

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Board

LUXMANOR CITIZEN'S ASSOCIATION

Monday, April 4, 2016

WELCOMING AND OPENING REMARKS: President Abbe Milstein called the meeting to order, and the LCA Board and guests introduced themselves. Abbe introduced an LCA homeowner, Ruth Lee, who has had a prolonged and ongoing problem with water remediation and stream erosion around the area of her house. Abbe said that the EPA and WSSC are involved in correcting the problem and will work to clean up the stench from the sewage in the creek and testing the water for contamination:

Abbe also announced that Sheri Weiss will Chair the Nominations Committee for the 2016-2017 slate of LCA Officers. The Committee will also include Deborah Berger and Keith Rudich;

Discussed the fact that LCA hasn't had a self-auditing for many years and that she would ask Berger Berman's help with an audit to make sure we are in good standing. A motion was made and passed, with one abstention, approving Berman to audit the worker's compensation policy for off-duty police pro bono; and

Said that the LCA Bylaws are antiquated and difficult to follow and that changes were needed. LCA Vice President Jerry Ostrov was asked to head a committee that will come up with a new set of bylaws to be voted on by the entire membership of LCA on May 19.

REVIEW of the March, 2016, minutes: The minutes were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT: In the absence of Treasurer Barry Gudelsky, Abbe reported that the LCA has approximately \$60,000 in the Money Market and that cash-on-hand is \$16,287.29.

COMMUNICATION AND ELECTRONIC REPORT: Chair Lis Herer updated the Board about the moving of the ListServ to the LCA website. Lis reiterated some of the reasons for the move – less fear of hacking and being able to build the site to our specifications were at the forefront. She also told the Board that anyone can join the ListServ for now but that the rules regarding membership could change when the next slate of officers take office. Lis also said that instruction to get on the new ListServ will be disseminated on the Greensheet, ListServ, and LCA website and that the current ListServ will remain up on Yahoo until the end of April. Help will be available in getting on the new site and it will be user friendly. Questions about retaining the old Suppliers' List, etc., will be addressed once the new site is up.

GREENSHEET DISCUSSION: Chair Carin Cooper reiterated that we will be using a new platform for the Listserv and that dissemination of information for getting, and registering, on to it will be in a special 4-page Greensheet which will primarily be concerned with the announcement of the transition. The mini-GreenSheet will also include Safety and Traffic Committees reports. Carin said that the regular version of the GreenSheet will be out in time for the General Election and will contain relevant Committee reports and bios of the nominees to the LCA Board.

BOARD OF EDUCATION: LCA Corresponding Secretary Ed Farber gave the details for the LCA-sponsored Board of Education Candidates' Forum to be held March 24, 2016, at Luxmanor Elementary School at 7:30 p.m. Seven non-partisan candidates will attend the Town Hall Forum which will be moderated by LCA Past President, Jordan Cooper. Each candidate will present

opening and closing statements, the audience will be able to present questions, and the candidates have been assured that summaries of their presentation will appear on the ListServ or on another forum. The evening event will address community-at-large and specific Luxmanor Community education problems. The Board approved \$500.00 to cover the cost of renting a facility, signs, advertising etc.

SCHOOLS COMMITTEE: Chair Nancy Delasos reported that she has been in touch with the area schools and has brought them up to date about our efforts regarding school traffic problems, overcrowding, etc. She also said the Board will be sending \$500.00 to Luxmanor Elementary School, Tilden Middle School and Walter Johnson High School for use in whatever/wherever need the school administrators determine. In addition, another \$500.00 check will be sent to Walter Johnson to help defray the cost of the Senior class prom breakfast.

DISCUSSION AND VOTE OF LCA rejoining the Montgomery County Civic Federation: Abbe opened up a discussion about the reasons it would be beneficial for the LCA to join the non-profit organization: faster dissemination of information and news about the community regarding transportation, etc., state and county in-depth studies of state and county problems and potential laws, and the influence a large organization can make in influencing voting. Cost to join the organization which is made up of other civic and home owners' associations is \$65.00 and Luxmanor would have four voting delegates. A motion was made to join the organization, seconded with two abstentions, and passed.

FRIENDS OF CABIN JOHN CREEK: Abbe introduced Tina Rouse and Burr Gray of the environmental non-profit, FRIENDS OF CABIN JOHN CREEK organization who gave a brief presentation about the history of the creek, the potential environmental hazards of the area and the efforts the group is making to clean-up the entire Cabin John Watershed. Old Farm Creek, a tributary of Cabin John Creek, runs through Luxmanor and is included in the clean-up plans. The organization would like to partner with more communities to help in their efforts.

SAFETY: Chair Sheri Weiss reported that there have been many more homeowner complaints about the traffic situations in the Luxmanor, Oaks, and Windermere communities. Cut thru, speeding, failure to obey stop signs, etc., have been identified and are on the increase. Sheri reminded everyone that there was a discussion in the Fall to hire off-duty police to patrol and enforce the laws in the community and that now would be the time to vote on the proposal. The cost for hiring police would be approximately \$50.00 an hour and would be for an 8-hour per week model. The action would run for a three month period from April 1 to June and would cost approximately \$5,000. Money for traffic studies has already been allocated in the LCA budget.

A motion was made to utilize \$5,000. from the budgeted \$10,000 for an off-duty traffic study. In addition, it is understood that LCA will reach out to other local organizations who have done traffic studies so that we can use their information to make our study successful. The motion was seconded and was passed eight for, two opposed, and two abstentions.

ROADS AND TRAFFIC: Chair Jon Simon said that Tilden Lane is on the list to be evaluated for speed cameras and has suggested that we get stop sign cameras. Jon also said that he had approval to get speed signs on Marcliff Road.

Abbe spoke about utility wires that are sagging and asked that people contact her about this problem so that she can notify the utility to correct it. She then asked for, and received, a seconded motion to adjourn at 9:30 p.m.