

Minutes of the October 10, 2023, SMCA Board meeting

Attending: President Phil Eskeland, Vice President Lidian Shark, Treasurer Robin Depaoli, Secretary Oliver Wei, Trash Fund Manager Tatiana Glennie, Communications Committee Chair Hallie Polt, Welcome Committee co-chair Lynn Glendinning, and Jim Glendinning

After observing that a **quorum** was present, Phil called the meeting to order at 7:34pm. Phil made a motion to approve the **minutes** from the previous September Board meeting, which was seconded and unanimously approved by the Board.

Robin then led a discussion of the **Treasurer's Report**: Dues have been collected from 196 households through the end of September, representing 46 percent of the community. Lidian suggested the idea of writing and hand-delivering a letter, reiterating what was in the August Communique, to households that have not yet paid their dues. The Board agreed this was a good idea. A motion was made to approve the Treasurer's report which was seconded and unanimously approved by the Board.

Then the Board heard the **reports from the following Committee Chairs**:

Lynn (Welcome Committee) reported that the committee has one welcome bag to deliver to one new family. For the house renovation tour project scheduled for next March, there have been 7 volunteers so far, with 1 more possible home. Two volunteers have been found to take over the annual Luminaria event: Cory and Alex Shaw.

Tatiana (Trash Fund) next reported that the fund is operating smoothly, currently serving 340 homes, with only one household in the last month that did not pay, and their trash collection had to be terminated.

Hallie (Communications Committee) then led the discussion on the website and the next issue of the Communique. The minutes of the annual meeting and previous Board meetings are now up on the website. Articles for the next Communique should be submitted to her by November 15, 2023. Topics include snow removal procedures, which side of the street to park on, pick-up date of discarded real Christmas trees, final date for yard debris pick-up, and the Luminaria event.

Lidian further reported on the obituary for Dick Hildreth, including the solicitation of an article from his son, Paul Hildreth, who also lives in the neighborhood, to include what he did for Stonewall Manor, acknowledging his contributions, including the installation of the streetlights and the drainage system.

In further discussion, Lidian mentioned including an article about potential scams. Lynn added that for the Luminaria event, the article should also include a reminder that residents must pick

up and clean up the sand and bags after the event is over. Hallie will include a reminder about picking up dog waste, keeping dogs on the leash, and prohibiting pets on the grounds of Thoreau Middle School.

Phil further reported that there was a **directory meeting** yesterday, with Chris Van Winkle who graciously volunteered to assist with the large effort of consolidating databases, while also maintaining data security. There will be a major article in the Communique to encourage residents to update their information for the upcoming directory.

In other business, Phil reported on the Dunn Loring Improvement Association (DLIA) picnic held on October 1, 2023, which was led by John Ellsroth (president of DLIA). Phil discussed John's idea to have all the nearby communities join for a similar picnic event next fall. Phil noted that the green space where the picnic was held is owned by the Dunn Loring Improvement Association and it was offered to the SMCA as a possible venue for future events.

Phil then made a motion to adjourn, which was approved unanimously at 8:40pm.