

# MONTPELIER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC.

## Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Deerfield Community Center

August 13, 2019

**Trustees in Attendance:** Bob Derrick, Brad Gimbert, Jack Keating, Sean Beaver, Paul Buehler, Lillian Fazio, Richard Mason and Paul Buehler

**Trustees Absent:** Rachel Howard and Felipe Arzayus

**Community Members Present:** Richard Dengler, Mr. Boesze, Vermel Taylor, Joe Bacarella, Susanne Sutton, Lisa Smith, Mary Derrick, and Michelle Gimbert

President Bob Derrick called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. There was a quorum to conduct business.

### **Secretary's Report: Trustee Howard Chairperson - absent**

- The minutes of the July 2019 Board meeting were reviewed. Trustee Fazio made a motion to accept the minutes as written and Trustee Keating seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### **Treasurer's Report: Trustee Fazio - Chairperson**

- Trustee Fazio prepared the monthly statements, which were distributed and reviewed.
- To date we still have 10 current delinquents and 8 long term delinquents. Total collected year to date is \$221,224.
- As of August 12, delinquents owe \$11,220. It has been brought to Trustee Fazio's attention that one of the long term delinquents has passed away. She owed \$2,415. We should try and collect from the estate.
- Revere Bank has sent a notice that CD #5179 has matured. Trustee Fazio is recommending that we reinvest that \$25,000 to get the best interest.
- The Board said we should collect the CD coming due mid-month and deposit it in the bank for now. The next Board can decide if another CD is the best option.
- Mary Derrick and Trustee Fazio met with Mr. Thorne of WSSC over the disputed water bill. He assured them that water will not be turned off. WSSC is currently finalizing the problems with the valves and will submit a bill when ready.
- Two out of three real property taxes have come in. One is for \$766.71; the other is for \$256.57.
- Trustee Fazio recommended that we begin the process of raising the assessment.
- All Trustees should review the budget and give Trustee Fazio input for any changes that will be needed. This should be done in time for the annual meeting.

### **Tennis Committee: Trustee Fazio, Chairperson**

- A large branch has fallen on the fence near Court 1. Trustee Gimbert and Trustee Buehler have assessed the situation and removed the branch from the fence. Part of the fence is damaged. M&J Landscaping came by to check on the amount of debris to be removed.
- Everything was removed from the tennis courts and placed outside the courts. M&J has been contacted and said it will be \$400 to get rid of the debris and the fallen tree near the volleyball court.

### **ACC Committee: Trustee Keating, Chairperson**

- There was a meeting this past Thursday. There were the usual violations and a couple of large ongoing fines and violations sent to the attorney.

### **Pool Committee: Mary Derrick, Chairperson**

- Special thanks go out to Gloria Hynes for making the property so beautiful and continuing to water and keep it looking great!
- The pool is scheduled to close on September 8<sup>th</sup>, to stay open an additional week we would need to pay Lighthouse \$2000 and an additional \$550 for gate attendants.
- For the final week the hours will be Monday – Thursday 2:30pm – 7:30pm and Friday, Saturday and Sunday would be from 2:30 pm to 8 pm.
- Trustee Buehler made a motion to keep the pool open one more week through September 15<sup>th</sup>. Trustee Gimbert seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-1.
- Trustee Buehler has requested an additional two weeks (6 sessions) to continue the morning lap swimming. Trustee Beaver made a motion to continue the morning lap swim for two more weeks for approximately \$120. Trustee Keating seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

- One of the pool committee members is interested in doing a survey on what members like and don't like about the pool. They have come up with some questions. Trustee Beaver said he will be sending a large survey to the community in a mailing to include pool, street lights and maybe a dues increase.
- The baby pool has a slow leak. Mary Derrick talked to the owner of Lighthouse Pool Management and they will look into it.

**Welcoming Committee: Vermel Taylor, Chairperson**

- Six families have been visited.
- A new list on newcomers was recently provided so the visits will continue.
- Two issues came up...one is some houses do not have house numbers and the second is that a new owner said there is poison ivy around the fence area at the playground. Trustee Gimbert will have M&J look at this and take care of it.

**Communications Committee: Trustee Beaver, Chairperson**

- No report

**Bylaws Committee: Trustee Beaver, Chairperson**

- No report.

**Security Committee Trustee Mason, Chairperson**

Crimes in Community:

- Vehicles broken into on Oxwell Lane and Churchfield Lane. A lawn mower was stolen from a trailer in the owner's yard. A chain saw was stolen from the owner's front yard on Golden Pass. Crimes continue to occur in South Laurel so we are requesting all residents continue to be vigilant and lock all doors, leave nothing visible in their vehicle and turn on front lights. Do not leave items unattended in the front yard. Be sure to call 911 if you experience a crime or if a suspicious person needs police guidance.

Prince Georges Police Department:

- There are no crime statistics since the Citizens Advisory Council did not meet in July. Patrol Police staffing is below normal, especially for night shift. Command staff makes adjustments to assure all shifts are properly covered.
- Police Night Out was a huge success. All COPS officers were in attendance. Many County politicians were also present.
- Police Chief makes sure all his command officers are performing correctly. Two command staff from southern county district were recently assigned.
- Citizens Police Academy starts 9/16/19 and is from 6pm until 9pm on Mondays with graduation 12/16/19, FOP Lodge 2905 Old Largo Road, Upper Marlboro, MD. Please RSVP by 9/6/19 by 11am. Trustee Mason has nomination forms. For more information please contact Sgt. El [Johnson @co.pg.md.us](mailto:Johnson@co.pg.md.us) or call 301-516-5609.

Prince George's County Street Lights:

- The Security Committee called the Prince Georges County Street Light Coordinator to see if their program was still available to our community. This is an ongoing County-wide project and if started in our community they would take about 3 to 4 years to complete the project. Every aspect of the project is of NO cost to our residents. Yes, we all pay taxes but why not have "our" money go to lighting our community. The coordinator suggests we start with a few large streets like Oxwell, Shadetree and Cedarbrook. This way we only need the residents on those streets for approval. Trustee Mason will have a more definite proposal after getting the Security Committee together. All suggestions are welcome.

Parking on Montpelier Streets:

- There are many reasons why residents park on our public streets. The Security Committee brings this up as a safety issue. We are told that some residents rent a room in their homes that puts more cars on the street. We don't want a Maryland City type parking problem and request that this issue be investigated.
- Trustee Beaver will get clarification from the County on 'Single Family Dwellings' regarding houses with what appears to be many renters. In the past 311 has been contacted and investigated but not much else can be done. There was discussion about what impact changing the bylaws might have on the effort to keep our homes single family dwellings.
- Parking in the street is authorized as long as the vehicle doesn't sit for more than 72 hours.
- Driving on Montpelier Drive is still a major problem for both safety and noise issues.

**Traffic Committee: Trustee Arzayus, Chairperson - absent**

- No report

**Social Committee: Lisa Smith, Chairperson**

- July's Happy Hour was a success and will be back this Saturday, August 17th for another Happy Hour.
- The teen party was not very successful.
- Friday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> will be a Flick n Float.
- Saturday, August 31<sup>st</sup> will be the Labor Day Potluck with Monday a rain date.
- The Craft Fair this past Saturday was a success. There were 18 booths.
- The Fall Festival will be on Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup> and we may include another Craft Fair along with this.
- There will be Bingo the next two Sundays.

**Facilities Committee: Trustees Gimbert and Buehler, Co-Chairpersons**

- It was recommended that we contact Prestige Tree Experts about the end-of-season trimming around the common grounds.
- Trustee Gimbert will contact the fence company for the tennis court fence damage.

**New Business:**

- There were Nine Trustee Nominations forms turned in to run for the 2019-2020 Board. The Bios and the Ballot will be in the upcoming September/October Montpelier Today Newsletter.
- The Annual Board Meeting will be held on September 29<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm at the Montpelier Arts Center on the Montpelier Art Center, Main Gallery.
- Trustee Mason will invite Councilman Tom Dernoga to attend and speak.

The next board meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 10, 2019 at 7:00 PM at Deerfield Run Community Center, preschool room. Trustee Gimbert made a motion to adjourn at 8:39 PM and it was seconded by Trustee Mason. The motion passed unanimously.