



**HICKORY RIDGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**  
**Village Board Meeting Minutes**  
**July 24, 2023, 7:30 pm**

**Meeting recording:**

[https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/iC7w4yiRWff\\_UXQjDtY88zVGfghpCaFs-u1rl4nsY1oK6wY8\\_OQ5XxGn0bmmNpM.tqG9WF2HErmq6EUQ?startTime=1690241436000](https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/iC7w4yiRWff_UXQjDtY88zVGfghpCaFs-u1rl4nsY1oK6wY8_OQ5XxGn0bmmNpM.tqG9WF2HErmq6EUQ?startTime=1690241436000)

**Members Present:** Kristine Amari, Jared Ball, Jeremy Dommu, Steve Hannan, Bill Inglis, Mariah Robertson, Chris Smith and Skye Anderson. Kristine Amari joined the meeting late with advanced notice. Jeremy Dommu, Vice Chair, led the Board meeting.

**Staff Present:** Laura Mayton and Emily Rieger

**Guests:** Approximately 27 guests attended.

**Call to Order:** 7:30 pm

1. **Approval of Agenda:** Dr. Robertson made a motion to approve the agenda and Mr. Inglis seconded. The agenda was approved unanimously.
2. **Approval of the July 10, 2023, Meeting Minutes:** Mr. Smith made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Inglis seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
3. **Board Update:** No comments were made.
4. **Resident Speak-Out:** Ms. Hickman requested that the Conflict of Interests Policy be posted on the Hickory Ridge Community Association website.
5. **CA Board of Directors Report—Skye Anderson:** Ms. Anderson's July report has been published on the website and she reminded residents that she will be holding office hours that are posted on the [CA Council Representative page of the website](#). Ms. Anderson also encouraged residents and Board members to attend the Columbia Association Board meetings.
6. **New Business:**
  - a. **Columbia Association Update, Dannika Rynes, Sr. Manager of Media Relations & Communications:** Ms. Rynes thanked the CA Team for their work on a comprehensive resource guide with everything about this year's July 4th Celebration and Fireworks. Ms. Rynes shared that the Columbia Association Archives hosted its second annual Summer Field School in partnership with Howard Community College (HCC) History Department. More information about the partnership and the final project can be found at <https://www.columbiamdarchives.org/Presto/cp/ColumbiasCurtainCall>. Ms. Rynes reported that due to staffing challenges, Columbia Aquatics was forced to make a few updates to the pool schedule to keep the community as safe as possible. While most CA's outdoor pools will remain open until their scheduled last day, four pools will now close at an earlier date. Sunday, July 30 will be the final day for: Talbott Springs, Dasher Green and Longfellow Pools. In addition, Sunday, August 13 will be the final day for Running Brook Pool.
  - b. **Donation Requests: The Village In Howard & CEI:** The Village In Howard requested a donation of \$500. After some discussion, Dr. Robertson made a motion to donate \$500 to the Village In

Howard. Mr. Smith seconded. The Board discussed. The motion passed unanimously. Dr. Chiara D'Amore, Executive Director and Founder of the Community Ecology Institute (CEI), requested a donation of \$1600. After some discussion, Dr. Robertson made a motion to donate \$1600 to CEI. Mr. Inglis seconded. The Board discussed. The motion passed unanimously.

- c. **Letter to the Howard County Council regarding the Proposed General Plan:** The Board reviewed the draft of the letter written by Ms. Amari. Several residents commented. The Board discussed the letter in detail and ultimately decided that they would email their ideas to Ms. Mayton by Wednesday, August 9<sup>th</sup>.

## 7. Old Business:

- a. **Election Document Review:** The Board members discussed the proposal to eliminate campaign funding from the Village election. The Board asked Ms. Mayton to assemble a small group to discuss the pros and cons of the proposal and report back to the Board at the next meeting. Mr. Inglis made a motion to convene the Election Committee in November and Dr. Ball seconded. Mr. Smith made an amendment to the motion to begin advertising for volunteers in August. Mr. Inglis seconded the amendment. The amendment passed unanimously. The amended motion passed unanimously.
- b. **Macy Nelson Estimate for Village Center Case Appeal:** Ms. Mayton shared that it will cost \$7,500 plus out of pocket fees to have Macy Nelson represent the Village Board in appellate court. Ms. Amari made a motion to have Macy Nelson represent the Village Board in appellate court. Mr. Smith seconded. The motion passed 4-2-1. Ms. Amari, Dr. Ball, Mr. Smith and Mr. Inglis were in favor, Mr. Domm and Mr. Hannan opposed. Dr. Roberston abstained.

8. **Manager's Report:** Ms. Mayton invited the Board to attend the Hickory Ridge Family Pool Party on Saturday, July 29<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Mayton will be hiring a Facility Assistant to work evenings and weekends at The Hawthorn Center.

## 9. Action Items:

- a. Ms. Mayton will put the Conflict of Interest document on the website.
- b. Ms. Mayton will set up a small group meeting to discuss the election proposal.
- c. Board members will send General Plan suggestions to advocate for Hickory Ridge to Ms. Mayton.

10. **Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 10:10pm.