

**From:** [aliciahenson@comcast.net](mailto:aliciahenson@comcast.net)

**To:** [stephenp@snohomish.com](mailto:stephenp@snohomish.com)

**Sent:** Monday, June 26, 2017 10:12:53 PM

**Subject:** 30 day notice

Stephen Papik  
110 Cedar Avenue Suite 102  
Snohomish Washington 98290

I received a letter today from you regarding our chickens. I understand that you are representing Rainbow Springs Community Club and that all correspondence can now be between you and I. I will not contact them regarding this matter as all previous attempts have gone almost completely ignored. I will try to give you a brief history regarding this matter, but that may be difficult as you soon may see..

On July 3rd, 2015 after several people in the community expressed interest in having chickens, my husband posted a poll on the "Nextdoor" website. (I have attached a screenshot of that poll) This prompted several of us to research this matter further and we decided to put together a proposal for the next annual meeting.

On April 5th a proposal was both emailed & mailed to RSCC to remove rule #22 (I have attached the proposal) In addition that proposal was posted on the Nextdoor website and on Facebook, so that there was no question as to whether or not the board had received the proposal. It was sent well within the time frame for the board to notify all home owners and to mail an official ballot as the proposal requested. Unfortunately the board chose to ignore our request.

On April 23rd, at the annual meeting, the board almost didn't even discuss the matter. It wasn't until about three hours into the meeting when we got to that topic. (Several community members had complaints regarding a \$200 paving assessment and questioned the boards authority to assess so much without proper bids and as it was a non-emergency project) Please note, the board stated it was a mandatory & emergency repair, yet it's over a year later & they still have yet to make any repairs).. Anyhow, due to their lengthy debate, many homeowners left the meeting prior to the discussion regarding chickens. The board finally agreed that a vote could go out after a tie vote was taken to allow the proposal to go forward. The board asked me to write the pro statement. I explained that the one I had already submitted was what I wanted.

On June 24th, Treasurer Annette Blandino emailed me stating how my proposal needed to be written, how many words, and what it should stipulate. (I can forward you that entire thread of emails if you would like) Being frustrated with this whole situation, I spent several hours of research on this matter and discovered that the wording on rule 22 does not state no livestock including poultry "Within the boundaries of, or on your property" it just prohibits livestock "within the community area". I contacted

an attorney and he agreed that the language was debatable. Please note that other language is used and specific when referring to a homeowner's lot. He also urged me to try to approach the board to work something out and said that letters from my neighbors would be helpful.

On July 20th, at the monthly board meeting, I presented the board with letters in favor of allowing me to have chickens from the neighbors to both sides of my residence. I am attaching those as well, along with the statement I read at that meeting. Board member Kevin Hayes did not allow a vote to take place. With several homeowners present, I asked him if my backyard was community area and he stated, "no it is private property" I asked that the meeting minutes reflect his response, but as you will see. They did not. I have also attached a screen-shot of the meeting minutes recorded by Mrs. Blandino. You may view them by going to [rscconline.org](http://rscconline.org). (Please note how minutes are recorded in reference to me vs. other homeowners.) You will see that Mr. Hayes specifically states that the board cannot make exceptions for anyone. However, at the following October meeting, the board does just that. they make an exception for a homeowner regarding rule #3. I have also attached a screen-shot of that, but again, encourage you to look for yourself. Also note that we are now almost a year away from that date and the same homeowner is living in the same conditions.

At this point, I felt defeated. It was and has been evident since the day I resigned from the board several years ago, that this is a personal issue between the past & still current board members Vicki Jans, Kevin Hayes, Annette Blandino and I. So I decided I would NOT submit a proposal. I attempted going about it the right way for several months. Even though, when I was on the board, and the same board members tried going after a resident with ducks, we were told by an attorney (that we hired) that we could not enforce any rules until the bylaws have been changed. To my knowledge they have not been changed. Mr. Hayes has been working on a revision for well over 5 years now, yet has not submitted ANYTHING to the community to review. We as board members back then hadn't even seen anything. To my knowledge no progress has been made. Going over meeting minutes, it appears that the board has switched attorneys about 5 times now in the last few years. Also, Mr Hayes assured the community at the 2016 Annual meeting that anything being changed would be brought forward to the community to review and vote on prior to anything being changed. Nobody has received anything, so I hope I am safe to assume the bylaws remain the same.

September 7th, I was forwarded the ballot that was going to be sent out to RSCC homeowners. I have attached that for you as well.

Side note: This against statement was written by Mrs Blandino, who lives around the corner from me. She is the current Treasurer/Secretary. (and has been since I stepped down) Several homeowners have issues with her and she has filed restraining orders on some of them (nobody in my home) She has been asked to be removed from the board so many times because she has been known to lie, gossip, refuses to post minutes in a timely manner, has sent harassing letters to community members without board approval, etc. A petition to remove her was submitted prior to the 2016 Annual meeting & a vote was to take place, but the board explained that the community could no longer remove her as the board made

her a "paid employee" So she was not eligible to be voted off. I don't know how that is even possible, but that's what they said.

As you can read for yourself, the ballot that was going to be submitted was extremely biased regarding chickens. In fact, it was so much so that I had to question the authenticity of the quotes Annette had given. I decided to contact one of the people being quoted, Mrs. Kristin Banfield, Arlington city clerk/communications Manager. I will forward you our entire email thread if you would like as well. She states that not only are none of the statements her's, she has never spoken to Mrs. Blandino. I have attached her letter stating that.

September 21st, 2016-at the monthly board meeting, I challenged the ballot that was going to be sent out as false information. Annette stood by her statements and said that her and Mrs. Banfield spoke for 30 minutes where she took extensive notes. I stated that I had emails from Mrs. Banfield stating that none of the statements were hers and the board stated that they would remove the wording and simply put a "for and against" statement. As you will see in the minutes, there is no mention of why they changed their original against statement other than the fact that I objected to their statement. It does not mention that the actual ballot that was to be sent was proven to be false information, and of course no disciplinary action was taken towards Mrs. Blandino for her false quotes. (I have attached a screenshot of September's meeting minutes, but again encourage you to look for yourself.)

December 23rd, 2016- A ballot was sent to some homeowners, not all. (In the past those on a payment plan were allowed to vote. For instance, when the board wanted to ban ATVs, they allowed people on a payment plan to vote. If they hadn't their proposal would have failed) however conveniently, this time, those on a payment plan were not. After the ballots were counted, the board sent letters that the proposal had been defeated. With my previous experience, I would definitely challenge that vote. Because the board had been in contact with so many people, I don't know whose votes were influenced by the false information.

As you may imagine, many of us who were for the change, feared no matter what, it would come up as against. Whether it was the deliberate fight to try to stop our voice, false information being sent, not all votes being counted, etc. I believe it would have never passed anyways. This is just one example of the frustrations so many of us have. I know people who have moved because of THIS board. I know of people who refuse to pay dues because of THIS board. You can see the frustrations on the community forum and at the meetings. I have been a homeowner in good standing in this community for over 11 years. My husband and 3 kids want to move because of the harassment and undue stress this board has caused our family.

In your letter it states that "the board has received complaints from members of the Association who have indicated that the presence of my chickens is negatively impacting the quiet use and enjoyment of neighboring properties and has caused serious issues with rats on those properties" As stated before, my neighbors are aware and support me having chickens. There has not been an increase in rats, and

any noises my hens make can be compared to that of a quiet barking dog. I urge you to seek who has made those complaints. In addition, it would be extremely difficult to prove such complaints (if real at all) are in fact due to my 5 hens. I have attached a Google Earth photo of an adjacent commercial chicken breeding farm that just so happens to be outside of RSCC. They are a lovely farm with over 60 Roosters and Hens. They are about 54 yards from my home. It seems silly for me to have to get rid of my chickens as a remedy to any issue. Also you stated I have until July 24th to remove my chickens or "the Board will initiate enforcement proceedings against me" Please clarify exactly what actions will be taken should I choose not to remove them as that is too vague and I would like to know what exactly my next steps should be in this matter.

I would like to end this letter by saying I stand by my interpretation of rule #22. I feel that it clearly refers to "community area". (River, lake park & roads) I assure you that my chickens have never been in the community area. They are well taken care of. I possess no rooster, and my neighbors have in fact NOT complained about me. You will be contacted by them soon, I'm sure. I suspect I am being personally targeted, and have enough evidence over the years to support such a claim. The board has turned a blind eye to several other "rules". In fact, I know that the board is aware of others who have chickens, yet when I asked, they stated that they have not received a similar letter. There are far too many examples of this unfair treatment. I was just told by a homeowner who is delinquent in dues, that she was given a parking permit to use at the parks, by our President and her friend Vicki Jans. Parking permits are only issued to homeowners in good standing. Again, I have several other examples, but I do not wish to touch up on that at this time. However, I assure you that I have just as much emails, correspondence, and screen-shots to support all claims should it be necessary. I truly hope the board can stop this harassing behavior as I will have no other choice but to seek further legal council. This email alone has taken several hours of my life as I gather information for you to review. I will not get that time back. This is such a small portion of the pain and suffering caused by these individuals.

Thank you for your time,

Alicia Henson