

## Minutes from the November 9, 2023 Board Meeting

Those attending: Diane Anderson, Michael Berg, Sally Davol, Dale Eckerman, Susan Eldredge, Larry Goodrich, Dan Hayden, Roy Johansen, Jeff Lanctot, Shirwin Pockwinse and Jack Scheld

The meeting was opened with a review of the Treasurer's Report. Larry sent the board category comparisons for income and expenditures over the past two years. He noted that we have received 229 dues submissions to date, which is consistent with previous years. Larry added that donation levels are slightly higher than last year. Larry suggested that we continue to report fiscally with year's ending 9/30. The Association account balance stands at \$15,067.17. The Board decided against posting financial data on riverbay.org but agreed to honor member requests for information.

Susan Eldredge reports that the transfer of membership forms has not yet started so she had no information to report. Roy Johansen suggested that we email/contact residents who had joined in previous years but had not yet submitted this year. He offered to pose the question as to why and was there something we could do differently. **A list of potential membership contacts could be generated from the database. Roy offered to take the contact on as soon as the target list could be generated.** This action, including board members phone calls was accepted by the board as a first step before we generate a second mailing request.

Jeff Lanctot reported that he has deleted the sponsor tab and that the past two meeting minutes have been posted on the Newsletter section. **Jack Scheld offered that he was revising the section 'What is Riverbay Association'. He asked Jeff to edit and update technology information and Mike Berg to update the current Beautification efforts.** Larry noted the possibility of using Pay Pal on Riverbay.org. Mike asked how we could incorporate Pay Pal and Jeff noted that he would refer to 'Go Daddy'. Larry stated that Pay Pal connects to the bank and Diane noted her experience was that Pay Pal's charge a 2.29% item fee. **The Board agreed to take up exploring online payment options at the next meeting.**

Dale Eckerman reported that the next event would be the Tree Lighting scheduled for December 7, 2023 @ 5:30. The signs will be changed over on November 19<sup>th</sup>. Dale noted that we are proceeding with a February social is on as is the April one. Discussion centered on whether there was sufficient interest in an April social. Consensus was maybe and we will withhold judgement for now. Mike noted that April's social was lacking a theme or focus. The question was posed whether we could develop a neighborhood theme. Ideas were put forth, and Sally put forth the idea of heritage connections.

Mike explained how the Association has transitioned from a beautification committee of volunteers to a contractual one. He noted that Rosebuds has done a very good job with the flower gardens. The flagpole is now in good shape. We have a contract for holiday wreaths. Mike raised the question of future focus; looking ahead he would like us to look at two areas to concentrate our efforts on: at the quad on Park Ave, we could use a specimen tree that did not impact the irrigation. And what can we do with the Park Ave strip? Larry requested a monthly invoice from Rosebuds'. Dale agreed to request that with next year's contract. **Jack suggested that future Beautification plans should be on the next meeting agenda.**

Reviewing new business; the Tree Lighting at the quad will be held on Thursday, December 7 @5:30. Mike will bring two tables and have the lights set to go. We will need two containers of hot chocolate. Shirwin Pockwinse will set up 8 lanterns and bring the songbooks. Susan will bring two platters of cookies.

To expedite the processing of membership forms, it was decided that Larry would only record dues paid and donations. He would then pass the forms along to Susan.

Jack introduced an idea for a neighborhood Spring Event to be focused on assessing community interest in a neighborhood clean-up or conservation focused activity. The idea was generated by Riverbay members. Discussion among the Board centered around the main point that the Association could support this idea but should not be the organizing force. Issues of liability were raised. Diane noted that Chatham Conservation Foundation supports efforts to clean up invasive species. Another idea is that APCC has offered to host a winter webinar for Riverbay. The board agreed that this was a good idea pending additional details. **Jack will offer an email with the list of six possible webinar topics for the board to choose.**

The board discussed the use of the framed signs as a communication tool. Currently, the signs are at three entrances and soon the fourth entrance will get a sign. **Dale suggested that a schedule of the signage messages could be produced.** This would allow the board to see the availability of additional messaging.

Dale asked if there were any updates on the status of the stop signs and drive slowly signs. Roy reported that we are on the agenda of Chatham Traffic Committee for shortly after Thanksgiving. The DPW will have to review our request first.

The next board meeting will be in January, the exact date TBD.