

LONG REACH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

March 3, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Long Reach Board of Directors was called to order by Ed Coleman, at 7:30 pm Tuesday, March 3, 2020 in the Plaza Room, at Stonehouse. Other members present were Reginald Avery, Nina Basu, Josh Friedman, and David Wissing. Also present were Janet Evans, CA Council Rep, Tina Addo, Administrator, and Anne Kulesza, Board Secretary.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND FEBRUARY 4 & FEBRUARY 18, 2020 MINUTES

The agenda was approved by consensus.

The February 4, 2020 minutes were approved by consensus with an amendment to include Basu's attendance by telephone. The February 18, 2020 minutes were approved by consensus.

RESIDENT SPEAK OUT

Ms. Telisa Hickson, introduced herself as a new tenant at Long Reach Village Center.

Stefanie Rye, Long Reach, spoke about the Long Reach Village Center plan.

Lisa Loveland, Long Reach, spoke about the Long Reach Village Center plan and safety concerns.

Christina Smith, Long Reach, spoke about learning more about the village.

Michael Harris, Jr., Special Assistant District 2, addressed safety concerns.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CORRESPONDENCE

Kulesza provided the Long Reach Village Board with correspondence, which are attached to the original minutes.

NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER PARKING SIGNAGE

The resident concerned about the signage was not in attendance, so the agenda item was not discussed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Election Committee- Addo reminded the Board that election day is Saturday, April 25 and is hoping to offer shredding to increase resident participation. She mentioned that nomination packets are available on the village website and at Stonehouse.

The Board discussed possible Long Reach Community Association By-Law changes. Avery mentioned that he suggested a change to the election process, so that in the event of an uncontested election, no election would be held. This change would save on associated election costs. Basu requested Addo obtain a legal opinion regarding this proposed change. Addo explained that any changes to the election process would not go into effect until the 2021 election. Wissing suggested changing the by-laws to increase the threshold for dual signing of checks. Basu recommended an increase from \$1,000 to \$1,500.

Note: In a subsequent meeting, due to the State of Emergency declared by the Governor of Maryland, it was decided that the election will be held by mail-in ballot only and not take place in-person.

CHAIRPERSON'S COMMENTS

Basu provided thoughts on the county's proposed changes to the Village Center. She is cautiously optimistic that there may be a light at the end of some future tunnel and is happy that work has been done to stabilize the Village Center. However, Basu is concerned that the county has provided no mid or long-term plan for the property, including whether the county intends to hold the property or sell it.

Basu would like the Board to take a strong leadership role. She stated that the Board could be of assistance to the county by focusing the needs of the residents and resident input into a master plan update or a cohesive vision for the Village Center. In addition, Basu suggested a review of the covenants and existing architectural guidelines and, if warranted, creating new set of guidelines that apply only to the Village Center.

BOARD COMMENTS

Coleman questioned the process for updating the master plan. He provided the status of the county's appeal of the Resident Architectural Committee's decision regarding an exterior alteration application for changes to the Village Center. Coleman suggested creating architectural guidelines for art installations. He reminded the Board that the proposed Arnold's Corner development (formerly Grandfather's Nursery) is being heard at the March 5, 2020 Planning Board meeting.

Avery stated that he is disappointed in the county's current plan. He is concerned that the county's plan for the Village Center will not bring in the foot traffic needed to be successful. He is hoping the county will work on a long-term plan that increases foot traffic while providing a safe environment for residents.

Wissing stated that funding for the Tamar Drive/Old Montgomery Rd. is in the county's budget document.

Friedman stated there were several alarming incidents in Long Reach recently and the criminal activity concerns him. He echoes the sentiments of other Board members regarding the plan for the Village Center. He is concerned that there is no anchor for the center.

CA COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE'S COMMENTS

Evans stated that CA passed the Fiscal Year 2021 and 2022 budgets. CA will be moving forward with renovations to Stonehouse and the Art Center. CA will be modernizing the exterior, adding an elevator, creating a new reception area on the first floor, and reorienting the building entrances to face the rear parking lot.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Addo provided updates, which are attached to the original minutes.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 pm.

Nina Basu, Chair

Anne Kulesza, Board Secretary