

Community Forum's Third Survey



This article publishes member replies to questions #1 and #4 in the *Community Forum's* (CF) third survey and includes comment and observation by CF staff. The part of the survey that had numeric form of member replies was reported in the May Issue of CF on page 4.

The staff of the Community Forum wants to thank all members who had the interest, and took the time, to participate in these surveys. The CF wants to publish useful information to members and useful information from members. All in the Community benefit from that two-way flow of information. We also want to encourage members to send in comments on specific questions you would like to have in a survey, and any comments you have on how we may better report results.

The questions in survey #3 were:

- #1. How active are you in Community affairs?
- #2. How important is it to you that changes be made to improve harmony in the Community?
- #3. What kind of a Community do you want?
- #4. What would it take to make harmony happen in this Community?

Member replies to questions #1 and #4

Member replies to question #1 are published verbatim in Table I on pages 12 and 13. Member replies to question #4 are published verbatim in Table II on pages 14 to 17.

There were 84 replies to #1 and 108 replies to #4. The replies in each table have been grouped under like kind topic headings in each table in order to facilitate reader interpretation and

comprehension of the large amount of information. The topic headings and the percent of total replies in descending order for each topic heading are tabulated as follows:

For Table I, Question #1:

How active are you in Community affairs?

TOPIC HEADING % OF TOTAL REPLIES (84)

Negative Reactions/Concerns - - - - -	18
Clique/Control - - - - -	15
Board/Committee Leadership - - - - -	15
Time Availability - - - - -	14
Waiting For Change - - - - -	11
Attitude/Personality - - - - -	8
Health/Age - - - - -	7
New Member - - - - -	7
Governance - - - - -	6

For Table II, Question #4:

What would it take to make harmony happen in this Community?

TOPIC HEADING % OF TOTAL REPLIES (108)

Attitudes - - - - -	30
Clique/Control - - - - -	25
Inclusiveness/Diversity - - - - -	12
Board/Committee Leadership - - - - -	11
Community Forum - - - - -	10
Governance - - - - -	9
Misc. - - - - -	4

Overall Comments on Results:

Readers are encouraged to read all member replies because many have good insight and perspectives. Readers can also glean a better sense of collective member opinion within and between topic headings by taking note of the tone, strength, and repetition of replies.

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CF staff overall comments are:

- ◆ There were 136 member survey cards returned in this survey. There are 526 owners living in Kala Point and 494 of these owners received the survey cards. This survey represents 26% of all of these owners and 28% of the owners who received the survey cards.
 - ◆ Over 90% of all replies express member concerns of various kinds about the atmosphere and circumstances in Kala Point. In most cases the replies include specific reasons for those concerns. The concerns expressed are probably indicative of 25% or more of the membership.
 - ◆ There is significant commonality in the nature of those concerns. Much of the commonality is in the areas of : 1) Too much control, 2) Too much divisiveness, 3) too much influence by a faction known as the Concerned Members, aka, Concerned Citizens, aka old guard, aka control clique, 4) Not enough respect to individuals and not enough inclusiveness, 5) Not enough opportunity, or interest, in being listened to, 6) Not enough recognition and respect for diverse interests, 7) too many decisions being made behind closed doors, 8) too much influence by older people, 9) need more openness and more open discussion, 10) members are being treated unfairly.
- ◆ The topic heading “Waiting For Change” shows that there a significant number of members who want to participate, but want the current atmosphere to change before they do that
 - ◆ The topic heading “Community Forum” in Table II, page 17, shows that most members appreciate and have a need for the information being supplied by this independent newsletter.
 - ◆ There are specific replies in the overall mix that are worthy of attention because they may be symptomatic of things not desired in any Community. They are the comments: 1) I am very concerned about raising my children in a place that encourages exclusion and condemns due process. This is not what I want my children to learn, 2) The hate campaign by the Concerned Members, 3) Ugly behavior on the Board, 4) You people scare me.
 - Last but not least there are replies of levity under the topic heading “Misc.” in Table II, page 17. These replies are answers to the question, “What would it take to make harmony happen in this Community? Those replies are: 1) A catastrophic event, 2) Good bass, strong tenor, 3) Don’t know, 4) Geriatric mental health workshops.

CF staff comments on specific topic headings:

- ◆ The topic heading “Attitudes” in Table II, pages 16 and 17, clearly shows polarization of attitudes including hostility on the one hand and a sincere desire for reaching out and open and open-mind dialogue.
- ◆ The topic heading “Inclusiveness/Diversity” in table II, page 14, shows that many members have strong feelings on the need to be more inclusive.

Once again browse the replies yourself. They are worthy of note. Thanks again by CF staff to all that replied.

We would like to invite all members to send in any topics and questions that they would like to see in future surveys. Your input and feedback is important and help shape our neighborhood!

Disclimer: Member replies are published verbatim except in those instances where a member name is used in a defamatory manner.

Table I- Question 1: How active are you in community affairs? If not, why not? Total Responses-84

Question #1

How active are you in community affairs? If not, why not?

Negative reactions/Concerns

- Consistent application of our documents- I don't want to be personally liable for a rogue board not following the CC&R's
- Didn't retire to have to deal with "property rights"
- Disinclined to involve myself in such childish environment
- Having a life outside Kala Point- from what I hear in town, it is probably a good idea to stay that way.
- I don't want to be voted off a committee by the board because a particular person doesn't like me!
- I gave up years ago and now volunteer in town.
- KPOA does not want working people to participate, otherwise they would have different meeting times.
- Negative feelings at newcomers get-together
- Not interested in contention
- Not interested in the intrigue
- Not sure my opinion is wanted- seems like the attitude is "the way we have always done it".
- Pressure at newcomers meeting
- Too many attacks
- You people scare me
- Waste of time

Governance

- Rules too complicated
- Rules too intimidating
- We need a more democratic board otherwise it is a waste of time to volunteer
- We need fair elections, a fair process, democracy
- We need to revamp KP affairs and bring up to 20th century!

Board/Committee Leadership

- A board that encourages a variety of people instead of like-kind
- Bad leadership
- Committees are too much of a clique.
- Incest on the committees- too many recirculated
- Kala Point has corrupt systems. Who can survive except the corrupt? We need an audit!
- Need more open minds on the board- they set the tone!
- Recirculating the same people- the board doesn't seem to want us to pitch in!
- The board does not take responsibility for a bad environment
- Ugly behavior on the board
- The environment on the board is too hostile
- Too many rules are broken and not followed
- This place is run like the Mafia. Do we live in the US?
- We need fairness, inclusiveness, consistency. Why work at trying to have that when our current leadership does the opposite?'

Clique/Control

- The "concerned citizens" or the "old guard" or the "institution" or the "good old boys" have to let go of this community!
- Concerned Members have run the community for years in the back room. I am encouraged that this is changing.
- Good old boys mentality does not equal harmony but exclusion and rigidity.
- I would like to be involved but there is too much backbiting
- If the board follows the law and votes democratically I might volunteer on a committee. But in the past if you disagreed then you were shunned.
- I have lived here a long time- I am scared of the old-timers

Table I - Question 1: How active are you in community affairs? If not, why not? Total Responses-84

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How active are you in community affairs? If not, why not? (cont.)

Clique/Control (cont.)

- Need less control freaks
- Need the developer out of the picture- too many special interests
- Not all rules apply, only to special few- hopefully the new board will be consistent and fair
- Too many controlling others
- Too many wanting to control others
- While renting in town heard horror stories about KP, how things are run- not sure I want to live here now.
- KP organizations are a waste of my time. I'm a good neighbor without being part of the social-country club set that think they know everything and how to do it.

Waiting for change

- Been here a long time and it is just starting to improve and maybe have a hint of tolerance and inclusion in the horizon
- I will become involved when board takes responsibility for what is going on in the community then there might be hope.
- In the past the board has only wanted like-kind. But there is light at the horizon. Maybe I will try it out.
- Just arrived- would like more openness before I volunteer
- Thanks to more open communication recently I may be inclined to try it out.
- Waiting for a change in the board
- Waiting for new blood
- Waiting for the HOA laws to change to protect us homeowners
- I plan to volunteer and try to improve the environment here.

Time Availability

- Can't participate in the middle of the day.
- I'm not retired and it doesn't say "Retirement Community" at the gate- stop pretending it is

Time Availability (cont.)

- and realize professionals would like to participate but not during the day time hours
- Involved in other volunteer work
- My job is too demanding and takes up most of my time
- Not enough time
- Part time resident
- Still working
- Too busy
- Travel too much- plan to in future
- Work long hours
- Working - how about meetings in the evenings so working folk can participate?'
- Too many weeds to pull

Health/Age

- Age related- I am old, too many problems for me
- Health reasons
- I am not in good health
- My health comes first
- My spouse is ill- I am primary caretaker
- Not mobile

Attitude/Personality

- Antisocial
- I am moving to be closer to family
- Too shy
- Don't care
- Don't want to
- Generally satisfied
- We desperately need fresh faces, I plan on volunteering!

New member

- Just moved here- not sure
- New folk
- New in neighborhood
- New resident
- Newcomers meeting seemed contrived
- Too new

NEIGHBORHOOD SURVEY

Table II- Question 4: What would it take to make harmony happen? Total Responses-108

Question #4

What would it take to make harmony happen?

Inclusiveness/Diversity

- Acceptance & equal treatment of all individuals regardless of differences
- Better governance and less back room deals. We pay a lot of money for our assessments and deserve a board to listen to all members, not just a special interest.
- Harmony will happen when it is allowed to happen. Right now the atmosphere is stifling and restrictive. Let's embrace everyone not just a few. Let's celebrate everyone's ideas. Let's be kind and friendly to everyone.
- I am not well but can see that we need to have a more democratic procedure and a wider variety of opinions from a larger percentage of the membership rather than a narrow vision from a few.
- It would help the community if more people could get involved. We have a diverse population and they all need to have a voice and be allowed to get involved.
- Kala Point is now almost built out and is a mature community with a wide variety of people. We need to listen to everyone in a respectful manner.
- Let all members speak and participate in the daily going-ons in Kala Point.
- Let's all be able to have a voice in a respectful arena that fosters harmony. My opinion matters and I have good ideas but the old system does not encourage that and actually discourages openness and new ideas.
- Listen to everyone, include everyone, be open, listen, be respectful
- More people participating and being involved in how Kala Point is run. Then it will be a community of the people.
- The only solution is for our leadership not to be influenced by the political machine and for them to start thinking about the membership

Inclusiveness/Diversity (cont.)

- as a whole. That is when there will be harmony.
- We have a lot of people living here and only a few determining the rules. We need everyone's input.
- We need fairness and inclusiveness

Governance

- 3rd party mediation instead of new rules
- A democracy instead of a dictatorship running the community behind the scenes.
- Accept the current procedures. I did. I would not have moved here if I did not like them.
- Corruption, corruption corruption. Harmony, harmony, harmony. They don't mix.
- I don't have the time to deal with this dynamic in KP. When it becomes more fair and open minded we will see balance and cooperation. We need a better government. Let's all pitch in!
- New blood in control & shoot all lawyers
- Stop thinking that the problem is about taking sides. It is not. It is about bad government.
- Open up the water views!!!! Open up all meetings- no secrets are needed.
- The problem with having so many elderly running the community is that they are afraid of change and afraid of any new ideas, and just afraid. With fear comes anger and dysfunction.
- We have a problem with the how KP is run

Clique/Control

- A board that does not let the control clique pressure and influence them. Listen to the membership.
- A major attitude adjustment by the "old guard"
- A non-power hungry board which rules with reason and fairness rather than special interest/agenda dogma.
- For individuals to give up personal agenda and look for what is best for all members
- Get the Concerned Members out of the loop.

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Table II- Question 4: What would it take to make harmony happen? Total Responses-108

Continued from previous page

What would it take to make harmony happen? (cont.)

Clique/Control (cont.)

- Harmony will be out of reach while the KPOA “machine” spins up stories and rumors that are not true just so a small group can maintain power.
- How can there be harmony when our leaders encourage otherwise? I am very concerned about raising my children in a place that encourages exclusion and condemns due process. This is not what I want my children to learn. I will try to help fix this broken process.
- How can there be harmony when we have the same people get elected? This is a problem with a clique that has control. Let’s get some new ideas!
- I don’t like the letter that goes out every year telling me who to vote for. How do you know who to believe? Dave Evans was such a smooth talker and ended up being a pit bull. That did not help Kala Point. The Concerned Members recommended him. Makes you wonder.
- I think that most people are pretty nice here individually. The problem is the cliques and alliances that have been formed over the years. Let’s clean this up!
- I travel a lot but it seems to me that there is too much control over people and not enough listening.
- It is not always easy to know the truth. There has been selective purging in this community for years and years. I have had many good friends be pushed out and leave. I am too old to move and look forward to the day when good people are not shunned, ridiculed, and purged from the community.
- It is obvious to me that Kala Point is run by the “concerned citizens” and are freaking out that they may lose their kingdom.
- Kala Point has had an ugly side to it for decades. I am glad that it is finally coming out and that someone with more energy than

Clique/Control (cont.)

- I can help move us out of this era and into a more positive and progressive future.
- Kind of hard to have harmony when members are assaulted at board meetings and committee members are railroaded out. Seems like the same “old timers” are at the heart of these problems.
- The Concerned Members have been exposed. But soon enough before Kala Point is destroyed?
- For the concerned citizens to let others participate in the process.
- For the old guard to not rig the election and let the democratic process take place
- Stop the hate-campaign waged by concerned members
- There is a political machine here that has had control for a long time and is afraid of giving it up. As soon as that happens the divisiveness will end.
- We will have harmony when the Concerned Citizens or the “old guard” or the “institution” or the “good old boys” let go of their strangle hold on this community!
- When the community was much smaller it was easier to communicate and network with each other. Now we have doubled in size and the old ways just don’t work. The “old guard” is just not the way to go anymore. We are too big for that old style of workings. People are not being treated fairly or consistently which causes problems.
- When the control clique stops telling the board what to do, when to resign, who will be the next officer, who will be picked as a replacement. When this stops, Kala Point will become a better place to live. The only way that will happen is if independent people get in leadership positions to help change this unhealthy situation.
- Ship out the old guard and developer
- The atmosphere in KP reminds me of living in

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Table II- Question 4: What would it take to make harmony happen? Total Responses-108

Continued from previous page

What would it take to make harmony happen? (cont.)

Clique/Control (cont.)

the South in the 60's. I am glad that I am working and have an outside life!

- A real democracy where elections are not determined by a letter from people out of touch with the community.
- Everyone should try to work together and stop litigating every little complaint. Work on a joint newsletter instead of taking sides. Change so we have a community vote on board recommendations, have people realize that every thing does not have to be their way all of the time.

Board/Committee Leadership

- A board that makes it a priority to set a good example. It all starts there.
- A new board unconnected to the developer
- A responsible board
- Completely open and fair decisions made by board
- Harmony will be achieved when we get people on the board who will make that a priority. The issues are about how KP is governed, not whether anyone is nice or not.
- I get along with all my neighbors. It is the operation of KPOA that is creating the problem. Where is Scott when we need him. He could have helped bridge this problem.
- I have wonderful neighbors. I basically like everyone but I don't like how things are run here. I think that it enables the divisiveness.
- Out the board president!
- The "old guard" (9 of them) are dictating what happens in this community. I am glad that their reign is coming to an end.
- The board must take responsibility that they are the problem AND the solution. They need to set the tone.
- Vote in all nine directors who aren't interested

Board/Committee Leadership (cont.)

- in patting themselves on the back, giving themselves plaudits at the annual meeting and doing business "Behind Closed Doors"
- Eliminate most of the committees

Attitudes

- A cessation of attacks on those who devote time & energy to Kala Point. The way it was.
- A genuine desire to improve things for every one
- All of my neighbors are nice...until you start talking politics.
- Attitude and truths
- Certain members to move!
- Certain people leave
- Certain people leave
- Certain people to move
- Communication and cooperation
- Don't listen to rumors, get the facts, don't start rumors, be respectful
- Effort
- Have an open mind, try something new and not rely on old ways
- I am not sure I understand how Kala Point became a dictatorship. Let's all work together and pitch in to solve this.
- I don't know what the solution is except to keep talking and have an open mind.
- I hope I don't get this way when I get older. We need some younger more hip people to lighten this place up!
- I treat everyone how I want to be treated. If we all did that this would be a better place to live.
- I will do my part to help with harmony. Treat everyone with respect, listen, learn, and keep an open mind.
- It is what it is. Everyone works that out for themselves
- Kindness & respect. Letting go of control. Understanding others as human beings
- Kindness, respect and mind our own business!
- Less micro-manage and critical attitude
- I don't like politics but it sure seems to be

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Table II- Question 4: What would it take to make harmony happen? Total Responses-108

Continued from previous page

What would it take to make harmony happen? (cont.)

Attitudes (cont.)

- a big part of the problem in the community. If we could just talk more openly I think that would go a long way.
- Things always get worse before they get better. Are we at the bottom yet? The growing pains of Kala Point growing out of adolescence into maturity. Glad I am still young!
 - Peace between members
 - Respect for others and end the fault finding and back biting.
 - Stop being little children
 - More open minded interaction. Life is so short! Why can't we all act more neighborly?
 - The stories that I hear about people are not always true. One way to help create harmony is to not listen to rumors and be kind to every one.
 - Who cares
 - I have lived in Kala Point for almost 20 years. It has always been easier to turn my head the other way. I have been a sheep for too long and tolerated and watched many friends treated unfairly. I think that harmony will happen when there is openness and tolerance. That will only happen when we have open and tolerant leaders. I hope people with fresh ideas and persistence will help bring this community out of the dark ages!
 - Love thy neighbor
 - Members of community treat each other with respect without intimidation or name calling

Community Forum

- I don't know how to solve the problem. Thank you Community Forum for providing members a way to have a voice with a survey!
- For both sides of issues to be discussed at town hall meetings. While facts are important, a little less "raw deal" in KIN might foster improved harmony between "factions". (KIN nickname: dissident newsletter)
- I appreciate having more information provided

Community Forum (cont.)

- to be able to form my own opinion. This information will help the community in the long run.
- I find it interesting that Community Forum is concerned about how the membership feels but the board doesn't reach out to us. I am glad that we have a resource that goes the extra mile. I don't know what will make harmony happen here. But I am glad that I have a chance to express my opinion about it.
 - I would rather know about what is going on in KP than hide my head in the sand. I am grateful to have this newsletter to keep me informed and up to date. This will ultimately help communicate the various opinions in our neighborhood and help have a better understanding how people feel in the neighborhood.
 - Open, candid communication and a variety of opinions always helps. Thanks Community Forum.
 - Stop biased articles about the board all that is wrong and tell the truth
 - Stop your rantings
 - Thanks for asking! That's a step in the right direction.
 - The dirty little secrets of Kala Point have been hidden for a long time. Now that we have people who that are willing to take the risk the membership will have an opportunity to have a voice. Kala Point has been waiting for a democracy for a LONG time!
 - The harmony situation will get uglier before it gets better. That is because decades of backroom deals are finally coming out in the open. Thank goodness for free press! Kala Point will be a better place in the end after the growing pains.

Misc.

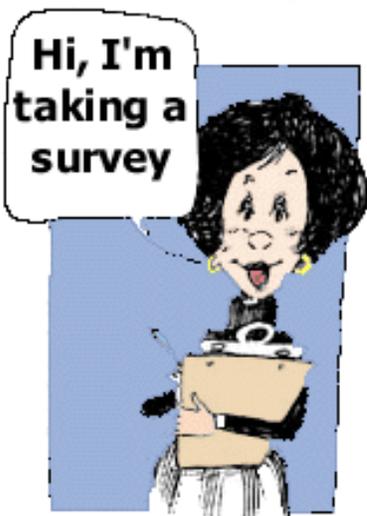
- A catastrophic event
- Good bass, strong tenor.
- Don't know
- Geriatric Mental health workshops

Community Forum's **Community Survey**

Harmony Is Very Important!

This article presents the results from the *Community Forum* (CF) survey. There were 136 member replies which is an all time record for survey responses.

The topic of community harmony is very important with members and have many suggestions. In this issue we will report the numeric results for questions 1, 2, & 3.



The numeric results to the survey are:

1. How active are you in community affairs?

Present or former board director: **12 responses**

Present or former committee member: **40 responses**

Have not been involved: **84 responses**

If not, why not? (These written comments will be presented in the next issue of CF.)

2. How important is it to you that changes be made to improve harmony in the community?

Very Important: 103 responses

Somewhat Important: 24 responses

Not important: 9 responses

3. What kind of community do you want?

The way it is now: 8 responses

Neighbors in a neighborhood : 101 responses

Other-explain below: 25 responses

Explain: (These written comments will be presented in the next issue of CF.)

4. What would it take to make harmony happen in this community? 108 responses

Comment On Survey Results:

1. How active are you in community affairs?

62% of the responses have not been involved in community affairs with 29% of the responses coming from present or former committee members. This is a significant statistic to keep in mind and to think about.

2. How important is it to you that changes be made to improve harmony in the community?

76% of the responses said that it is very important to them that changes be made to improve the harmony in our community. This statistic indicates that a very large number of neighbors feel that this is an important issue that needs to be dealt with.

3. What kind of community do you want?

75% of the responses said that they want a community described as "Neighbors in a neighborhood". This is another indication that members want solutions to bring harmony to our community.

4. What would it take to make harmony happen in this community? Not everyone answered this question but there were many opinions and solutions offered to help bring harmony to the community.

The written comments will be reported in the next issue of CF. The member written comments are broad and valuable. More time will be given to better organize, present, and evaluate the replies to maximize meaningful communication to the membership.

Community Forum encourages constructive member critique of the methods and usefulness of surveys employed by *Community Forum* as a way of improving information exchange among the membership. The information exchange can make Kala Point a better place to live, especially if it is considered by the board and factored into governance.
