



FOREST HILL HOME OWNERS
ANNUAL RESIDENTS' MEETING
Tuesday, November 13, 2012

The Annual Meeting of the Forest Hill Home Owners was held on Tuesday, November 13, 2012, at the Forest Hill Church beginning at 7:20 p.m. There were 35 residents in attendance including the following Executive Committee members: Hester Lewellen, President; Sally Miller, Senior Vice-President; Jeff King, Vice-President of Standards; Joyce Holloway, Vice- President of Membership; Joyce Rothenberger, Secretary; and Tony Rucpic, Treasurer.

Absent were Executive Committee members: Christopher Hubbert, Chair of Board of Trustees; and Jeff Dross, Newsletter Editor.

Hester called the meeting to order and gave a welcome to all attendees. She then introduced the Executive Board members in attendance.

The minutes of the November 8, 2011, Annual Residents' meeting had been handed out along with an agenda and packet of information compiled by Sally Miller. **A motion to approve the minutes was made by Ted Howard and supported by Ron DeVito. CONSENSUS**

The financial report for the past 10 months was presented by Tony Rucpic, who is serving his 11th year as treasurer. Tony reported that we have had an income of \$17,780.06 so far this year and after expenses we have a net income of \$351.52. There were 75 members that contributed at least \$104 who were then eligible for local business coupons. We put in a new air conditioner at the Blue Cottage this year; we also obtained 2 previously used computers that were donated for use in the Cottage. An external financial review (audit) was successfully completed this year. Peter Schofield questioned the status of the Cottage's foundation. It was agreed that it needs to be looked into and estimates be obtained to stabilize it. **A motion to approve this report was made by Peter Schofield and supported by Ron DeVito. CONSENSUS**

Hester reported that M.L. Hejra, our past Cottage administrator, was not able to be here to accept a plaque and Forest Hill Dove for her services to us because she is a Captain in the Air Force Reserves and has been called to duty. We sent the plaque and dove to her and she expressed her appreciation to the Forest Hill community, especially the Standards Committees past and present.

The list of Trustees for 2013 was also distributed in the packet. **A motion to accept the list of trustees for 2013 was made by Sally Miller and supported by Dale Rothenberger. CONSENSUS**

Hester then introduced our guest speaker, Cheryl Stephens. Cheryl is a 20 year resident of Forest Hills, a member of the Cleveland Heights City Council, and the Director of Acquisition, Disposition & Development of the Cuyahoga Land Bank. She gave an over view of Land Banks accomplishments since it began in 2009 with \$1 million in federal funds for acquisition and demolition in select Cuyahoga municipalities.

In discussion after Cheryl's presentation it was decided that our Standards committee needed to work with Cheryl and her colleague for rehabilitation of some Forest Hill properties. The Land Bank can help us with a data search for F.H. demographics publicly available through the U.S. Census. Realtor Linda Johnston noted that a F.H. member bought and rehabbed the 1452 Westover home. It was gutted and re-done. There will be an open house there this Sunday, November 18, 2012, from 1:00-3:00. It will be posted on nextdoor.com. Hester then presented Cheryl with a Forest Hill dove for the wonderful presentation.

Standards Vice-President, Jeff King, reported that the committee has had good response to letters sent out regarding issues that needed to be corrected. We also heard from Standards Committee Team Leader, Ted Howard. Ted's report was not as positive. He said that the committee has looked at every property in Forest Hill and found that 90% of them look well taken care of. It is the other 10% that makes our properties look bad and hurt our home values. We need to get motivated to get ALL owners participating. This should be done by the Trustees of each street encouraging people to communicate and look after each other; give help when needed; or to contact the office for information and help. If you see a problem, give Standards the address. The Blue Cottage phone number is 216-932-8952; the email address is standards@fhho.org. Our web site at www.fhho.org will have a list of trustees. The actual URL of the Standards themselves is www.fhho.org/images/standards.pdf. Applications can be obtained by either phone or email.

Bolton Road received a community award recently from Cleveland Heights. Yeah!

Sally gave a short report on membership for 2012. There have been 20 homes sold this year. Hereford has had 3 homes sold and or rehabbed. She also reported that FHHO owns four properties. Besides the Blue Cottage, there is an empty lot on Mayfield (now on the market); the Burlington woods on the corner of Burlington and Mayfield (clean-up will be this Saturday); and the triangle at Northvale and Forest Hill Blvd. where we have received \$500 from a \$1500 grant issued to East Cleveland Parks Association from Home Depot to improve the land with landscaping. If you have the time, Sally and FHHO can use you as a volunteer. This is a great way to meet new people in the neighborhood!

Joyce Holloway, Vice-President of Membership for 2013, showcased her "mint" books and the beginnings of a new homeowner service guide along with a Cleveland Heights/East Cleveland brochure. These will be part of the new member packets. She is also starting to put together a cookbook with recipes from FHHO members. She has been having fun with these projects!

Hester thanked our "energizer bunny", Sally Miller, for all of her help this past year. Hester also thanked the Standards committee for getting organized and keeping the neighborhood looking

good. She noted that there are now 125 households signed up on the Forest Hill social network, nextdoor.com. When 100 were signed up they were all invited to a wine and cheese party at the Cottage. We now have Barle's Soup & Sandwich in the Rockefeller Center along with the Rockefeller Restaurant for nearby places to eat. Ken Tench is creating a data base of realtors in the area to make sure they receive information regarding Forest Hill. Sally then commended Hester's work this past year after taking over when Chris Hubbert resigned.

**A motion to adjourn was made at 9:08 p.m. by Dale Rothenberger and supported by all.
CONSENSUS**

/s/ Joyce Rothenberger _____
Joyce Rothenberger, Secretary