

RIVERSIDE HOA, INC.

Board Meeting Minutes for 8.21.14

The Board meeting commenced at 6:35 pm. In attendance were Reed Haggard, Megan Grout, Suzanne Caruthers, Sherry Epstein, Chris Elliott, Sheila Elliott, Deborah Minor, Sylvia Bowen, Colin Lichtenstein and Amy Kilgore (Nominations Chair).

ANNUAL MEETING

The Board discussed planning the upcoming annual meeting. Megan reported that she will approach Riverwood to find some dates that the auditorium is available. The annual meeting was moved from the auditorium to the cafeteria last year by the school due to a conflict. The cafeteria is not comfortable nor good for noise levels. The goal will be to have the meeting in mid-October if possible.

It was discussed by the board that Dr. Shaw (principal of Riverwood) should be invited so that he might discuss the current situation for the renovation or rebuild of Riverwood. Dr. Shaw has also indicated he wants to reach out to people who have any questions about Riverwood and this will be a good opportunity to get to know the local neighborhood. The Board also agreed that Graham McDonald (city council representative to our area), Rusty Paul (mayor) and Dan Coffey (city community liaison), and a representative from SSPD should be invited to attend.

The Board then discussed all the elements that need to be included on the agenda for the annual meeting. Assuming a quorum is present, the vote for the slate of officers for 2015-2016 will be presented and voted upon. Deborah Minor will present the current state of finances for the HOA and a projected budget for 2015. Additionally, there will be updates provided (or available if questions arise) on the Old Riverside Park, Roundabouts at 285, Improvements in local intersections (as related to new school), and a question and answer session for any other questions. The Board can add additional topics if necessary between now and the meeting.

FINANCIAL

Deborah Minor indicated a projection of \$17,000 in available funds once all annual expenses are paid. She remarked that this was an excellent budget situation considering that only a few years ago, some financial obligations had to be paid in installments as our funds were so low. The Board agreed that the present financial situation may finally allow the HOA to explore some of the capital improvements which have been suggested by members over the last two years and in the survey done last year. The Board also acknowledged that since a new board will be elected soon, it would be wiser to allow that new Board to make final decisions on which projects to pursue. The current Board discussed a rough list of projects that the next Board can consider as major expenditures. In the survey, two ideas discussed were replacement and addition of signage, and professional landscaping of the islands (at least the exterior ones). It was noted that the island at Weatherly also needs to have a tree replaced which can be costly. The 2013 survey can be reviewed in detail by the new Board. Suzanne also noted that several members have asked about improvements such as street lights, sidewalks and additional speed bumps.

Whether those are viable (or an HOA responsibility) was discussed but it was agreed the desire for these things should be noted on the list. During the transition, the new and old Boards can discuss these items in more detail.

ELECTIONS

Amy Kilgore presented a list of members who had volunteered for positions on the 2015-2016 HOA Board. So far, none had volunteered in any of the officer positions. It was noted that one volunteer may be qualified to perform as Treasurer, and that would be explored, as Deborah Minor would like to retire from her position at the end of her term. As there had been, so far, no volunteers as officers, Reed (President), Colin (Vice President) and Megan (Secretary) would stay on if needed. The Board spent a lengthy time discussing which volunteers would be interested in the different committee positions available. Amy and other Board members who know these volunteers agreed to touch base with them and see if they were interested in the positions the Board thought would be a good fit for them.

Silvia agreed to continue on as webmaster since no other volunteers have become available. Sherry agreed to stay on as Environmental Chair if the Board cannot find a replacement but there may be one available. She was asked to continue to write articles for the newsletter even if she stepped down, and she agreed to do so occasionally. The Elliotts indicated they would like to step down as security but Sheila will remain as the (non-voting) liaison for emergency services as she is CERT trained and will update the neighborhood in the event of emergencies. Megan indicated she would like to step down at least as communications and membership. It appeared there were good volunteers available to fill both these slots. Suzanne offered to follow up with some of the neighbors who are actively concerned about traffic issues in the area to see if one is interested in taking on the traffic committee.

It was also noted that no one ever volunteered for Social Committee. The Board discussed simply adding two slots, one to manage Halloween, and one to re-start the Earth Day celebration and see if anyone agreed to take on just one event. These would not be voting Board positions.

The Board discussed continuing to accept volunteers for positions at least through the middle of September. The slate should be finalized by the end of September and mailed to the membership prior to the annual meeting.

NEW BUSINESS and UPDATES

Sherry noted that the next budget should increase reimbursement allocations to \$400 for large islands and \$200 for small islands. Deborah mentioned that many who maintain the islands don't seek reimbursement despite being reminded by Sherry, but for those who did, it was usually much more expensive than the current budget allocations given them. It was discussed that either the allocations should be increased or there should be a portion of funds set aside for larger expenses such as replacement of trees.

Sheila updated the Board that the two policeman had been secured to patrol the neighborhood during each of the home games at Riverwood. Deborah confirmed that she is ready to pay their costs when

needed. Sheila also suggested a reminder to members on walking and bike safety after the recent accident which involved a car swerving to avoid children on bicycles.

Silvia offered to put the slate on the main webpage when it was ready. She is still happy to work with a volunteer Riverwood student on the HOA webpage but hasn't heard from anyone.

Colin continues to represent the HOA at the Sandy Springs Council of Neighborhood. He and Reed continue to attend city council meetings and monitor the large development plans for the city center. Chris underscored that members need to be aware of the breadth of these plans. Megan agreed that links to the plans can be included in the next HOA newsletter.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10.