



HICKORY RIDGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
Village Board Meeting Minutes
February 18, 2020, 7:30 pm at The Hawthorn Center

Members Present: Board Chair Allison Sultan, Jess Duvall, Skye Anderson, and LaTonya Bland. Also present was CA Board rep Rafia Siddiqui.

Staff Present: Kristina Strakna, Joan Lancos

Guests: There were 3 audience members

Call to Order: 7:30 pm

1. **Approval of Agenda:** The agenda was approved as submitted.
2. **Approval of February 3, 2020 Meeting Minutes:** The minutes were approved as submitted.
3. **Resident Speak Out:** A resident had questions about the many projects currently under development in and around Hickory Ridge including the Village Center, Brightview Senior Living, two projects along Grace Drive and a small townhouse development behind Abiding Savior Lutheran Church.
4. **New Business:**
 - **WLHS It's Academic Team Donation Request:** The Board considered a donation request from Wilde Lake High School for the It's Academic Team. The Board approved a \$250 donation. Ms. Anderson requested that an annual lists of donations be kept for future reference.
 - **Village Election Committee Chair Appointment:** The Board approved the appointment of Jim Loesch to chair the Election Committee.
5. **Old Business:**
 - **Discussion of Hosting a Candidate's Forum for Board of Education:** Staff provided the Board with details of a joint event planned with Harper's Choice, Wilde Lake and Town Center villages that will take place on March 30 at The Hawthorn Center. Ms. Sultan urged staff to begin advertising the event as soon as possible.
 - **Update on Village Election:** Several other villages will be using the same service to provide electronic voting. Information will need to be provided to the vendor by April 1. Our deadline date for Candidate's Statements is March 11 at 5pm.
6. **Reports:**
 - **CA Board of Director's Report:** Ms. Siddiqui reported on the February 13 CA Board meeting. She noted that discussion is continuing regarding providing any funding for the Downtown Columbia Partnership. The draft budget is nearing completion. She provided a list of legislation proposed by the Howard County Delegation in Annapolis. Ms. Siddiqui is encouraging CA to reinstate a Board Orientation program for new CA Board members as well as returning members to provide an opportunity for members to develop collaborative working relationships.
 - **Manager's Report:** Ms. Strakna reminded the Board of upcoming meetings. She noted that 3rd Quarter Financials will be prepared by the accountant in the coming week and should be available for review at a future Board meeting. She updated the Board on several building maintenance issues. Ms. Strakna listed several new additions to the website and the inclusion of an in-house file of thank you cards and letters received.
7. **Board Comments:** Ms. Anderson reminded the Board that the County Executive will hold another Budget listening session in the near future. She had attended the recent Half Day Craft Day and commended the staff for the variety of activities at the event. Ms. Sultan thanked the Board and staff for their attendance and support at the Zoning Board hearing as she presented the Village Association testimony on the proposed redevelopment of the Hickory Ridge Village Center. She encouraged staff to continue to advertise dates for future hearings.
8. **Action Items:** Provide a list of annual donation requests and amounts. Send a \$250 check to WLHS It's Academic Team. Advertise the date for the BOE Candidate's Night and provide the information to a local education blog. Continue to advertise the dates of Zoning Board hearings. Verify whether the BikeHoward Master Plan page has updated its link. Put the review of 3rd Quarter Financials on a future agenda.

- 9. Executive Session:** Ms. Anderson made a motion to close the meeting to discuss a legal matter and a personnel matter. Ms. Bland seconded. The motion passed 4-0. The Board went into closed session at 8:31pm. Those present during the executive session were Skye Anderson, LaTonya Bland, Jessamine Duvall, Allison Sultan, Kristina Strakna, and Joan Lancos. Ms. Strakna and Ms. Lancos left the meeting at 8:38pm. At 9:25pm, Ms. Bland made a motion to re-open the meeting. It was seconded by Ms. Anderson. The Board voted 4-0 to reopen the meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss a legal matter related to facility safety and then to discuss a personnel matter.
- 10. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 9:26pm by Ms. Sultan.