

Whispering Heights/Collingwood Community Association
Board Meeting Minutes
July 2nd 2008

Call to order: 7:15pm
Adjourned: 8:45pm

Meeting location: Blaisdell home.

Attendees: Merrick Van Dongen, Keri Keifer, Gretchan Lindsey, Natasha Vorley, Bob Blaisdell

OLD BUSINESS:

June minutes approved

Treasurer's Report

Dues are coming in. We have 125/500 households total- Much lower than other years. \$13,421 total monies.

A-Board Signs

Keri has ordered and will be picking up the new signs on July 3rd. 4 signs cost \$1400.

Booking of Lewis Creek – Next meeting

NEW BUSINESS:

Whispers Newsletter

Next cutoff date is July 18th with handoff August 1st. Too soon, we don't have much new by way of articles. We will move it out a month.

Aug 22 – Articles to Will

Aug 29 – Hardcopies to Distributors

Sept. 5 – on doors

We will do article assignments at our August meeting.

July 4th Event

Jon is all set. Merrick will bring dues box and table

August 16th Family Picnic

Merrick will be gone for the picnic.

Maybe next year do something different - grill instead of Subway sandwiches?

Food/Drinks – Keifers

Games/Prizes – Warren

Bouncy House - Smith

Garage Sale – September 20th

Residents need to sign up so Natasha can get balloons to them on the sale day.

Keri will make up the signs for the event.

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Yard Upkeep and Board's role in neighbor complaints

A neighbor has contacted the board regarding certain yards being unkempt and a request that the board contact the residents. We had a lengthy discussion regarding the role of the board. The board can not enforce covenants, yet the upkeep of our neighborhood is important to our property values. We received an alternative view note regarding yard upkeep essentially saying that an unkempt yard may be the result of an illness or other circumstances. One board member view was that if we single out this yard or that yard, a house the next block over may have the same situation and not get singled out. It's a slippery slope to start pointing fingers without looking at each and every yard. One board member view was that some landscaping may not be someone else's style and be thought of as unkempt. One board member view was that neighbors should be more neighborly and be able to converse with neighbors in case there are circumstances.

We concluded that we will put an article in the Whispers from the board to encourage neighbors to converse with their neighbors regarding yards and other issues and point to CCR's. We'll use the note of the alternative view to suggest a neighborly focus on yard upkeep.

Gretchan will look on the website to see if the CCR's are on there.

Neighborhood Outreach Workshop series

Merrick was contacted by the City requesting feedback on how a workshop would best serve communities such as ours. 1) Scheduled at city hall 2) customized workshops 3) hybrid of both

WHCCA website

The Minutes and Whispers have been added to the website. Gretchan received a request from a resident to add a classified Section to our website as a means to communicate help wanted/services. Board agrees to add this to the website if possible.

We also discussed our website and how people use these neighborhood sites to shop for new homes. When looking at our website as compared to other neighborhoods, it might be time to revamp and update our website design to increase the marketability of our neighborhood.

Gretchan will look into the cost of having a site designed.

Water for Community Islands

Merrick will email Patt for a status of the fixing of the irrigation system. It needs to get done soon.

Event Binder

Merrick gave Natasha a folder of information.

Natasha needs: July 4th, Egg Hunt, Picnic, Garage Sale, Spring cleanup, Coffee social

Gifts/ Other business

Bob will pick up 2 \$100 gift certificates for Wally and Jon – past presidents.

Gretchan will pick up 2 thank you cards for next meeting.

Host for the August meeting

Laura Warren

Topic for next meeting

How to highlight and market our neighborhood in local publications/ realtors.