

**HICKORY RIDGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
July 16, 2018**

Board Chair Allison Sultan called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm at The Hawthorn Center. Board members present included Skye Anderson, Jessamine Duvall and LaTonya Bland. CA Board of Directors Member Gregg Schwind was also in attendance. Also present was Anne Kulesza, Village Manager and Joan Lancos, Land Use Liaison. There were about ten audience members.

1. **Approval of Agenda:** The agenda was approved as submitted.
2. **Approval of July 2, 2018 Meeting Minutes:** The minutes were approved as submitted.
3. **Resident Speak Out:** A resident had questions about where to find figures for lawyer's fees in both last year's budget and the proposed FY 2019 budget. Another resident noted that he had spoken to two merchants at the village center who are under financial pressure. Their leases are expiring, and they are worried about possible rent increases as well as the reduction in customers at the center, particularly over the next few years. He also asked if the village could look into hosting events to bring foot traffic to the center.
4. **New Business:**
 - A. **Police Liaison Update:** Police Liaison Officer Brian Boronski explained his role as well as the range of programs that are housed in the Community Outreach building on Little Patuxent Parkway. He pointed out that there had been an increase in thefts from vehicles in the area and reminded everyone that it is a crime of opportunity. He encouraged the village to publicize common sense tactics to protect property. He also encouraged residents to report disorderly conduct and suspicious subjects to the police, so patterns can be recognized. He spoke about the 95 miles of pathways in the county and the five-person bicycle patrol. He provided statistics for bike related accidents in Hickory Ridge.
 - B. **Proposed development on Grace Drive:** CJ Tyree from Woda Cooper Development and Peter Engel from the Howard County Housing Commission gave a presentation on the proposed Robinson Overlook project. The project is for a total of 48 low, moderate, and mixed income housing units in five buildings to be located on Grace Drive on a site that had originally been approved for a Korean church and later approved for an office building with a restaurant on the first floor. The project would be funded through tax credit financing administered by the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. The project would need to follow the normal county process for development. It is estimated that construction could begin in May 2019 with leasing completed and full occupancy by December of 2020.
5. **Old Business:**
 - A. **Student Member Committee Charter Update:** The Board reviewed the updates and voted to approve the changes to the charter. Ms. Kulesza will contact AHS and WLHS to promote the student member position. The opportunity will be advertised in the LOG and online in August.

6. Reports:

A. CA Board of Directors Report—Gregg Schwind: At its recent meeting, the CA Board discussed development projects in the area and heard an update on CA construction projects including work at the Horse Center and the roof replacement at the Swim Center. He noted that CA is working on a bamboo eradication project on open space. All CA Advisory Committees presented reports. There is no representative from Hickory Ridge on the Senior Advisory Committee. Mr. Schwind also stated that he expects the Annual Charge to remain the same at \$.68 per hundred dollars of assessed value. Mr. Schwind announced that the next CA Board meeting would be July 26.

B. Manager's Report: Ms. Kulesza provided her report. She reminded the Board of the upcoming meeting schedule. After discussion and concern about fielding a quorum, it was decided to cancel the August 20 meeting. Ms. Kulesza is still waiting to hear if CA will agree to the changes proposed in the Management Contract. CA is developing a process to help curb and eliminate encroachment issues on CA Open Space. Ms. Lancos provided updates on two issues she is following: a minor subdivision on Freetown Road across from Atholton High School and the proposed cell tower adjacent to the Abiding Savior Lutheran Church. Ms. Lancos also noted that Kimco is advertising space at the village center for "pop-up" stores.

7. Board Comments: Ms. Sultan said that she had recently attended a concert at Merriweather and the recent upgrades and improvements look great. She expressed concern that the swings at several tot-lots that were removed for safety reasons have not been replaced. She was thrilled with the final version of the "good works" giveaways that the Board can use when they witness positive actions by young residents.

8. Action Items: Ms. Kulesza will put information about preventing theft from cars in the LOG. Staff will look into hosting another Bike with a Cop event. Staff will add the PowerPoint presentation for Robinson Overlook onto the website.

9. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:35pm by Ms. Sultan.