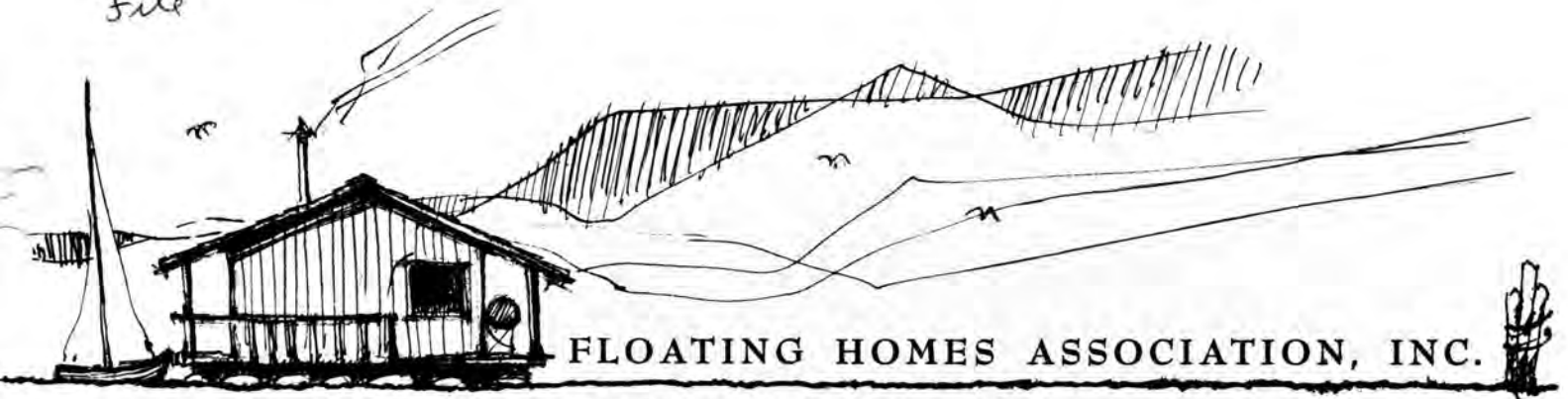


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FLOATING HOMES ASSOCIATION, INC.

2017 FAIRVIEW EAST • SEATTLE 2, WASHINGTON • EA 3-1629

NEWS LETTER

NUMBER 1

MARCH 19, 1963

MEMBERSHIP MEETING THURSDAY, MARCH 28

Place: Room 1 (first floor) West Queen Anne Field House, First West & Howe Sts.

Time: Meeting starts promptly at 7:30 p.m. Adjournment promptly at 10 p.m.

The Program Features Four Important Information Reports

1. "Assessments of Houseboats For The 1964 Tax Rolls" by Mr. Thomas Walker, Deputy King County Assessor.
2. "A Proposal For The Rezoning of Lake Union" by Mr. Jack Robertson, Chairman Lake Union Study Committee of the Seattle Citizens' Planning Council.
3. "Our Clean-Up, Paint-Up, Fix-Up Campaign" by Bob Eyre, Chairman, Beautification Committee.
4. "The Status of the Proposed Lake Union-Portage Bay Trunk Sewer". Special Executive Committee report.

Proposed Amendment To By-Laws: That Article 1, Section 5, entitled "Board of Directors" be amended to give the Executive Committee authority to fill vacancies on the Board from the respective moorages, subject to the approval of the membership.

All Interested Persons Are Invited to Attend

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MEMBERSHIP ADOPTS FIVE-POINT ACTION PROGRAM: A five-point action program was approved, permanent officers elected and by-laws adopted by some 200 members at the first annual business meeting Feb. 15. The program was unanimously approved following a comprehensive report on significant developments during the past 18 months given by President George Neale.

1. An intensive organizational campaign to enroll 200 additional members. The by-laws provide that active membership is open to all "owners and/or occupants of a floating home at a bona fide moorage". Annual dues are only \$10.00 per year per household. This means that one membership fee covers husband and wife or two adults residing in a floating home.
2. To immediately launch a "Clean-Up, Fix-Up, Paint-Up" campaign to improve the appearance of floating homes, their moorages and shoreside property to eliminate those conditions which, in some areas, have resulted in a "slum image" that has done houseboats so much harm.
3. To actively participate in the planning for the proposed Lake Union-Portage Bay trunk sewer. The Association is now in contact with the City Engineering Dept., Seattle City Council and State Pollution Control Commission. The report to the membership meeting is designed to spike the unfounded rumors about prohibitive costs to floating homes and owners of moorage property which is responsible for so much needless panic and pessimism.
4. To work for the revision of the present unfair, unworkable and discriminatory regulations such as the one requiring that: "Each houseboat shall abut upon open water at least 40-feet wide and open continuously to navigable waters."

(Over)

Floating Homes are now regulated by both the Ordinance of 1953 and the Zoning Code adopted in 1957. We believe a single, comprehensive and reasonable Ordinance is needed and have opened up constructive discussions with the City Council and the City Building Department.

- 5. To join with other interested groups, such as the Seattle Citizens' Planning Council, to bring about needed changes in the present restrictive zoning provisions covering Lake Union shorelands. Today houseboats are "legally located" only in the "Residence Waterfront" zone on Portage Bay and in the "Commercial General" zones covering the areas between Hamlin and Newton Sts. on Fairview E. and a single block near the Fremont bridge on Westlake N. Houseboat moorages located in all other areas are legally in a "non-compliance" status and this acts as a constant prod on the property owners to convert to other uses. The City Council has instructed the Planning Commission to study the situation and make a formal report. This report is expected shortly.

In addition to President George Neale all other provisional officers were re-elected to regular one year terms. They are: Roger Whitson, vice president; Mrs. Delbert Eklund, secretary-treasurer and Dan Brackett, George Johnston, Terry Pettus, William Cloes and Harold Harp, trustees. These officers constitute the Executive Committee which meets regularly every Tuesday night. Those wishing to bring any matter to the attention of the Executive Committee should contact Mr. Neale (EAsT 3-1629) or Mrs. Eklund (EAsT 2-4596)

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MOORAGES FOR 18 FLOATING HOMES URGENTLY NEEDED: We have that number of good quality "homeless" floating homes, owned by members, which have been in dead storage for months. We need moorages and we need them now. We urge members who know of any possibility of locating one or more to immediately contact the Association. Two moorage projects are pending which could relieve the situation. But even if both materialize we will still face a shortage. There are also disquieting reports that two more moorages will be abolished during the next few months.

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LET'S KEEP THE CITY COUNCIL'S RECORD STRAIGHT: Reports have reached the Association that some members or friends believe the anti-houseboat bias, prevalent in some quarters, is shared by the City Council. Just the opposite is true. Since we took our case to the City Council last June it has taken a number of constructive actions which have been most helpful. They include the lifting of the ban on extension of moorages; adoption of a "Policy Statement" approving of houseboats and the granting of four variances from the "40-foot open water" provision. The Council has also been helpful in obtaining "dead storage" for the floating homes still without a permanent moorage.

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