes of the May 6, 2014 meeting. I am very concerned that this committee has decided that they will determine who should be treated preferentially in the degree of involvement they have on input for Association Matters. I have spoken at previous meetings concerning the lack of contact to all members of the Association on surveys concerning the Village District. The committee once again decided that ONLY owners should receive a copy of the survey. I believe that is Not the intent of the Charter. And no good case can be made that Only people listed on a deed can have a say(vote) on the survey.. Full members per the STATE OF CT CHARTER, are all residents and owners of property. That includes those not listed on a deed but live at any Stony Creek Address. They have the right to be heard through this survey and any survey the Association takes. I look at people in the Creek that the organization decided to send out surveys to. Some of them actually have been here less time than some renters, and some are selling or about to sell their property yet have been given the right to voice an opinion on the survey. Yet some co-habitants of owned properties that currently have no intention of leaving and may never leave have been disenfranchised in this survey. Even the Husband or Wives have been left out, if for some reason, it was in their best interest to have a property only in one name for countless reasons. I would suspect that some homes of the elderly could be in their children's' name for again, a number of reasons. In ALL these cases, they have and deserve the right to receive the same survey as all other Legal members of the Stony Creek Association.

I believe it violates the basic charter that was granted by the State of Connecticut for the Association to be a governing entity with an executive committee and the ability to tax. It was no accident that all residents of Stony Creek are considered full and equal members of the Association. It was purposely set that way.

What is next? People who don't have a car won't be consulted about parking? Residents that don't have children won't be contacted about Park changes? Or, issues such as the Puppet house will only seek people who attend artistic events? Yes, I am being facetious. However the Executive Board has eliminated those who are even qualified for election to the Executive committee from receiving a survey.. They have not been given the respect of being heard to the SAME degree that as some owners who perhaps never even vote, yet qualify to receive special treatment in being heard through surveys. We all know some who have rented here and now are property owners and have or do serve on the Executive board. Yet they would not have gotten a survey a few years ago. Regardless of the outcome of this survey, for or against. It does not reflect the feelings of the Stony Creek Association. And it should not be presented as such. While this committee has changed some of the bylaws of the Association, I do not believe that it has the right to change the basic Charter as to who are members, and who has special rights without State Legislative action.

Finally, whoever decided that they wanted to track who answered positive or negative on the survey did a disservice to the Association in my opinion. First, some people who don't want to be identified won't answer surveys with identifiable markings. As with voting, many people would like to have their opinions not broadcasted. Secondly, this identifiable information is now subject to public domain laws. Third, if this information is used in any way for setting up meetings according to how the survey was answered, I suspect issues of perceived fairness could be raised.

I hope in all future matters that the Executive Committee Treats All members of the Association with the equal rights of having a say in any pending matter.

Respectfully,



Ed Gagliardi