



DECEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER

The Group

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www.backflowgroup.org

OFFICER CONTACT INFORMATION

CHAIR: Brian Gumke bgumke@nud.net	Northshore Utility District	425-398-4419
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TREASURER: Dennis McLaughlin d.p.mclaughlin@outlook.com	Retired BAT	206-364-9531
SECRETARY: Katarina Hirai khirai@slwspd.com	Silver Lake Water & Sewer District	425-659-2304
PAST CHAIR: Jeff Kobylk jeff.kobylk@edmondswa.gov	City of Edmonds	425-275-4514
WEBMASTER: Wednesday Smith wwccppwebmaster@gmail.com	Batgirl Backflow Testing, LLC	206-948-0484

December's Group meeting was held at Kirkland City Hall. Thank you, Heidi Hiatt, for hosting this month. The meeting was called to order at 10:07am by Chair Brian Gumke, introductions were made and those in attendance were: Dale Baxmann Seattle Public Utilities, Ron Brown Retired BAT, Kathy Caldwell City of Redmond, Tim Cantwell Woodinville Water District, Debbie Crooks City of Kent, Bob Eastwood Retired, Chair Brian Gumke Northshore Utility District, Scott Hemingway WETRC, Vice Chair Mick Holte City of Renton, Kelly Jensen DJ's Plumbing, Past Chair Jeff Kobylk City of Edmonds, Treasurer Dennis McLaughlin Retired, Tony Peredo Rainier View Water, Webmaster Wednesday Smith Batgirl Backflow Testing, Chris Sutton Backflows NW, Jesse van Doorn Backflows NW, and Secretary Katarina Hirai Silver Lake Water & Sewer District. The Group Treasurer Dennis reported the Group's account balance as of December 18, 2019 was \$32,075.99 with costs this last month being \$10.00 to file Washington State taxes and income of \$10.00 from dues.

Dennis started the meeting with a motion for The Group to pay for five (5) years of domain name registration at \$17.00 per year, \$85.00 in total, in order to secure The Group's website name *backflowgroup.org*. The motion was seconded by Carla Snyder with a unanimous vote for the motion.

The meeting then moved to a review of the survey responses the Group received regarding ideas and topics for the upcoming year's meetings. Thank you to all of you that responded to the survey. Many of your submitted topics have been included as topics for next year's monthly meetings. After Group discussion, locations and topics were determined for each monthly meeting. It was decided that the BAT Forum this year would be hosted in the North end at Brightwater Treatment Center. A BAT Forum Planning Committee was established to create a couple continuing education type presentations for the BAT Forum this year. The committee consists of Chris Sutton, Dale Baxmann, and Scott Hemingway. This year's Annual Seminar will return to the South end, however, there were concerns about hosting at La Quinta this year as construction in the area has made reaching the location more difficult. A Seminar Committee was formed to research possible alternative locations like the Murano Hotel or the Puyallup Tribal Casino. The committee consists of Brian Gumke, Wednesday Smith, Katarina Hirai, and Scott Hemingway.

The meeting concluded with a drawing for an oil painting created by Treasurer Dennis McLaughlin. Congratulations Jesse van Doorn! The meeting was adjourned at 12:02pm.

The next meeting will be on Site Surveys on January 15th at WETRC Main Campus at 10am (see map and instructions below). We will be discussing how to complete a site survey and touring a mechanical room to complete a hands-on survey exercise. If your organization has a Site Survey worksheet you are willing to share with The Group, please email me a copy at khirai@slwdsd.com before the January meeting.



Easiest way to get to WETRC (WT Building, 12401 SE 320th Street in Auburn):

- Enter via the West Entrance (SE 320th Street)
- Get in left lane and stop at Parking Information booth to ask for a “Visitor’s pass”
- Then stay right along drives until you come to a stop sign. Find a spot to park in the P6 lot.

Remember to renew your membership dues for 2020 if you haven’t already; you can check your membership status [here](#).

Hope to see you at the next meeting!

Katarina Hirai
 2020 Group Secretary