

Minutes of November 12, 2015 OHMHA Meeting

Present: Jack Cederquist, Emily Eisbruch, Martin Torch-Ishii, Frank Commiskey, Jerry Schulte, Pete Mooney, Anne Karabakal, Nadine Wong, Greg Jagst

1. Agenda – Frank moved and Jerry seconded approval of the agenda which passed unanimously.
2. Minutes – Frank moved and Jerry seconded approval of the minutes which passed unanimously.
3. Treasurer's report – Martin explained that he has begun taking over the treasurer's role, but still needs to meet with treasurer emeritus Wendy Carman and to visit TCF Bank with her to update the signature card. The board discussed whether to stay with TCF or consider another bank.
4. New Website – There was a discussion of the new Ohmha.org website, which Anne reported has resulted more online contributions. Jack's email about the new site also appeared to generate interest.
5. Possible Annual General Meeting (AGM) online voting – There was a discussion of online voting, and whether it would be possible to ensure that residents who voted online had paid their annual dues.
6. Mailing list – Martin said that he could try to import the email addresses he has received from Wendy into Mailchimp. Jack said that he could go into the Huron Valley Community Network (HCVN) database and extract a comma-separated values (CSV) file to assist with importing the existing list.
7. Board vacancy – There was discussion of possible candidates to fill Rabia Shafie's position on the board as Rabia has moved away.
8. Newsletter – Jack agreed to write an article about the upcoming neighborhood garage sale. Pete offered to write an article about the city council forum. Greg agreed to write about the Fall Festival. Frank will provide an update on the Thurston Pond project.
9. Community Forum – Emily asked if there was interest in another community forum. Everyone agreed that there was. Sunday, March 13 was proposed as a date, and Jack agreed to see if Zoup was willing to host again.
10. Welcome – Nadine prepared a "welcome to the neighborhood" handout that included information on the neighborhood association, Thurston pond, OHAC pool and the community forum. Nadine said that she would use the assessor's website to see who is new to the neighborhood and hopes to have a final version of her welcome package by February's meeting.
11. Fall festival – Greg reported that this year's Fall Festival boasted the biggest turnout in the event's history. There was discussion of inviting the Community High Jazz band to next year's festival. Martin suggested buying a tent to use every year .

12. Candidate forum – Pete discussed the candidate forum featuring Jane Lumm and Sally Hart Petersen. Approximately 50 people attended the event. Pete suggested limiting its duration to one hour in the future.
13. TNC – Frank reported that the pond is done. There is a basin at outlet. Frank also discussed the slopes around the basin which are steep with access limited by a fence. There was also discussion of getting rid of buckthorn and non-native cattails. The plan is for the pond to fill with water, and for the reintroduction of native plants. Anita Jones' bench will return to its prior location.
14. Nixon road developments – Jack reported that the rezoning of the proposed Nixon Farms site on the west side of Nixon was coming up for a vote the following Monday. On the east side of Nixon that development's status was expected to be decided in January. There has also been discussion of a roundabout at the Dhu Varren and Nixon intersection to alleviate traffic issues.
15. Georgetown Entrance – Jerry discussed possible options for the Georgetown Wall, and whether any proposed replacement or reconstruction would have to go to City Council. The approval issue is that if the Association rebuilds the structure it may not meet the current zoning ordinance requiring action from the city to allow it go forward
16. Next meeting – The Board agreed that the next meeting would be held on Thursday, February 11.