

MINUTES OF THE PRESTWICK HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

October 16, 2008

Present: Jim Nolting, Sue Bloomfield, Janice Werner, Rich Misorowski, Rachel Gilmore
Absent: Paul Koreman, Tom Barz, Bill Matevich, Dan Smith

ENTRANCES

1. Lighting

Janice reported that she is still waiting to hear back from Excel. However, her contact is a subject matter expert in solar lighting and does not recommend using solar lighting for the entrances. It is possible that low voltage solar lights could be added later to accent certain plantings or features in the bed, but solar lights should not be used as the main source of lighting. The original estimate for four entrances was approximately \$17,000, so the cost will likely stay about the same.

2. 2009 Prestwick Beautification Award

Discussion was held about doing a 2nd PHA Beautification Award program. After discussion the following was decided:

- A) PHA will sponsor a Prestwick Garden Walk in summer 2009
- B) The walk will be initially publicized in the January newsletter
- C) More details will follow in the late spring newsletter
- D) Houses will be nominated by residents (self or neighbors) and will be selected by the board for the walk.
- E) Those wishing to attend will need to RSVP (possibly purchase) a ticket which will also serve as a ballot.
- F) After visiting the gardens, participants will vote for their favorite and submit their ballot.
- G) Board will tally results and award a trophy vase to the winner.
- H) Winner's name will be published in fall newsletter.
- I) This walk contest will be open to all Prestwick residents, not just PHA members as a good will gesture and to possibly encourage membership.
- J) A donation jar will be placed at each garden to encourage people to donate to PHA entrance landscaping efforts.
- K) Rachel will get the Will County Extension Garden Walk date and give to PHA so there are no scheduling conflicts.

3. Beautification of Utility Islands

Discussion was held about the various utility boxes that are in people's front yards and how some appear to be leaning over or rusty.

- **ACTION ITEM:** Jim will take pictures of utility boxes that are old or in disrepair and show them to Jerry Ducay to get his suggestions for repairing/replacing/hiding them.

- ACTION ITEM: Rachel will put a blurb in the next newsletter asking people to A) please landscape around their utility boxes to camouflage them and B) ask for suggestions as to how other neighborhoods conceal these utility boxes.

ARC

No report.

SOCIAL

Discussion was held about how to improve the relationship with PCC so that events are a win-win situation for both organizations. It was suggested that both boards meet to resolve any issues.

Discussion was also held on holding a holiday event with both a caroling party and a holiday housewalk considered. It was decided that a caroling party would be a simpler option this year but to plan for a 2009 holiday housewalk.

- ACTION ITEM: Sue and Janice will meet to plan a Caroling Party (date/time, starting location, end party location, bring a dish/bottle to share, etc.) and will email the board with details. They will contact Rachel as needed for a mailing.

MEMBERSHIP

1. Request to publicize Prestwick rentals through PHA

Jim reported that he's received several requests from Prestwick residents trying to sell their homes asking to put rental information out through the PHA. Nothing in the bylaws prevents people from renting their homes. Discussion was held about the benefit of having someone in the home as opposed to the home standing vacant.

SECURITY

1. Strangers in the neighborhood

Jim shared details of several recent unusual events with strangers in Prestwick asking for information about homeowners or other residents, which seemed similar to the summer scams elsewhere in Frankfort where a stranger started a conversation with a homeowner and the homeowner was later robbed. The board will remind all residents to call the police if you see anything or anyone strange/unusual/out of place in the neighborhood.

2. Policing For Sale signs

The board discussed For Sale signs which are an increasing problem due to the number of homes for sale. Jim pulls some signs every week but can't patrol all of Prestwick. He also stated that he needs to see a full signed copy of the covenants because realtors are challenging his position that the covenants say signs can't be displayed in home windows.

- ACTION ITEM: ****BILL**** please contact Jim and get him a signed copy of the covenants to review regarding sign placement.

Jim has also contacted ACTHA and asked their staff attorney if he is legally able to send a letter to sign violators warning them that they have a set period to remove the signs or they will be fined. If they still do not remove the signs, they will have a lien made against their home. The ACTHA attorney told Jim he can do this, but Jim would like to get Bill's legal opinion.

- ACTION ITEM: ****BILL**** please contact Jim and let him know if you think he can send such a letter to sign violators.

WEB SITE

1. Development of member database

Rich demonstrated the revised database he's created that will sort the Excel file by resident, non-resident or whole list. Labels can also be created from any of these lists through a mail merge. The board thanked Rich for his time and effort! Good job, Rich! Rich also noted he took these files to the printer, who reviewed them and said they're exactly what is needed for the directory next year.

Discussion was held and it was decided that:

- A) Rachel will maintain the database. Rich will get her a copy of what he's done.
- B) Tom will be asked to provide Rachel with new resident updates.
- C) Rachel will send a back up copy to Jim every time the list is updated.
- D) Rachel and Rich will meet as needed after Rachel works with Rich's lists.

FINANCIAL

1. The board reviewed the current 9 month financial statement. Jim noted that PHA actually has an additional \$4600 in revenue that wasn't on the statement from the Village reimbursement for entrance signs and ARC fees. Currently there is about \$30,000 in the bank and all of the landscaping/entrance bills have been paid.

2. Jim would like to discuss the budget at the next meeting so board members should bring suggestions for projects/expenses.

NEWSLETTER

No report. Next one will be in January.

GOVERNMENTAL

1. Rich reported that he submitted a legal document to the STB on the EIS draft regarding safety and traffic issues. A Plainfield resident also submitted a document challenging the constitutionality of some of the issues in the EIS. Both of these documents went together and referenced one another. Rich also explained the process of how House bill 6707 was

defeated. Once the EIS final report is given to the STB (no set date), the STB can use the info or disregard it in making their final decision about the sale.

NEW BUSINESS

1. New board members

Jim renewed the call for new board members who would like to actively serve. He also reminded people that the board ideally should contain members from various areas in Prestwick. Right now most members live on or off of Aberdeen. Please continue to think of people who might be willing to actively serve.

2. Community building

Sue asked the board to be thinking about low cost community building activities that would allow neighbors from different parts of Prestwick to meet each other. She will continue to research this.

3. 2009 Directory

Formatting issues were discussed with the recommendation to remove the woman's name from parentheses.

NEXT MEETING: Tentatively set for December 4 at PCC, 7 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Rachel Gilmore
Recording Secretary