



Owen Brown Village Board Meeting
November 15, 2011 7:00 p.m.
Owen Brown Community Center
6800 Cradlerock Way Columbia, MD 21045

Approved: December 6, 2011

The Board of Directors of the Owen Brown Community Association, Inc. conducted its regular meeting of the Board on Tuesday, November 15, 2011 at the Owen Brown Community Center, 6800 Cradlerock Way, Columbia, Maryland 21045. Board Vice Chair, Wayne Eldridge; Board Members, Pearl Atkinson-Stewart, Otis Cutler, Ann Febraro, Kecia Rome and Katharyn Sunderman; CA Representative, Andy Stack; Teen Representative, Noah Wright; OBCA manager, Nancy L. Thomas and Recording Secretary, Rachel Eisenhauer were present. Chair, John Boyle and Parliamentarian Ajile Brown were not present.

1. Call to Order – Wayne called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm
2. Approval of agenda - Pearl motion to approve agenda as amended with staff action items as an attachment; Otis second. Agenda as amended approved. 6/0/0.
3. Approval of minutes
 - a. Approval of November 1, 2011 Minutes. Pearl motion to approve minutes; Kecia second 6/0/0
4. Consent Agenda - none
5. Resident comments - Ron Yaffe who lives in the Hopewell Community on Silver Sod expressed disappointment with the lack of timely notice for the CA solar panel meeting. He stated that he and his neighbors felt like it was a sneak attack and that Hopewell has become a dumping ground. Board responded to let him know that they took action as fast as possible and that the diagram presented to Board was different than what was presented at the meeting. Ron stated that the Board needed to regain the trust of neighborhood. Wayne stated that they would work together to get trust back. Andy suggested forming a task force of Hopewell residents on what to do with Park.
Joe Grego lives in the Sewells Orchard area and stated that the solar panel project was anonymously opposed. There was no need for a rushed meeting as CA has been working on it since 2009. Joe felt that CA dropped the ball on this – there should have been a notice on site and stated it is not true that the tax credits expire at the end of the year. Andy stated that a CA feasibility study had ruled out wind mills but suggested solar panels. 41 parcels of land considered which the consultant ranked – the top 3 were the roof of athletic club, the horse farm and Hopewell Park. CA has removed Hopewell Park from the list and is working on another site. Pearl suggested drafting letter to CA about notice and posting. Pearl also suggested to Ron that the Board needed emails of Hopewell residents to assist with notice.

6. Committees

a. Policies & Procedures- Committe completed work on Ethics Policy. Andy suggested adding in CA as not a conflict of interest. Otis motion to approve policy; Katharyn second. Policy approved 7/0/0.

b. Communications – Ann reported that there is a general plan to make social media stronger with a presence on facebook and twitter. Observer stronger. Surveys effective. Signage.

c. Elections – Kecia reported that an ad has been posted in Observer seeking members and will continue to post and will send notice to street captains.

d. Village Center Community Planning – Andy reported that there is a meeting tomorrow at 7:30 and the docs are on google. The committee will choose date for community meeting.

e. Street Captains – Frank will be at next Board meeting.

7. Review of action items from previous meeting

a. Staff actions- manager action items from 10-18-11 all completed.

i. Manager Folder Creation

ii. Employee manual, emergency plan, evacuation plan

iii. Contact police about crosswalk enforcement

iv. Frank Chandler to come and meet the board

v. Set up link on web page to room prices & room contract

b. Board actions-

i. Collect comments on agenda format add in committee comments

ii. New board members provide feedback on orientation when submitted

iii. Wayne to speak with John Boyle about resignation

8. Discussions

a. Wayne Eldridge – John Boyle has resigned as Chair but remains on the Board; Wayne interested as Chair. No other candidates. Wayne appointed Chair by acclamation. Kecia interested in Vice Chair. No other candidates. Kecia voted Vice Chair. 7/0/0.

b. Lake Elhorn dredging – Pearl suggested letting the community know before hand about the proposed 7-11pm dredging schedule. Possible screen to control noise. Put notice in Observer and on website.

9. Board Member comments- Pearl suggested revisit Ethics policy every year. She also reported that she had a gift stolen from car and there have been a rash of break ins but the police are monitoring ; Kathryn – still working on getting up to speed; Ann –present at solar panel discussion – outcry about notification so possibly notice on facebook and twitter?; Kecia –thanked everyone for support for her to become Board Vice Chair, Angels are a good idea; Judy Center is having steering committee meeting; CA has diversity training and she will be attending Ignite columbia; Kecia thanked Nancy and staff as her daughter had her 2nd birthday party at the Center; Andy – Women’s only swim time is a pilot program; CA board meeting on November 22nd; budget work session discussing rates and rate changes; employee compensation. Senior discount. Master plan for Symphony Woods. Howard hughes start merriweather post and crescent. Designer selected for Hobbits Glen Golf club house. CA will be meeting with State delegation on some HOA legislation.

CA and villages are treated as HOA under Maryland law. Noah – asked for Board suggestions about a student survey. Suggestions included what activities for teens? What time? What issues to bring before Board? Is the Teen Center useful? Wayne – thanked everyone for supporting him for Chair of the Board.

10. Review of action items for next meeting

a. Staff actions –

i. Nancy to post CA's social media policy on google docs.

ii. Nancy to send notice re: Election volunteers to Street Captains and post to Facebook.

iii. Nancy to share manager folder creation.

iv. Nancy to put notice in Observer about dredging and post on OB website. Send email to CA Diana Kelly and Ron Yaffey and Rani Gran about dredging with various questions: 7-11 time frame - how long will take compared to shorter day. Also, request post information on CA website and inquire as to process for informing the community.

b. Board actions

i. Letter to CA re notice and posting re: solar panels.

ii. Board to send Nancy questions re dredging by Friday.

iii. Meeting with Nancy, Wayne and Kecia.

11. Adjournment – Noah motion to adjourn the meeting; Otis second. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm 7/0/0