

OWEN BROWN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
February 16, 2010
BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Approved: 3-16-10

The Board of Directors of the Owen Brown Community Association, Inc. conducted its regular meeting of the Board on Tuesday, February 16, 2010. Board Chair, Andy Stack; Board Members, Summer Romack, Ed Cosentino, Gracie Bradford ; OBCA manager, Nancy L. Thomas; and Recording Secretary, Rachel Eisenhauer, were in attendance. CA Representative, Pearl Atkinson was not present. Board member, Pete Sparacino, joined the meeting in progress at 7:30pm and Gordon MacPhee, OBCA covenant advisor attended for part of the meeting.

Andy Stack called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

1. *Adopt agenda* - Agenda approved as amended by consensus. (Gracie motion; Ed 2nd)
2. *Approval of minutes* –
 - a. January 19, 2010 minutes approved as amended by consensus. 3/0/1 (Ed motion; Gracie 2nd ; Ed abstained)
 - b. February 2, 2010 minutes approved as amended by consensus. 4/0/0 (Gracie motion, Summer 2nd)
3. *Invited Guests* – none
4. *Resident Speak-out* – Gracie Bradford appeared before the Board as a resident. She applauded the snow removal by Howard County but was concerned for the piles of snow on the sidewalk particularly in her Swan Point community. She expressed concerns for resident safety crossing Cradlerock because of the height and placement of the snow. Summer stated that the sidewalk conditions while possibly unsafe, overall the removal of the snow was done well.
5. *Consent agenda* –
 - a. ZRA 117 testimony Bee hives. There was no negative testimony. Gordon, OBCA covenant advisor expressed concern about ZRA 117 25 feet requirement because of the very small lots sizes in Columbia. Gracie, Summer and Andy all stated that the Board understood the Bee colony collapse issue but remained concerned that zoning change would adversely affect residents on the small lots in Columbia. Andy reported that the Planning Board voted against ZRA 117 and it will now go to the Zoning Board. Summer made changes in the Board's letter reflecting the above concerns. Summer will send changes to ZRA 117 letter to Nancy to finalize and send out.
6. *Covenant decisions* –Gordon reported that the snow has made letters of compliance impossible. Ed suggested putting ideas in next Observer about compliance after the snow has melted to mend broken fences etc. Andy suggested that the Board inquire with CA about the letters of compliance when the weather interferes with the issuance.
7. *Financial decisions* –none
8. *CA/County decisions*
9. *Other Decisions* –
 - a. Appointment of Village Election Committee members. – Al Romack; Gloria Cohen; Pete Sparacino. 4/0/0 (Gracie motion, Summer 2nd)
10. *Reports* –
 - a. *Covenants*- Report of letters of compliance and violation activity presented to Board.

b. *CA Representative* – Andy reported that CA will be voting on the budget soon.

c. *Manager* – Nancy’s report is attached.

i. Complete renovation update at next meeting March 2, 2010.

ii. 28 special events (3 with all Villages) planned for next year.

iii. Still working on finalizing plans for OBCA summer relocation while the Center is renovated.

d. Committees –

i. Communication Committee – Summer reported that she is updating modules on website and backing up data base.

ii. Street Captains - none

iii. Village Center Master Plan – next meeting is February 25, 2010. The committee has a draft document.

11. *Discussions* –

a. ZRA-125 – Kennels in B1. The Board discussed ZRA -125 which would allow Kennels in New Town Zone districts as a matter of right. Summer stated that the existing process should remain in place so that Kennels aren’t a matter of right but must follow the existing procedures for an exception.

12. *Board Speak Out* – Ed was impressed with the cooperation between CA and Howard County

for snow removal. Ed to write letter thanking Howard County for snow removal and CA efforts about snow removal from the roof of OBCC.

Pete expressed his concerns for parking on Oakland Mills road during snow storms..

Summer agreed with Ed’s position on the cooperation between the County and CA. She suggested that Street Captains gather Happy Snow stories for the next Observer.

13. *Chair Report* – Andy mentioned the 4th Dog Day afternoon is scheduled for Saturday Pril 17th Hopewell Park. He also reviewed legislation and recommends opposing HB 695. He will write an opposition statement for Board review.

14. Adjournment at 8:30 pm by consensus. (Pete motion; Gracie 2nd) (4/0/0)

Respectfully Submitted,
Rachel Eisenhauer, Recording Secretary

ACTION ITEMS

1. Summer to make changes to Board’s letter re: ZRA 117. She will then send to Nancy to finalize and send out to Zoning Board.
2. Gordon to inquire check with other villages and ask CA what to do when the weather interferes with letters of compliance.
3. Ed to write a letter to Howard County and CA thanking them for their efforts and cooperation re: Snow removal from the roadways and roofing.
4. Andy will write a letter in opposition of HB 695 and SB 416 for the Board’s review and approval.

Owen Brown Village Board Meeting

February 16, 2010

AGENDA as Amended

1. Adopt agenda – 7:00 pm
2. Approval of minutes – 5 minutes
 - a. January 19, 2010
 - b. February 2, 2010
3. Invited Guests – 15 minutes
 - a. Robert Schweinfurth, CA Watershed Advisory Committee
4. Resident speak-out – 10 minutes
5. Consent agenda – 1 minute
 - a. ZRA 117 testimony
6. Covenant decisions – 0 minutes
7. Financial decisions – 0 minutes
8. CA/County decisions – 0 minutes
9. Other decisions – 5 minutes
 - a. Appointment of Village Election Committee members
10. Reports – 30 minutes
 - a. Covenant
 - b. CA Representative
 - c. Manager
 - d. Committees
 - i. Communication Committee
 - ii. Street Captains
 - iii. Village Center Master Plan
11. Discussions – 15 minutes
 - a. ZRA – 125 – Kennels in B1.
12. Board speak-out – 15 minutes
13. Chair report – 10 minutes
14. Adjournment