

**Holmes Run Acres Civic Association  
Board of Directors Meeting  
September 10, 2008**

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The September 10, 2008 Board of Directors Meeting was hosted by Cathy Cox and called to order at 8:30 pm.

**Attending:** Norm Atkins, Scott Birkhead, Steve Biver, Cathy Cox, Peggy Daley, Mary Beth Gardiner, Mia Gardiner, Ann Johnson, Paul Kulwatno, Cindy Roy, Janet Schreiber, and Dave Smith.

**Not Attending:** Betsy Boynton (alternate), Michael Jaworek, Barbara Karro, Renée Klein, John Mantz, Bill Schenck, Carrie Schorri, and Rod Smith.

**Guest:** Virginia Smith, Historian.

**President's Report**

Rod Smith will not be here as he is getting married today. Ann handed out a safety proposal that she developed that will be discussed under new business.

**Secretary's Report.**

The August 2008 minutes were unanimously accepted with Janet making the motion and Norm seconding it.

**Treasurer's Report**

Renée and Cindy have connected a little but have not exchanged all the information re: the budget. At the end of July, assets were \$7,771.47. The Federation of Civic Association membership dues have been paid. Upcoming expenses will be for Membership Committee and *Runner* printing. So far 38 members have signed up for membership, and those people gave a total of \$250. Some of this money was designated for the new signs. Scott made a motion to accept the report, Janet seconded, and the vote was unanimous.

**Standing Committee Reports**

• **Civic Affairs**

Scott reports that neighborhood watch needs people to cover shifts. There have been several incidents recently of cars broken into. We should consider our options for safety. Always report incidents to the police, they will follow up. There is also a scam in HRA—purported tree cutters are going around soliciting work, but just taking the money and not doing the work.

• **Community Facilities**

Dave reported that Virginia has passed a new law re: falling trees—the owner of the tree is now responsible for damages that occur to neighbors. Neighbors can sue to have overhanging tree branches cut and for lack of attention to roots that grow onto neighbor's property. Dave made mention of recent flooding at Luria Park and the damage done to the trees that were planted there. Also, VDOT will come out and inspect our roads and give us a reply in two weeks re: repair.

• **Membership and Hospitality**

The application for membership will come out in the *Runner*. Deadline for membership is October 15, 2008. The pet registry will be online. There will be a Block Hostess Dessert Party at Mia's from 7-9 pm on October 2, 2008. Board members are encouraged to attend and to bring a dessert.

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Newcomer's package may not be accorded attention when people are busy moving in, maybe it would be better to deliver it later, but have the block head or host introduce themselves to the new neighbor.

- **Programs and Social/Youth Activities**

Day in the Park will be October 4<sup>th</sup>. Help is needed for organizing and suggestions for activities are welcome.

Halloween Parade will be October 25<sup>th</sup>.

There was a discussion of block parties and why more are not held in the eight areas of the Acres at present. The only one now is at Sherwood Court in area 6 and board members are welcome to come

### **Ad Hoc Committee Reports**

- **Community for All Ages**

No report.

- **Emergency Preparedness**

Mia says that the traffic light is a safety issue, and she will continue her efforts to have a traffic light at Hemlock and Gallows.

- **Historic Preservation**

Paul said the focus now is on getting the new signs at the entrance to HRA. The results from the charrette regarding the design were put on display with photos by Steve to show what they would look like. The price for the favored design was too high. Other options that could be made of less expensive material (like recycled plastic) were presented. The project must be completed by the community six months after the grant is received. A permit for construction of the sign will be necessary too. Costs for the new sign and the permits will be brought to the next board meeting.

### **Other Reports**

- **Federation of Civic Associations**

No report. Peggy will be away at the time of the next meeting, and Ann will try to find replacement or to go to the meeting herself.

- **Historian/Archivist**

The 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Open Holmes is coming up this fall. Vivian gave us the interesting background of how they started. The story will be placed in the next *Runner*.

- **Runner**

Submissions are to be made by September 22<sup>nd</sup>. We need a theme. There was the question of how many times a year was the *Runner* published. 400 issues are now printed, but there are many left over—is 400 the minimum that is needed for a good price on printing?

- **Providence District Council**

No report.

- **Website/Listserv**

Mary will put the Board meeting minutes into PDF format and post on the HRA website.

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**New Business**

- Norm reported on the progress of obtaining ads for the Directory. He will be supplying the form for the ads on the listserv.
- Ann put forth a proposal for a safety plan for the neighborhood. It was reviewed by the Board. Mia has been dealing with VDOT over this issue for several years. The Board agreed that Mia should continue as the contact for the traffic light. Mia passed around a draft of a letter that could be signed by HRA residents and the neighboring communities and sent to VDOT in an effort to convince them of the need for the light at Hemlock and Gallows by Woodburn Elementary School. There can be an article in the *Runner* about this matter and the form letter. Steve made a motion to accept the letter writing campaign and for Mia to be in charge of working toward getting a traffic light. Paul seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

**Adjourned**

Norm made a motion to adjourn and Steve seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 10:25 pm.

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be hosted October 1, 2008 at 8:00 pm. Carrie Schorri will be the hostess at 7606 Marian Court.

Minutes respectfully submitted by  
Peggy Daley, Secretary