

LONG REACH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
May 17, 2016

The Board met with middle school student Theo Gifford at 7:00pm before the meeting was called to order. Gifford has been studying the Village Center for his school project and the survey he sent to residents concluded that people want an athletic facility and food store. When informed about the CA Tennis facility he admitted that his study is now affected by this new amenity. Hitcho complemented him on his project and invited him to come back.

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Long Reach Board of Directors was called to order by Karen Hitcho, Chair, at 7:30pm Tuesday, May 17, 2016, in the Conference Room at Stonehouse. Other members present were Nina Basu and Edward Coleman. Also present was Janet Evans, CA Representative; Sarah Uphouse, Administrator and Rita Seidelman, Board Secretary.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

The agenda, minutes and organizational minutes from May 3, 2016 was approved by consensus.

OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

Tim Titus, Long Reach Representative to the Watershed Committee, attended the Board meeting to discuss the Oakland Mills initiative to establish an Open Space Working Group. Titus thought that they have a solution to a problem that does not exist.

Hitcho explained that Oakland Mills wants to establish an Open Space Working Group to develop a comprehensive plan for the Future of Open Space by hiring a consultant to recommend a long term plan.

Basu stated that CA owns the land and that this group cannot manage CA land. Uphouse explained that Oakland Mills already has an Open Space Advisory Committee and wants a consultant. The request for CA property needs to come from CA.

The Board will send a response that CA owns the open space and that they are the better vehicle for this study. The committee needs to rethink this plan.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

(Attached to original minutes)

CHAIRPERSON'S COMMENTS

Hitcho reminded the Board about the County meeting on June 9, 6:30-8:30pm at Jeffers Hill Elementary to present plans for the Tamar Drive and Montgomery Road intersection. The Board approved supporting the roundabout by consensus.

The County has suggested that the former Safeway store be used as a library depository while the Cradlerock Library undergoes renovations. Coleman proposed using the space as a temporary library. Basu was concerned that this plan could be detrimental to the sale of the property.

Hitcho spoke about the County's plan to declare Long Reach a sustainable community so that federal grants could be obtained for affordable housing and homeowners home repair projects. Hitcho is concerned that the County is not focusing on the Village Center but the surrounding area. By accepting Federal grants the County is opening itself up to Federal oversight. The Board agreed by consensus to send a letter expressing their support for the Village Center Renovations.

Evans suggested that this entire idea is suspect because it popped out of nowhere.

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

Milton Matthews contract was renewed.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

(Attached to original minutes)

Uphouse explained that the original Village signs designed by Gail Halloway that were in front of the welcome center were saved. The Villages would like to have these large metal signs installed around Lake Kittamaquindi as part of Columbia's 50th anniversary celebration.

Basu moved that the Board support the installation of the Village signs around Lake Kittamaquindi for Columbia's 50th Anniversary celebration. Seconded.

Approved 3 - 0 - 0.

ARCHITECTURAL APPOINTMENTS

The Board voted on the following:

Hitcho moved to re-appoint Lisa Hetherington, Raza Khan and Jason Torres to the Resident Architecttural Committee (RAC) for a two year term ending 6/30/2018. Seconded

Approved 3 - 0 - 0.

Hitcho moved to re-appoint Edward Coleman, Karen Hitcho, Greg Marcinkowski and Lisa Hetherington to the Architectural Committee (AC) for a one year term ending 6/30/2017. Seconded

Approved 3 - 0 - 0.

BUDGET

Uphouse presented the final budget. It was a successful year with an increase in income and expenses continuing to be contained.

Basu moved to support the FY17 Budget. Seconded.

Approved 3 - 0 - 0.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:36pm.

Karen Hitcho, Chair

Rita Seidelman, Board Secretary

