

MONTPELIER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC.

**Board of Trustees WebEx Call in Meeting Minutes**  
**202-860-2110, PIN: 126 909 1700#, Attendee ID '#'**  
September 14, 2021

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

**Trustees absent with cause:** Felipe Arzayus

**Community Members Present:** Chris Tarbrake, Sterling Spangler, Michele Einolf, Mary Derrick, and Michelle Gimbert

**Others Present:** Umesh Patel (from DPW&T), Dwight Joseph (from DPW&T), Jerri Jones (from Tom Dernoga's office)

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

Trustee Mason introduced Mr. Dwight Joseph from DPW&T. Mr. Joseph thanked everyone for their patience with this Montpelier Drive project. It should be wrapped up soon with the paving in the next week and a half, then the pavement markings will be added followed by the landscaping in early to mid-October once the weather gets cooler. Umesh Patel with the DPW&T said the lighting is complete for Montpelier Drive. There are limited resources from the county for the maintenance so it would be best to have the community maintain them. Please continue to be mindful of the workers as the work continues.

**Secretary's Report: Trustee Merrow**

- The minutes of the August 10, 2021, Board meeting were reviewed. Trustee Gimbert made a motion to accept the minutes as submitted, Trustee Beaver 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.
- \$20,000 was transferred to Checking from Savings.
- Real Property taxes of \$1,019.28 have been paid to Prince George's County.
- Personal Property taxes of \$29.16 have been paid to Prince George's County.
- There has not been much collected from Members that are delinquent.
- M. Gimbert has sent another letter to our attorney inquiring about the state of the Notices of Intent (NOI's) that is required before taking Members to court.

**Tennis Committee: Trustee Fazio, Chairperson**

- There has been no closure to the damage to the tennis courts as of this date. MidAtlantic should be held accountable. The courts are becoming a hazard as the peeled substance is a trip hazard.
- If the surface peels so easily, perhaps the application was not done properly. MidAtlantic had previously washed the courts twice before with no damage.
- A letter was written to MidAtlantic asking them to make the repairs.
- Trustee Gimbert said that he saw an e-mail that indicated MidAtlantic is waiting for our reply. We will instruct them to repair the damage they caused and finish the annual maintenance we have already paid

for, which included patching 100 feet of the small cracks. The large cracks would be an extra cost and we will wait until the repairs are completed before investing with this same company for the much more expensive large crack repair.

**ACC Committee: Trustee Keating, Chairperson**

- The committee met on September 2<sup>nd</sup>. The members were thanked for their service over the last year and encouraged them to continue their service. A list of ongoing issues was sent out by Trustee Beaver to the Trustees. (All actions of the ACCC are in the bi-monthly newsletter so that information is not replicated here.)

**Communications Committee: Trustee Beaver, Chairperson**

- The website upgrade is being worked on.

**Governing Documents Committee: Trustee Beaver, Chairperson**

- Working on updates and changes to the Governing Documents.

**Facilities Committee: Trustees Gimbert, Chairperson**

- We are looking into additional lighting around the pool and grounds.
- We have ordered new nets for the basketball hoops.
- We are looking at new storm water control ideas.
- The lock on the dumpster has been removed and is open to the Community as long as everyone ‘behaves’ on what is put in there (boxes broken down, minimal landscaping material, no contractor debris, etc.)
- There will be a dumpster and a paper recycle truck at Montpelier Elementary School Saturday sponsored by our District 1 Council Member, Tom Dernoga.

**Pool Committee: Mary Derrick, Chairperson**

- The pool closed Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup>. Operationally all ran smoothly, and Lighthouse was very responsive with the few issues we did have.
- We received many compliments from homeowners. Michelle Gimbert was added as a full-time gate attendant.
- We cancelled the order of the tall slide and received a full reimbursement to what we had prepaid.
- The Minnow slide was ordered after the Executive Committee agreed to the \$1200 in shipping. It arrived yesterday.
- Trustees Derrick and Gimbert did another repair to the old slide for the last few weeks of the summer.
- This coming Saturday, September 18<sup>th</sup> is Dog Day from 12 – 5pm. Soon after the cover will go on the pool.
- There is an aggressive leak in the Baby Pool that needs to be addressed. Also, the work on the water leak in the wall between the office and the men’s bathroom will start soon.

**Social Committee: Lisa Smith, Chairperson – absent – Lisa provided a report and it was read into the minutes.**

- Thanks to Trustees Derrick, Gimbert, Taylor and Keating for their help at the Labor Day picnic at the pool.
- The family happy hour at the pool went well.
- The next event is the Fall Festival on Sunday, October 24<sup>th</sup> from 2 – 4 pm. The choices for performers are Mr. Bond, Science Guys in Baltimore. They are \$250 for one hour or Adam Stone Magic who runs \$350

for one hour. The Board voted for The Science Guys for this year.

- We also plan to give out crafts, treats, and pumpkins like last year.
- Neighbors are interested in a Craft Fair so we will let the vendors come and set up tables if the Board agrees to this. This was okayed by the Board.
- There will be a Crab Food truck at Dog Day from 12-5 in the pool parking lot this Saturday.
- We are hoping to have a Christmas Tree lighting on Sunday, November 28<sup>th</sup>. Starting with making natural ornaments (thinking bird seed and pinecones) an hour before sunset.

**Swim Team Committee: Marie Gatti, Chairperson** – absent – report was provided.

- The Swim Team hosted an end of year parents' meeting on Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup>. Marie Gatti announced that she is stepping down from the Committee and as Team Manager to pursue graduate school. The remaining members of the committee will act as liaisons until someone permanent is chosen. This included Rachel Howard, Andy Reeves, Allison Kern and Bob Olson. The Swim Team Committee can be reached at [montpeliermarlins@gmail.com](mailto:montpeliermarlins@gmail.com)
- The need for volunteers was addressed at the Parent's meeting as well as how to expand community involvement.
- The Marlins ended the season at 0-3 but this does not tell the whole story. Many new members joined the team, there were many improvements with the swimmers in times and techniques. The best part was that they were back in the pool competing.
- A full list of the team's awards was in the September/October newsletter and on the Swim Team page at [montpelieronline.org](http://montpelieronline.org). Information about year-round swim is also on the website.
- The Marlins are sponsoring an ongoing coffee fundraiser which is gaining popularity in the community. More information about how to support the Marlins with this fundraiser is also available online.

**Security Committee: Trustee Mason, Chairperson**

Crimes in the Community:

- Since the last meeting in August, we had a loose Pitbull attack another dog being walked by its owner on Mount Pleasant Drive. The owner was not injured, thanks to the help of neighbors that came running. Animal Control was called, and the dog was impounded. Dogs must be on leash at all times and Pitbulls are illegal in P.G. County. This Pitbull will not be allowed back in the county.
- Drive carefully on Montpelier Drive, especially during construction. Please be courteous to the workers.
- Auto thefts and house break-ins are continuing in nearby South Laurel communities. Continue to be vigilant concerning your vehicles, house, and property.
- "Life Saving, Safe Driving Reminders" are published in the latest *Montpelier Today* magazine.

Report from Prince George County District VI Police:

- Tom Dernoga's District 1 Community Partners Meeting on 8/25/21 presented P.G. County Police Chief, Malik Aziz. The Chief spoke of problems in the department and his plan to correct them with discipline and positive motivation. He is interested in reaching out to communities.
- Patrol staff is still short-handed. Most officers are working overtime. They are working on recruiting more candidates for the police academy.
- We are pleased to announce that Police District VI Commander, Captain Susan Smith will be our guest speaker at the MCA Annual Meeting on Sunday, September 26, 2021, at 2pm.

Report from Council Member Tom Dernoga, P.G. County District 1:

- Councilman Tom Dernoga and his Chief of Staff, Michelle Garcia have announced that Jerri Jones is the new Laure area Constituent Services Aide. She can be reached through Councilman Dernoga's office.

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

- No Report

**Welcoming Committee: Vermel Taylor, Chairperson**

- Trustee Taylor has been unable to visit anyone this month. M. Gimbert has provided a list of new homeowners and visits will resume soon.

**Old Business:**

- A post card mailer having to do with 9206 Pleasant Court was sent out to many homeowners. Our attorney has sent multiple letters with these individuals. Many different people are claiming to represent the owners of this property. All communications must go through our lawyer. She has put them on notice that they need to stop harassing community members and Board members. If you are contacted, please let M. Gimbert, Trustees, Derrick, Keating, and Beaver know so we can track the contacts.
- The Annual Meeting will be a call-in meeting due to COVID. It will be on 9/26 at 2pm. It is the same dial in information and the monthly meetings. Lynne Collman is accepting ballots at her house.

**New Business:**

- We have an initial proposal for laying the nature trail on the common grounds with the millings. The first bid is \$9,900 and we are waiting on two other bids.

The next board meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 12, 2021, at 7:00 PM online. Trustee Keating made a motion to adjourn at 8:33PM and it was seconded by Trustee Taylor. The motion passed unanimously.