

**Highlands Community Association
Spring Meeting Minutes
May 23, 2012**

Denison Hatch, President of the Highland Community Association, called the meeting to order at 7:02pm and introduced the other Association officers including Vice President Meg Holden, Zoning & Property Committee Chair Paul Crawford, and Secretary Charlotte Arnold. Treasurer Mike Cradler was unable to attend.

Denison called for approval of the prior meeting minutes by voice vote and they were approved.

In Mike Cradler's absence, Denison provided the Treasurer's report, which consisted of reporting the following balances in the two Highlands Community Association accounts:

\$2,347.89 Highlands Community Association General Fund
\$9,465.11 Rockford Falls Working Group Fund

Denison noted that Highlands Community Association annual dues were being collected during the meeting and encouraged everyone present to pay their dues for the current year.

Denison nominated Charlotte Arnold to the position of Assistant Treasurer and Rachel Macha to the position of Assistant Secretary, noting that these individuals would be nominated to the positions of Treasurer and Secretary respectively at the fall meeting. Denison called for approval by voice vote and the nominations were approved.

Denison provided an update to the community on the proposed Kentmere Parkway Drainage Improvement project planned by the City of Wilmington. The objective of the project is to separate storm water runoff from the sanitary sewer in order to reduce or eliminate the discharge of untreated sewage overflows into the Brandywine River. A public meeting to explain the project in more depth and gather neighborhood feedback is planned for June 5th at the Delaware Art Museum.

Denison introduced the Honorable Gerald Brady to provide an update on the Kentmere Lighting project, which should begin during the summer and be completed within 120 days of breaking ground.

Denison introduced Cpl. Michael Rinehart and Ptlm. Brian McCanney from the Wilmington Police Department to provide an update to the community on recent crime statistics and trends including the issuance of tickets for speeders traveling northwest on Kentmere Parkway and prostitution activity near 17th and Union streets. The officers urged residents to report suspicious individuals, lock cars, and hide valuables. To report a concern, please call M/Cpl. Art Gliem's cell phone at (302) 388-7165.

Denison introduced Rachel Macha, a resident who agreed to lead a Traffic Subcommittee for the Highlands Community Association. Rachel provided an update on the Traffic Subcommittee's first meeting held on April 23, 2012 and the resulting actions taken by the City of Wilmington, which included installing a new directional sign at the intersection of Kentmere and Woodlawn, exploring putting a stop sign at the intersection of Union and Kentmere, and a speed limit enforcement exercise on Kentmere resulting in the issuance of 15 tickets in a single day.

Denison introduced Paul Crawford to provide an overview the proposed outdoor seating and beverage service permit for Famous Tim's. Paul noted that the Highlands Community Association helped pay for a copy of the transcript of the meeting of the Alcoholic Beverage Control ("ABC") Commission during which the owner of Famous Tim's, Mr. Paul Ogden, sought approval to open the new bar. At issue was whether the approval was granted based on an assurance from Mr. Ogden to the Commission during the meeting that no outside seating was planned. Mr. Ogden and his wife were in attendance at the Association meeting and asked for the opportunity to speak to assure everyone that a patio expansion would not pose a problem to adjacent neighbors in terms of noise, trash, parking, etc. Mr. Ogden and his wife proceeded to outline their plans for Famous Tim's and answer questions. Afterwards and notwithstanding the Ogden's assurances, Paul noted that the Highlands Community Association principal concern was that, should the permit be granted, drinks would be served outside resulting in increased noise, trash, and parking constraints in the neighborhood.

Denison provided an update on the Friends of Wilmington Parks upcoming annual Garden Party scheduled for June 7th and summer concert schedule near Rockford Tower.

Denison introduced Richard Franta to provide an update on the O'Neill project for Bancroft Mills. Richard noted that the project was stalled and that a subdivision plan was never submitted after the project received approval from the DRPC. He also noted that the funds contributed for legal expenses remained in his law firm's escrow account and could be used to support future legal action, if that proved necessary.

Denison introduced Mike Freda to provide an update on the Lincoln Towers project. Mike reported that Lincoln Towers will be 10 stories when complete and construction is on schedule, with an expected completion date around Thanksgiving.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlotte Arnold
Secretary