

Minutes from the OHMHA Board meeting of 12 March 2013

Attendance: David Bizot, Henry Brysk, Wendy Carman, Jack Cederquist, Emily Eisbruch, Greg Jagst, Anne Karabakal, Peter Mooney, Amy Seetoo, Jerry Schulte, Rabia Shafie, Frank Commiskey and seven OHM homeowners

The meeting was held in the Clague Media Center and was called to order at 7:30 pm by Board president, Peter Mooney.

Steve Powers, City Administrator, and Tom McMurtrie, City Solid Waste Coordinator, began the meeting with brief remarks and took questions. Here is a short summary:

The financial position of the City is improving, priority is given to police and fire protection, no closures are planned. City personnel have declined from 1000 to 680 over the last ten years. Responses to questions: the AATA budget is a dedicated millage, not City discretionary spending, the Yellowstone water mains are planned for repair in the spring/summer of 2014, addressing the increasing effects on the City by the University of Michigan (for example, increased traffic on Plymouth Road) requires looking for opportunities to make a difference (there is no overall strategy at present).

90% of homes and businesses now recycle. 50% of solid waste is now diverted to recycling and compost collection. Of the 50% remaining, one half of that is food waste. The draft solid waste plan considers allowing food waste to be composted. The consequent need for winter compost collection might require trash collection (but not compost collection) to be reduced to every other week to balance costs. The elimination of autumn leaf collection has reduced the amount of leaves collected as compost by 30%. This is due to homeowners composting leaves on their own property.

At 8:20 pm, Lindsay Hanna presented her designs and costs for the relandscaping of the entrance at Plymouth Road and Georgetown Boulevard. Her plans take into account the harsh environment of the area and the difficulty of watering. Her presentation is available on the OHMHA website. Planting needs to be done no later than mid-May. Later in the meeting, the Board voted unanimously to accept Lindsay's Plan 1, the lowest cost plan. Jack Cederquist will follow up with Lindsay.

At 8:50 pm, the regular board meeting began, the agenda was approved unchanged, no minutes of the January 2013 meeting nor a treasurer's report were available to approve.

Annual General Meeting speaker: After discussion of possibilities, it was decided to invite someone from AATA. Jerry Schulte will contact AATA to try to arrange for a speaker.

Long time board member, Henry Brysk announced his retirement from the board effective immediately. The board unanimously elected Frank Commiskey to finish Henry's current term that expires in June 2014.

Articles for the May newsletter were discussed, led by Emily Eisbruch. Articles agreed to are: University of Michigan solar panels on Plymouth Road (Bizot), Steve Powers and Tom McMurtrie presentation and questions (Mooney), Georgetown entrance (Lindsay Hanna), Garage Sale reminder (Eisbruch), budget (Carman) and election (Eisbruch). Possibilities are OHAC article either advertising the upcoming season or commemorating their anniversary, garbage can placement ordinance and Thurston NatureCenter report. The deadline for submission to Emily will be mid-April with Emily to supply the exact date. The newsletter will go out the first week of May.

Rabia Shafie reported on discussions with the homeowner on the northwest corner of Plymouth Road and Georgetown Boulevard concerning the decaying white fence along Plymouth Road. The homeowner does want to replace the fence. Board and other community members may be willing to offer help in removal and installation of a new fence.

Pete Mooney reported that he will meet on 14 March with Jason Thompson to get a not to exceed quote for repairing the brick work at the Georgetown Boulevard entrance.

Pete Mooney has discussed with Lindsay Hanna small tree replacement at the Burbank Road entrance from Green Road. Lindsay presented her initial ideas earlier in the meeting. Pete will follow up with Lindsay to get a not to exceed cost for replacement.

Amy Seetoo asked for approval to buy thank you certificates for presentation to businesses that donated to the 2012 Fall Festival. This small expenditure was unanimously approved. Amy will prepare and deliver the certificates.

The next Board meeting was set for 14 May, 7:30 pm in the Clague Media Center.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jack Cederquist.