



AHCA Community Meeting
March 7, 2017 - 7:30 PM
AcademyHeightsMD.org

Called to Order at 7:35pm with President Joe Shinault presiding.

Board members in attendance (10): Linda Barnes, Mischa Bowen-Kreiner, George Brookhart, Mike Granito, John McSweeney, John O'Ferrall, Joe Shinault, Troy Smith, Becky Stoll, Chris Waterman

Members absent: Chris Burk, Nikki Green, Matt McKnight, Patrick Young

Minutes from February 7, 2017 were approved.

Community Outreach – Officer Boone reported that a home in a nearby neighborhood (on Orpington) was burglarized for copper wire. He commended the AH neighborhood for keeping cars locked and looking out for each other in order to keep the crime rate low. In spite of the decrease in crime, BCPS patrols continue without abatement.

Mischa Bowen-Kreiner shared a concern about cars failing to acknowledge the stop sign at Northdale and Whitfield. Officer Boone indicated that an unmarked traffic car may be able to be allocated to this location.

John O'Ferrall asked about where to call to report traffic concerns. 410-887-0872 is the direct line to Wilkens station.

Cops and Kids (ages 8-14) basketball has expanded to our area. There will be an event involving drills and games on March 25 from 9AM to noon in Lansdowne. A waiver is required to be completed and returned to the Wilkens precinct.

Chris Waterman asked if there has been any coordination to preserve outdoor basketball opportunities, such as at Westowne Elementary. That decision falls under school jurisdiction. He also asked about calling 911 for dangerous potholes. Officer Boone indicated that the dispatchers would prioritize and route any 911 call appropriately.

Treasurer's Report – Chris Waterman reported that there are currently \$250 worth of dues to be deposited, which will result in a \$6145 balance in the checking account. There was \$40 worth of interest earned on the T.Rowe Price account last year for a balance of \$19441 as of the last statement. Per Joe Shinault, \$450 in dues from PayPal were recently deposited, distributing envelopes with the newsletter worked, and the AHCA personal property tax form will be due April 15.

Committees

Architectural – John O'Ferrall reported that the committee received one application this month from 344 Whitfield, proposing a shed. Additional information as to the height of the proposed structure is needed in order to determine whether it will meet the cubic feet restrictions.

There was an additional inquiry regarding material for steps, but since the proposed change would be below street level, an application was not required.

Dumpster Day was discussed. We have usually gotten 4 dumpsters. The county will provide 2 (see email from Pat Young). July 1 starts the new fiscal year; get dumpster requests in then to ensure funding.

Joe Shinault asked for the cost to rent an additional dumpster. John McSweeney recommended contacting Mr. Cleaver.

There was discussion of whether covenants are posted on the website. They are, as will be the new committee policies once formally endorsed by the board.

Joe Shinault asked about inspections. Per Mike Granito, the proposed revised procedures specify two inspections per year. Reports would be accepted at any time.

Securing an attorney is pending. John McSweeney reported that in the past, it has become expensive to involve the attorney.

Website – is up and running. 215 people are on the email list.

Welcome Committee – No update was provided. Joe Shinault noted that the welcome packet needs to be updated to reflect newly elected board members.

Dues – are coming in. John McSweeney offered to man the dues table at Dumpster Day. John O’Ferrall mentioned plans to enhance Dumpster Day and make it more of a community-building event.

Newsletter – will come out in late April after (and inclusive of) the Easter Egg Hunt.

Bylaws – Mike Granito requested that the report of the bylaws committee be disseminated before the Board of Governors meeting.

Old Business

Dog Receptacles – Feedback has been mixed. Linda Barnes reiterated that one ought to be placed near the playground since so many walk their dogs on that property. John McSweeney indicated that this may be up to the church as they lease the playground from the county. Chris Waterman mentioned the need to communicate with property owners near the proposed site.

Christian Temple – is looking at replacing their baseball diamond with a skate park. See email from Andy Eaker. There was discussion of whether the baseball diamond has been recently used.

Sewer Line – There was a meeting two weeks ago with sewage design engineers. It will be approximately two more years for the present project to be complete. Chris Burk will communicate additional details to neighbors affected. Our local government liaison will forward additional follow-up information. The condition of Academy Rd post pipe-replacement did not come up at the recent meeting. Chris Waterman asked who we call when the road’s falling apart: Kenny Green and Mark Messenger in Public Works are the appropriate contacts.

Little Library – remains under reconstruction.

Dumpster Day – see above.

New Business

Yard Sale Date – The one listed on the newsletter is a Friday. The event will be May 13 rather than May 12.

Board of Governors Meeting – will be held at 7:00 on March 29 in the Bird Room at Mount de Sales.

Open Discussion

Signage to Advertise Meetings – John O’Ferrall inquired as to where previous signage may be stored. George Brookhart may still have the approximately 4 signs used in prior years that were posted the day of the meetings. It was suggested that signs be made to advertise Dumpster Day, as well.

It was asked if Mount de Sales would be willing to advertise our community meetings on their sign. Their representative indicated probably not. There was discussion of continuing or reinstating a yearly donation from AHCA to Mount de Sales in order to reinforce our partnership.

Joe Shinault suggested that the website be included on new signs. Upcoming meetings will be held on April 7 and May 3.

Adjourned at 8:16pm. Recorded by Jeannette Bonomo-Thomas.