

Deerfield Village Property Owners' Association, Inc. 2016 Annual Meeting Minutes

The annual meeting of Deerfield Village Property Owners' Association, Inc. was held at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 1, 2016 at 49 Rolling Green Court, Deerfield Village, Shepherdstown, WV. Rules and Policy Chairman, Kirk Bottner called the meeting to order.

Secretary Jane McSwain read the minutes of last year's annual meeting that were approved as read.

As part of the annual reports, Jane McSwain and Kirk Bottner gave a brief overview of this past year's activities as President, Patrick Bonacorda was not present. Patrick had asked that the Board be thanked for their patience and understanding of his absences due to the birth of twins in his family.

Treasurer Erdem Ergin passed out the financial statement (see attached), explained it and asked for any questions. Our dues base has increased with the addition of more families in the village. The CommunitiTree grant, no bills for snow plowing and minimal gas reimbursement for mowing and the many volunteer hours have all helped to keep expenses minimal. The one large expense this year was the removal of 100 dead trees. This will be an incremental and ongoing expense until this project has been completed.

Rules and Policy Chairperson Kirk Bottner reported that the few complaints he received had all been resolved by personal contact. Some letters had been mailed concerning dead trees or shrubs in yards; however, due to the lateness of the mailing, he expects that new plantings will be made to replace the dead items as soon as warmer weather comes.

Head of Streets and Grounds Committee Debbie Crouse said that were seven homeowner requests approved for property improvement: 5 for planting, 1 for an awning, and 1 for a house plan. Debbie reminded us that a homeowner who wants to make any property improvements must submit a proposal to her committee for approval. The Board plans to continue to replace trees as possible and encourages homeowners to become involved and plant trees as well. Deerfield Village participated in the Adopt-a-Spot program in conjunction with Earth Day 2015.

Social Committee Chairperson Mike Bass thanked committee members, Joan Ergin and Sidney Lewis, for their help with the summer Bar-B-Que. A holiday party was held at the Bass home. Mike asked for suggestions for ideas

for activities for the village and extended an invitation to any homeowner to participate in the planning, organizing and hosting of any future event.

There was nothing under old and unfinished business.

Under New Business, Janie called the official roll to determine those eligible to vote. There were twenty-eight (28) households present with four (4) represented by proxy. Paul recognized those on the ballot and asked if there were any nominations from the floor. There were no nominations from the floor. Voting proceeded and the results of the vote (attached) that elected members for a one year term were as follows: Don Barth, Mike Bass, Kirk Bottner, Debbie Crouse, Erdem Ergin, Sidney Lewis, Jane McSwain, Heather Thorn, and Mike Vaeth. The next board meeting will be at 7:00pm Tuesday, April 5th at Kirk Bottner's home.

Kirk reported that no one had taken advantage of the Arboreal Policy and encouraged people to do so. The policy will reimburse up to \$100 per lot for 10 lots per year for the planting of 2 trees in the common area. A request must be submitted in writing to the board. Once approved, the homeowner must purchase and plant the trees within 30 days or there will be no reimbursement. The complete policy and the list of acceptable trees are on the web site. There was discussion as to a master planting plan and there is not one. However, all planting must be approved which should enable good placements.

Jim Bauer reported that we received a matching spring grant from the WV and US Department of Forestry. We will get 24 flowering trees including dogwood, serviceberry, crab apple and redbud. April 16th at 9am will be the probable date for planting. He will send out an email to confirm. The volunteer hours for planting count toward the cost of the trees so he encouraged everyone to plan to come for some or all of the 3 hours usually required for the planting.

Paul Wilmoth then spoke about future snow plowing. He is concerned that the mailboxes and the fire hydrants were covered during this last big snow. He thanked Terry Bauer for shoveling out the mailboxes last time. He suggested that one person in each cul de sac could be responsible for seeing that the hydrants were cleared in case of a fire. He is willing to plow as long as he is able but he encouraged the board to discuss a contingency plan and put it in place.

Mike Bass spoke about the recent vehicle incidents which he stated were not really break-ins as all affected vehicles were unlocked. The cars were looked through but nothing was taken. He strongly suggested that everyone be alert for unfamiliar vehicles in the Village. Paul advised everyone that the 4 wheeler owner has been told to not be on our property by the authorities.

Under the Good and Welfare section of the agenda, Debbie addressed the issue of dog owners not picking up after their pets. She encouraged all of us to be watchful and to remind dog owners if need be. It was also suggested that the Board look into having the yellow road line repainted as it was difficult to see during recent foggy conditions. This matter was addressed when we had the traffic lines done and the cost at that time was about \$300.00. This will be checked into by the next board. Sidney reported that between 80-90 more trees will be cut and disposed of. He will be canvassing the Village to see if anyone has dead trees in the common ground that they wish to have removed. Kirk brought up the recent issue about trees or shrubs being planted as barriers between houses. After discussion, the next board will research whether to officially change the covenant or not. Kirk thanked all who made the effort to come to the meeting and for the many volunteers who make Deerfield Village a great place to live.

There being no further business, upon a motion made, seconded and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned and refreshments were served.

Jane McSwain, Secretary