

Harbison Community Association (HCA)

MINUTES: MEMBER INPUT MEETING

January 31, 2023

NOTE: Due to Social Distance Guidelines resulting from COVID-19 virus, this meeting was held by “Zoom” instead of in-person at the Community Center.

Board Members attending: IN PERSON Mr. Hank West (President); Mr. Terry Helsley; Mr. Stan Seabrook; Mrs. Patricia Jenkins

VIRTUAL: Mr. Ozzie Nagler; Ms. Julie Lucas (Treasurer); Ms. Taryn Trefethen-Boileau; Ms. Liz Mooney

Absent: Ms. Crystal Bowen;

HCA Staff attending: Mrs. Cindy Kellett, Executive Director; Mrs. Danell Gunter Programs Director, Ms. Cookie Brooks, Community Resources Director, Mr. Scott Lynch, Covenants and Facilities Director.

ZOOM: Mr. Ray Cloutier- Senior Advisor, Director of DDRC & RDRC; Ms. Yolanda Vinson, Finance Director; Ms. Jackie Banton, Administration Temp.

Members present in person or on zoom: Ms. Cheryl Johnson, Ms. Benjie Friday, Ms. Katherine Carter, Mr. Jim Carter, Mr. Barry and Mrs. Susan Walker, Ms. Carolyn Turner, Ms. Diane Perdue-Shupe, Mr. Andy Kushlak, Ms. Genie Perry, Mr. Mike Templeton, Mr. Charlie Harris, Mr. Derek Eloffson, Mrs. Susan Eloffson, Mrs. Gloria Bell, Mr. Isaac Bell, Mr. Greg and Mrs. Kim Bianca, Mr. Gerry Pierce, Mrs. Tammi Pierce, and Ms. Kay Brown, attending by zoom: Dr. Constance Yearling, Ms. Jocelyn Stephenson

Mr. West called the Meeting to order at 6:02pm.

Mr. West explained that this was a meeting to listen to the concerns of members.

NOTE: The next regularly scheduled Board Meeting is February 28th at 6pm – in person and virtually on “Zoom”.

Dominion Energy- Members have been upset and discouraged about the lack of progress on the replacement of Dominion lighting in Harbison. Ray Cloutier invited Dominion staff to come and answer questions and provide some answers.

Dominion Staff introduced: Kim Benton, Lighting Coordinator; Robert Garvin, Manager, Lighting Services; Powell Myers, Supervisor, Lighting Services

They discussed the reasons for the long-term outages of lighting across Harbison including the Pathways. There have been multiple issues including not having actual addresses associated with the lights and underlying issues such as wiring. They are working to develop a comprehensive list (we asked for a spreadsheet so we can track in house and inform residents. This will allow the HCA to better oversee the program.) Mr. Ray Cloutier sent them all of his emails outlining outages. There were numerous residents that expressed their displeasure with the process. We were all told that the lights would self report, could be reported by using the QR code on the poles and that cameras could later be installed for security. None of these solutions have actually been implemented at this point **due to the shortage of chips that plague industry.**

Member Input:

Ms. Diane Purdue-Shupe reported it had been years with the lights she is particularly concerned about. Mr. Andy Kushlak said he had reported numerous times and did not get good feedback from the HCA nor Dominion. Ms. Kay Brown wanted to have Hamilton Park lights replaced by Dominion but they were under their developer (Centex) agreement with Dominion, not incorporated into the HCA agreement then or under the current arrangement. This is a separate issue.

Ms. Cheryl Johnson would like to have some benches placed in her area. Maintenance staff will review request. May have a bench on hand. Dominion Pole #: 1047936; 1047973

Ms. Benjie Friday spoke about crime believed to originate in Harbison Gardens. She lives in Beacon Hill and they hear shots many nights from this area, car being vandalized. Her neighborhood is in the "Bermuda Zone" under Irmo Police jurisdiction while Harbison Gardens is under City of Columbia Police jurisdiction. Update to this issue is that Law enforcement arrested 3 males 15-18 who each have outstanding felonies. The neighbors caught them breaking into homes and stealing and caught them on camera which assisted the police in their identification and capture. Harbison Gardens cameras not focused on area of concern. She has met with many community leaders and law enforcement and has not seen improvement.

Ms. Kellett is following up with community groups to continue our quest for assistance from law enforcement as well as the representatives on City, Town and County Councils to assist. We are working with the Business Community in Harbison and want to meet with our representatives with Businesses, Apartments and interested residents.

Mr. West suggested we try to get a large community group from across Harbison as was done to stop the 'gentlemen's club'. Mrs. Lucas agreed and said this will become a problem for all of Harbison without clear action, it is crime of opportunity. **SUGGESTION: Resolution for a Community Activism Committee with goals of letter writing campaign, calling and emailing campaigns, petitions and volunteers to attend Council meetings to achieve our community goals, to be developed by committee with Board approval. What we want to ask for: Shot Spotter, more direction and response from law enforcement, reports documenting shots and other crimes in the community.**

Ms. Stephenson – Concerned about getting notified of meetings. How are residents communicated to: Every other month there is a Board meeting, on opposite months there is a Member Input Meeting, schedule included in your assessment bill. We have continuous posting on the website, posted in the community center and our newsletter that get mailed to every resident quarterly.

Ms. Stephenson also said she was concerned about yard trash not being picked up regularly. The HCA does not handle the trash pickup. Katherine Carter also said she had noticed this was a problem across Harbison. Call your trash pick up company or county. **One of the issues is that there are various municipalities throughout Harbison.** Our covenants driver will happily report for you as requested.

Katherine Carter asked that we notify people by email. We have very reluctant members to using email. We do have some but not enough to make this a good communication tool for member issues. We hope to address this better when we get a new website up and running with better opportunity for feedback.

Diane Perdue-Shupe- wanted to know about new homes on Piney Grove/Broad River. Great Southern Homes, all approvals 71? Single family, single story. Ray Cloutier can call and check the status. Ray will check on it and send info to Executive Director.

Mr. Mike Templeton stated Security is a recurring annual problem. He presented a package of grievances to the board regarding: Elections ("D" seat is voted in by tenants as the only voters). Personal Trainer position on staff, Tennis manager need. Election rules are outlined in our ByLaws and Declaration of Covenants. Our budget does not provide for the staffing of a person for each individual area of fitness. He recommended we get a Tennis Manager for the complex due to a lot of tennis activity. We are competing with other tennis programs.

Irmo Mayor, Mr. Barry Walker also spoke of crime issues from Harbison Gardens. He stated that there were other housing properties that were closing and may send some of their residents to Harbison Gardens and he was very concerned. He wants to garner support from the community to find solutions.

Mr. West stated he was very impressed with the number of residents in attendance. Wants to encourage everyone to participate WHEN we get our political representatives in for a Member Input Meeting. Perhaps we need a committee to decide what asks we want to make from our reps. The board and members agreed we are with Irmo to get more resources from City of Columbia.

Dr. Constance Yearling typed questions in the chat box:

When will the Pickleball lights be corrected? These were requested to be installed at 'best location'.

Will Dominion reimburse people for plantings destroyed by install? No, that was part of the agreement, people are requested NOT to plant on or around the lights. There was one specific request granted by previous Executive Director for a plant to be left around a light during refurbish.

Mr. Walker asked about the flat fee on assessments. Mr. West discussed how value of properties were used and got attorney recommendations to balance the difference between home value to be more equitable.

Mrs. Susan Elofson agreed with need for Personal Trainer.

Ms. Carolyn Turner boasted on the staff and the Pathways in particular.

Mrs. and Mr. Gloria and Isaac Bell, new to the area and just wanted to learn about the community.

Mr. Greg Bianco talked about crime, particularly shooting. Newsletter or flyer to ask people to be involved. Alert community to writing, email, call campaigns.

Ms. Kay Brown was very complimentary of board. She asked about area behind Settler's Station property was cleaned out. Scott said it had to do with the electrical easement. NOT for construction. Scott to check on for Ms. Brown. JMs. Lucas said they were working on large transformers in the area.

The Board and staff expressed their gratitude for the people that came tonight and expressed their concerns and gotten involved. AMC Theatre being 're-done'.

Mr. Gerry Pierce followed up on Benjie, pathways, 80 year old was attacked on trail, HCA were unaware of incident. Wanted cameras on Dominion Poles. They cannot get the chips. When cameras are available get to the 'hotspots' first. Pathways going into neighborhoods were suggested.

Mrs. Patricia Jenkins talked about starting a Crime Watch in her neighborhood. Good choice until technology gets caught up. Also a Facebook page has been done for Forrest One to report and neighbors can be aware of issues. Beacon Hill also has a Facebook Page with the same intent: If you see something, say something.

Ms. Tammy Pierce - No outlet sign into Harbison Gardens, can we get one? Scott to check.

Mr. West said we have a Board meeting that does include short time for member input but please come in March for FULL Member Input Meeting which allows for more time to discuss.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm