

Minutes of board meeting held on 20th November 2008 at Hillsmere Library

Present:

Dan Craig
Winston Dunkley
Calvin Kidd
Ian MacKinnon
Jane Miller
Nancy Plaxico
Joanie Stone

Member of the community: Mr. Eyster

Meeting opened at 7.08pm

The Vice-Chair conveyed the apologies of the Chair and President for their absence and called the meeting to order with a moment of silent reflection.

The standard agenda was accepted with a break in the meeting agreed at 7.45pm to allow the community's lawyer, Mr. Karsten to give background to the purchase of land by Bay Ridge community. A proposal to accept the modified agenda was proposed by Mr. Dunkley and seconded by Ms Plaxico and all were in favor.

The minutes of the 10/16 meeting were reviewed. Minor modifications to clarify that the board had approved \$3000 for the Oyster project with a request for another \$3000 expected were agreed and acceptance was proposed by Ms Stone and Ms Miller. All were in favor.

The Vice - Chair presented the latest accounts. The accounts indicated a substantial quantity of cash was now on hand. Mr. Craig requested and Ms Plaxico seconded a motion to request the Chairman and President to consider investing, prudently, a proportion of the cash in hand in an interest bearing account or certificate of deposit. All were in favor.

Committee reports

Ms Stone presented the Community property report. There was still concern that BGE had not installed the lighting required to remove dark areas in the community. Property committee will review at their next meeting. A block captain has volunteered to cover Arundel on the Bay road and Mr. Kidd volunteered to be a block captain for his part of the community. Ms. Stone reported that she was waiting for more block captains to volunteer before she allocated the blocks. An appeal for volunteers will be made in the next newsletter.

Mr. Craig presented the beach committee report. Mr. Craig reported that we were still losing sand quickly. Mr. Whitehill is arranging a second quote for a diver and it is expected that this will be resolved before the next board meeting. Mr. Heinsohn was developing a quote to install fabric on the beach side of the bulkhead. Based on Mr. Heinsohn's report, Mr. Whitehill was expected to file a permit application on Friday 21st to perform the work.

It was agreed by all to ask Mr. Heinsohn to recommend if the fabric should be continued along the rest of the bulkhead.

It was agreed that it was likely that we would need to dredge the channel again sooner than expected. Ms Miller was asked to request the Mr. Whitehill to apply for a grant soonest and to send a letter to Highland and Venice beach communities advising them that we expected them to share in the costs of the dredging.

Mr. Craig reported that the nets were sufficiently damaged that a new set would need to be purchased in the spring. Mr. Kidd thought that the nets used to last for 2 to 3 years and Mr. Craig agreed to investigate purchasing more robust nets or investigate why we were not getting a longer life from the nets.

Since the President as Chair of roads was not available no report was given. However, Ms. Plaxico proposed and Mr. Kidd seconded a proposal that the President present a draft master plan showing the road projects proposed for the next 3 years to the January board meeting for comment prior to the community meeting on the subject in February. The board also renewed its request to the President for a list of the road maintenance projects which OHCA will pursue in the near term pending adoption of a new long term plan. All were in favor. Mr. Eyster requested to speak and commented that the community needs to be careful in resurfacing existing roads that we were not resurfacing on community member's private property.

Ms Plaxico commented that the web was still showing monthly community meetings even though meetings were not being held that often. Ms. Plaxico proposed and Mr. Kidd seconded that the Chair and President ensure that the web accurately showed the dates, time and location of the scheduled board and community meetings. All were in favor.

It was agreed that OHCA needed to do a better job of planning and publicizing community meetings (by newsletter, blast e-mail, notice on web site, and placement of a bill board at the community entrance for a week before the meeting) since no advance notice had gone out for the October general meeting, which failed to achieve a quorum. It was also agreed that if the community charter was not on the web site then this needed to be added.

The board then suspended its business meeting for an hour to hear a presentation by OHCA counsel Kurt Karsten on the legal, financial, and permitting issues surrounding the purchase of land by special taxing districts. As part of the discussion the issue of a water storage tank which Bay ridge had purchased for fire prevention was discussed.

Further brief discussion on how effective the community was protected in the event of fire was discussed. An action to ask the President to obtain a plan from the fire department was placed.

A motion to close the meeting was proposed by Mr. Kidd and seconded by Mr. Dunkley and was unanimously agreed. The meeting closed at 8.48pm.