

MONTPELIER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC.

Board of Trustees WebEx Call in Meeting Minutes

202-860-2110, PIN: 126 909 1700#, #

February 9, 2021

Trustees in Attendance: Felipe Arzayus, Sean Beaver, Bob Derrick, Lillian Fazio, Brad Gimbert, Jack Keating, Richard Mason, Cindy Merrow, and Vermel Taylor

Community Members Present: Monica Green, Lisa Smith, Marie Gatti, 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 Merrow – Chairperson

- The minutes of the January 2021 Board meeting were reviewed. Trustee Beaver made a motion to accept the minutes as amended and Trustee Fazio seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Trustee Fazio - Chairperson

- Trustee Fazio prepared the monthly financial statements, which were distributed online and reviewed.
- We have received 27 assessments (\$8,805) so far.
- We have no new information on the legal status of the past delinquents. Plan to ask our attorney for an update.
- Trustee Fazio met with the accountant regarding the MCA income taxes. Next meeting on February 18th.

Tennis Committee: Trustee Fazio, Chairperson

- No report.

ACC Committee: Trustee Keating, Chairperson

- There was a meeting this past Thursday.
- The Board discussed the best way to pursue liens for those with large ACC fines. Trustee Derrick will talk with our Attorney.
- There are 17 open issues, fines, Cease & Desist, some monitoring of situations and a few requests for new roofs, shutters, etc.
- There are two major issues that are being addressed, with the hopes of resolutions soon.

Governing Documents and Bylaws Committee: Trustee Beaver, Chairperson

- We are looking for updates from the Board for any items in the documents that should be updated or addressed.
- We are also looking to raise the cap for annual Assessments.

Communications Committee: Trustee Beaver, Chairperson

- We have a new volunteer, Monica Green who has agreed to work with Trustee Beaver by assisting with articles on the webpage and on the Facebook account.

Facilities Committee: Trustees Gimbert, Chairperson

- Trustee Gimbert will work to get the landscape contact for 2021.
- We are continuing to keep the basketball courts closed as per the County's instructions.
- Trustee Gimbert will reach out to our local young man to see if he wants to continue care for the common grounds as well as the pool recycling efforts.

Pool Committee: Mary Derrick, Chairperson

- The pool contract proposals were emailed out to the Board. They were reviewed and discussed by the Board members. Trustee Keating made a motion to accept the 3-year contract for Lighthouse for \$72,950 per year. Trustee Beaver seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Security Committee: Trustee Mason, Chairperson

- Crimes in the Community - There were no major crimes in the community since the 1/12/21 Board Meeting. Thanks for being protective of your home and belongings. Be aware of suspicious activity and, where appropriate, report to 911. Be aware that

our nearby South Laurel communities are experience theft from homes and autos. Please continue to take steps to prevent these types of crime from happening in Montpelier. Be safe.

- Report from P.G. County Community Police Officer Cpl. Michael Velasquez – Cpl. Velasquez is back full time in the norther P.G. County area. There is reduced criminal activity in the south Laurel area, and we are pleased that there were no incidents in Montpelier where police were called for assistance. He did remind us to know your neighbors and call them on occasion. Be sure to check on elderly neighbors to make sure they are safe. He also asked for help concerning fireworks. It is illegal to set off fireworks in Prince George’s County. It is important when you report it to get a specific address, so the police can follow up.
- The community officer emphasized the importance of courteous and safe driving, especially on Montpelier Drive in the construction zones. He also wants us all to be aware that it is required to use our turn signals in Maryland when making any type of turn.
- Please DO NOT leave your car running when you are not with the vehicle. Also do not leave anything visible in your car.
- Streets in Montpelier – Please continue to be careful when driving on Montpelier Drive and Valerie Lane. Construction workers are needing at least one lane for their work. Watch for workers and please be courteous to other drivers.
- Distribution of Vaccines in P.G. County – P.G. Councilman, Tom Dernoga and medical professions have informed us that all guidelines, scheduling, and general information for COVID-19 and the vaccine in Maryland is being furnished by Governor Larry Hogan. His latest information is that Phase 3, starting with residents 75 and over that have preexisting conditions, will start receiving the vaccine the first week of February. This means residents that have heart conditions, asthma, and other life-threatening health issues will be first in line for scheduling at the beginning of February. CVS and Walgreens will be providing this service.
- Report from P.G. County District VI Police Citizens Advisory Council (CAC): Major Addis revealed that there was a slight increase in major crimes in our District. He said to remember to always lock your car and leave nothing visible inside the car.
- Capt. Smith reminded all to stay alert and use common sense.
- There were fewer crimes in the South Laure area, so reports were at a minimum.
- Fireworks without a permit are illegal and are subject to a \$25.00 fine. Police are reevaluating the fine with the idea of increasing the fine.
- The CAC is asking for ideas for guest speakers that relate to policing.
- Guidelines from P.G. County Transportation: Reminders when there is a snowstorm where plowing is needed, be sure to park only on one side of two-lane streets. The county requests parking on the odd numbers house side. Also be sure to clear sidewalks of snow within 24 hours after the snow stops.
- Maintaining Fire Hydrants: Brindisi, MCA Security Deputy, reminds all neighbors to clear fire hydrants when there is a snowstorm. Also remember to park 15 feet or more from a hydrant.

Social Committee: Lisa Smith, Chairperson

- Monica Green has decided to join the Social Committee.
- Social Committee plans to organize an ‘Egg Hunt’ for the Spring Fling for our community. We will once again ask the community to post pictures of eggs in their windows and the ‘hunt’ for these eggs will take place the week leading up to the event on March 27th. There will be goody bags and crafts handed out at the pool grounds. We also are hoping to get a performer much like we did for the Fall Festival. Social distancing will be practiced and handled like the Fall Festival as well.

Swim Team Committee: Marie Gatti, Chairperson

- There is no word yet from the Prince-Mont Swim League if there will be a swim team season.
- Last year some swimmers swam with the Laurel Ducks under John Venit and it was a very stringent process, little room for practicing. Swimmers only swam against themselves, with their times uploaded to an online site to show how they did against other swimmers. It has yet to be determined if this will be offered this summer.

Traffic Committee: Trustee Arzayus, Chairperson

- Montpelier Drive Project: an email was recently sent out to the community regarding the construction delay due to WSSC doing emergency work. It is reported that WSSC work should be completed by mid-February / early March. Once the Montpelier Drive work restarts, the medians, or islands will be installed.
- After all the curbs are installed, they plan to pave and stripe. The County still advertises a mid-summer finish.
- The trees and shrubs will be planted in the Fall. New streetlights will extend the full length of Montpelier drive and they will all look alike.
- The County will only do minimal maintenance on the new islands, so the Community is considering ways to maintain the islands.
- The Board is still attempting to find a way to light the sign at the main entrance. We must contact BG&E to find out if it is even possible. We will reach out to the Mansion or the South Laurel Rec Council to verify who owns the land and if they want their sign illuminated.
- A list of rules and regulations for parking, per the County and State rules, will be put on the website and in the next newsletter.

- Encouraging all to all 311 for potholes around the neighborhood.

Welcoming Committee: Vermel Taylor, Chairperson

- Ten home visits were made, eight packages were dropped off. The other two were not being lived in yet.
- Monica Green has also joined the Welcoming Committee to help Trustee Taylor and Mr. Tarbrake out. Welcome to Monica!

Old Business

- There was no update on the Appeal of the Mahoney case. The builder reengaged with the ACCC last month, but, although a re-submission was discussed, nothing had been submitted by this meeting date.
- The MCA Green Team is underway and there are several volunteers. February 8th at 5 pm is the next meeting where an action plan will be discussed. If you want to participate in working on ways to make the Community more environmentally sustainable please contact any Board Member for more information.

New Business:

- 2021 Contracts for the Gatekeeper and Administrative Assistant were discussed and approved unanimously.

The next board meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 9, 2021 at 7:00 PM online.