

Dear Editor – Social Media Secret Society

 culvercitycrossroads.com/2016/03/22/dear-editor-social-media-secret-society

It has come to my attention that there is a closed-secret-society Facebook Bulletin Board facilitated by Dan O'Brien, an outspoken Grace Church member and supporter. Some Secret Society members are full of vitriolic-incendiary and sometimes defamatory rhetoric directed toward Farragut Drive residents. Some incite others to damage the residents' property, without considering their personal liability for doing so and creating a conspiracy where each is legally liable for all the others' acts.

City Council Member Jeffrey Cooper is a member in good standing of the Secret Society. Dan's ravings informed us of his tight relationship with Cooper. Dan hosted Cooper's campaign kick-off party at his home and other matters. Dan admits, "The council would have to recuse themselves (sic) from every vote if it were based upon relationships with citizens." That's how incestuous and corrupt it is. Culver City's solution is a code of silence that benefits the connected and harms the unconnected.

In September 2014, Council Member Cooper heard Grace Church's appeal from the City Engineer's refusal to modify the Farragut Parking Restrictions. Cooper failed to disclose his relationship with Dan when he was publically and specifically asked if any existed. Sound familiar, e.g., Andrew Weissman and Kenneth Smith? This City Council seems to be replete with undisclosed relationships, which benefit the few at the expense of the many.

15 residents of Farragut spoke when the Grace Church's appeal was heard by the City Council. Cooper dismissed the residents' first-hand knowledge as just "anecdotal." There was no reason to give any weight to our testimony as, on average, we have only lived in Culver City 40 years.

At last week's Council Meeting (continued from September 2014), Dan testified on behalf of Grace Church without revealing his relationship with Cooper. Cooper continued his silence. Cooper said he was basing his decision in favor of Grace Church on "social media." Due to Cooper's close ties to Dan and his membership in the Secret Society, we believe that Cooper meant the Secret Society when he referred to "social media." The City Council's rampant failure to disclose conflicts of interest gives new meaning to "love thy neighbor" and "justice for all."

Paulette Greenberg