

Raft Island Homeowners Association Special Meeting Agenda March 21, 2023 – ZOOM - 7:00pm

Welcome Charlotte Crain, President -

Crain gave some background on the informal survey sent out by HOACS last summer, which showed 88 for a gate, 54 against a gate. As a result of that vote, last fall an exploratory gate committee was set up to list the issues which need to be addressed before a gate can be built.

1. A gate will not be built unless we get the permission of the USDA. There was a tremendous amount of effort that went into getting the new bridge. After going to 45 banks, and being turned down, we finally got the USDA loan at a very good rate.
2. If this vote is no, then the gate committee will not spend more time and effort to resolve the myriad of issues involved in a gate.
3. There is nothing in the budget for the gate right now. If there is a yes vote, building the gate will likely be in phases and budgets will be set at the time.

4. Why are we considering a gate?

A - Concern over mailbox theft; increased crime in general, limiting access to people who don't belong here, increase property values.

B – Hurley, the head of security, stated that

the cameras don't do anything to prevent crime.

5. Question: how much do we spend on security?
last year \$4000, next year \$6000 is in the budget

6. Paula Drew was the HOA president of a 300 condo unit with a gate. They spent a lot of money repairing the gate and it was extremely inconvenient. It did not cut down on crime.

- Susie Roberts says that their business has a gate and has no problems with it.

7. Jack Carter stated that when we accepted the loan, we agreed to the conditions of the loan, which were that the bridge was to remain open to the public. This is a matter of keeping our word.

8. RIIA will ask for an exception or a waiver from the USDA and without that, RIIA would not put up a gate. Flood, the chair of the gate committee, stated that USDA wants to work with people and they are open to talking with us.

9. If we don't get USDA approval, the gate vote is a moot point. We're having this vote because there was concern that the gate committee and the board was stalling on putting in a gate.

There was a discussion concerning data that shows that Raft Island is the safest neighborhood in the Gig Harbor area and Canterwood, which has a gate and a guard, is the 10th safest neighborhood. There was reference to several crimes which have

occurred on the Island, however, none of them were reported. If we really want to know what the true crime rate is, every incident needs to be reported, and so far, not much has been reported.

Report on Quorum: 59 in attendance including 13 on zoom.

Ballots are to be mailed in prior to the meeting or collected at All Saints Camp on March 22nd– results will be posted on the website later in the week

Adjournment: 7:56

Respectfully submitted,

RJ West

Secretary