

HICKORY RIDGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
January 2, 2012

Chairperson Miles Coffman called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. at The Hawthorn Center. Those present included John Bailey, Michelle Wood, Linda Hitzelberger and Gregg Schwind. Also present was Village Manager Jessamine Duvall.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The agenda was approved.

APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 19th MINUTES: The minutes were approved as submitted.

RESIDENT SPEAKOUT: Jerry Lioi suggested that the Village offer a Tai Chi class for seniors at The Hawthorn Center. Sal Dunn from the Hickory Hollow Townhouse Association expressed concerns about the January 4 RAC meeting process and requested that a certain staff member attend the meeting, and that the approval process be altered for a particular application. The Board denied these requests.

MANAGER'S REPORT: Ms. Duvall updated the Board on assorted community and office issues. The group discussed the best way to address the proximity of the swings to a stream drop-off at the Golden Hook tot lot. The Board agreed that the situation should be addressed no later than the Spring of 2012, and the swings may need to be relocated. Additionally, the Board agreed that CA needs to address the continuing erosion of the stream bed in that area with a long-term solution.

CA BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT: Mr. Schwind reported that the vote on a proposed Senior Discount was passed at the December 22 CA Board meeting, but that the approved discount was not the same as that which was originally proposed. Mr. Schwind expressed his frustration that the approved discount of 10% off new memberships for seniors would not reach the majority of seniors who could benefit from a discounted rate. Mr. Schwind also reported that Howard County recently rejected CA's proposed plan for Symphony Woods improvements, and wants CA and Merriweather Post Pavilion's owners to work together on one mutually beneficial plan with a deadline of January 22. Mr. Schwind commented that the entire development process will be slowed down significantly because of this.

REQUEST FOR 15-DAY LETTER: The board voted to send a 15-day notice letter to the owner of 6685 Buttonhole Court, and to send the violation on to CA if the owner fails to bring the property into compliance.

ELECTION PROCEDURES: The Board discussed the requirements for changing the organization's by-laws to eliminate an election if there are no contested seats. The Board voted put this issue on the ballot for the 2012 Village Elections. Ms. Duvall will draft the wording of the proposed change and present it to the Board for approval at the next meeting.

ALLOCATION FORMULA REPORT: Ms. Duvall shared her questions and comments about the Allocation Formula Report that the External Relations Committee of the CA Board recently submitted to the Village Boards and Village Managers for review. After a discussion, the Board inquired whether any Village Managers had been involved in creating the new formula, and when the Board might have an opportunity to meet with the ERC to ask questions and comment. Ms. Duvall said she would find out and let the Board know.

CA BUDGET HEARING: Ms. Duvall notified the Board about upcoming opportunities to comment on CA's proposed FY13 and conditional FY14 budget, and shared her comments. The Board discussed the best way to ensure that Hickory Ridge's requested funds are approved, and decided to send written comments and/or testimony to Phil Nelson in advance of the January 25 meeting.

BOARD COMMENTS:

ACTION ITEMS: Ms. Duvall will draft the language regarding changing the association's by-laws for the 2012 election ballot, and will draft a letter to CA regarding the FY13/14 budget. Ms. Duvall will find out how the Village Board can comment on the draft Allocation Formula.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessamine Duvall,
Village Manager