

Countryside Homes Association Monthly Meeting Minutes for 8/11/09, 7:00pm CST

Meeting took place at Minsky's on Main.

Those in attendance:

Terry Rodeghier

Joe Grego

Jim Kraus

Kathy Arthur

Mario Vasquez

Darryl Hawkins

7:05pm

Dan Sun Resolution – We've decided unanimously to replace Dan Sun on the Board of the Countryside Homes Association. Our decision is based upon Dan's failure to participate and has been addressed as a concern at numerous previous meetings. Dan's lack of participation has been an ongoing issue and as a result we've been forced to take this step. The by-laws allow for us to replace Dan on an interim basis until his term has been completed and is again up for election. Nominations include Mike O'Neill who represents the neighbors on East Concorde and Mary Mountain. We will reach out to these folks that have shown an interest in the past and will invite them to our next meeting to pitch their interest. From there, the Board will cast a vote.

Annual Dues Collection – As of today's date, we have 90 households out of a total of 480 that have not paid their annual dues. Additionally there are 17 short pays. Terry will call Fox to arrange to send a 'personal plea' letter be sent to those that haven't paid. HACCD has already sent the initial invoice followed by a collection letter. We are also considering including in the quarterly newsletter a list of those who DID pay. Perhaps that might motivate those that have NOT paid.

Island @ Westover – The neighbors have provided a mock up of what they would like to see with regards to the "renovation" of this island. Proposed/requested improvements include stone paths that would connect the different garden areas within the island. We intend to get bids from contractors to determine potential cost. It was also mentioned that we include this piece as part of our P.I.A.C. request. Other than the stone paths, they would like help maintaining the grassy area within the island, including fertilization and mowing.

The Shops at 55th Street/Crestwood – This property falls within the boundaries of our Neighborhood Assn. Currently the entire block is being billed HOA dues as a single edifice. We intend to review this and are considering billing each individual business that exists at this location. This would help us to increase our revenue and to offset expenses. These folks all individually benefit from the HOA and should be charged accordingly.

Dumpster Day – Mario is organizing this event with the Marlene Leons from the city. We intend to increase to two trash dumpsters from one and will also have a dumpster for leaves and brush. This time we will notify those taking advantage of the service that we will be checking id's to verify that the person is both a resident and is current on their dues. We will also be accepting donations. Jim Kraus of Brookside Real Estate has agreed to "sponsor" one of the dumpsters by paying the fee and will thus be allowed to advertise at the event accordingly.

Annual Meeting – We are considering moving back to Eggtc...for next years meeting. In the meantime we will continue to consider and evaluate all options.

News Letter – In the next news letter, slated for September release, we will begin to publish our intent to go digital with future news letters. We will be asking for email addresses in order to better provide this service to as many homes in the HOA as possible. Going digital with the news letter is not only a cost cutting measure but it's also an effort to "go green".

Annual Picnic – At this point we are on autopilot with this event. Same basic set up that we've had in previous years including the cooks, band, kid's entertainment, etc. Volunteers include Joe Grego, Jim Kraus and Mario. Joe will obtain the neighbors consent to block the road for the day.

Island Maintenance – We all agree to have Eddie and Jake Kraus provide mowing and maintenance service on an as needed basis. They will mow the two Westover and 55th Street Islands and we will contact Ryan Lawn and Tree to provide fertilization and seeding for Westover. Ryan Lawn and Tree currently provides the fertilization for 55th Street.

Directories – We will be organizing delivery of our neighborhood phone directory.

Historic District Update – According to Mario Vasquez, Brad Wolf from the Landmark Commission has been working behind the scenes on our behalf. He has hired two interns to conduct a survey of the East side of Countryside. They will take the information obtained from this survey to prepare a report. Brad is considering hiring a professional to create the report. Inclusion in a Historic District offers potential tax credits for home owners that elect to renovate their homes and also protects us from neighbors making changes to their homes that do not fit the neighborhood model.

51st & Main Garden – This property is currently owned by DST. There will be a meeting held at Minsky's on Main for all those that may be interested overseeing this effort or in renting a gardening spot for next year. Details to follow.

Welcome Baskets – Our basket making committee is currently on budget and do not anticipate requiring additional funding in the near future. Much of what they provide in the baskets is obtained by donations from local businesses.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, September 8th @ 7:00pm, Minsky's on Main.
Joe Grego, Loyal Secretary, Countryside Homes Association.