



Unapproved

FOREST HILL HOME OWNERS
ANNUAL RESIDENTS' MEETING
Thursday, November 10, 2016

The Annual Meeting of the Forest Hill Home Owners was held on Thursday, November 10, 2016, in the McGregor Community Room beginning at 7:16 p.m. There were about 107 residents in attendance including the following Executive Committee members: Pete Grebus, President; Tony Rupcic, Treasurer; Joyce Rothenberger, Secretary; Mary Rice, Membership V.P.; Dale Rothenberger, Co-Chair of Standards; Jan Milic, Chair of Cottage & Grounds Committee; Trina Pruffer, Chair of our National Regional Historical Preservation; Hester Lewellen, Trustee Coordinator; Clyde Henry, 2017 Senior Vice-President; and Sharon Leary, 2017 Secretary.

When Pete attempted to bring the meeting to order he was opposed by Mike Wells with a point of order. After several false starts the agenda was read by Pete and there was a vote of 71 ayes to 12 nays to have the guest speaker first on the agenda.

Pete introduced Sally Levine, architect and Case Western Reserve lecturer, who gave an informative speech on how we can "Age in Place". She feels that the majority of homes can be adapted to usability by using color and design inside and out.

Betsy Kaufman is on our local "Aging in Place" committee. She shared some possibilities available to us: the Community Center, transportation, social needs and safety. The committee is putting together a list of vendors such as housekeepers, roof repair, etc. This is a volunteer based program.

Pete reminded us that East Cleveland will have a mayor recall election on 12-6-16.

Minutes of the November 10, 2015, Annual Residents' meeting had been posted online. A motion to approve the minutes was made, seconded and passed by CONSENSUS.

The Financial report for the first 10 months of 2016 shows an income of \$22,554.74 and expenses of \$18,968.79. This gives us a net surplus of \$3,585.95, the largest surplus at 10 months in many years. **A motion to approve the financial report was made by Ted Howard and supported by Mary Rice. CONSENSUS**
FHHO has accomplished a lot in the past year:

- Forest Hill 5K, which resulted in a gift of \$2,500 to the East Cleveland Parks Association,
- Launch of state-of-the-art website (no cost to FHHO) fhho.org,
- Discussed the Medusa building with Motorcars, which resulted in improved landscaping,
- Forest Hill-wide census of property violations, with custom FHHO app,
- Organized grounds clean-up day for cottage and Burlington lot,
- Painted the Blue Cottage and repaired shake roof, removed ground hogs,
- Working (sometimes adversarially) with both EC and CH city halls to enforce standards,
 - Meeting with new CH building department to align on standards enforcement,
 - Legal dispute with EC to validate our right to enforce standards,
- Met with Land Bank to arrange CDC-like approach to developing tax-foreclosed properties in FH,
- Connected with University Circle, Inc. to support marketing of FH and connect to CDC for development purposes,
- Working with Boulevard Elementary to expand STEM outdoor classroom,
- Connected with Noble Neighbors and Boulevard Neighbors to expand lines of communication,
- Most successful Monster Garage Sale ever,
- Created the Blue Cottage Guild,
- Added new Chairs to focus on Aging-in-Place, Social activities, Outreach, and FH History,
- Created signage “package” for CH ABR, and discussing with CH lawyer for approval,
- Helped a member return to her home, clean up the property, and prepare for paint, removing a long-standing eyesore property from FH,
- Connected with Future Heights as partner-in-general, fiscal partner for specific grants/initiatives, and neighborhood mini-grants, AV equipment,
- Escalated torn up sidewalk at Eastwick & Newbury, repaired by Dominion,
- Worked with CH to remove non-operable cars, repair light poles, remove dead deer, maintain untended city property, and swim club exterior maintenance,
- Began citing home owners for non-approved structures, with majority resolved quickly,
- Pursuing homes with flagrant long-term violations with expectation taking a small number of home owners to court,
- Contacted bank-owned properties to advise as to standards requirements,
- Working with a resident through multiple grants to repair/restore a slate roof,
- Advocating on behalf of a resident to ensure her insurance company repairs her wood shake roof appropriately,
- Threw a donor party to thank FHHO donors for continued support.

Open discussion: Pete then led an open discussion on FHHO voting procedures. A few of the comments are as follows:

- Ted Howard wanted all to know that he owns the only duplex in Forest Hill.
- Les Jones would like all of FH to participate.
- Mike Reilly would like to re-build FH and have an open election where everyone gets a ballot.
- A question arose as to whether the Oakhill and Glynn homes have covenants, and do we want to amend our documents to include them. From his research Les feels they are included. Chris Hubbert said they were not a part of the Rockefeller land originally owned by John D. Rockefeller Jr. in 1925 for Forest Hill.
- Members should be notified 60 days in advance to vote on the list of Trustees.

- Trustee duties are basically to vote for the officers on the Executive Committee, deliver FHHO newsletters, and report violations to Standards.
- Mike Wells apologized for being rude at the beginning of the evening and suggested the vote for Trustees be put off until the Spring Trustee meeting so all might feel better about it all.
- Roz Peters thanked Pete for this open meeting.
- Fiona Reilly suggested we hold another open forum to focus solely on the role of Trustees.
- Members eligible to vote at the Annual Meeting is limited to homeowners and their spouse/significant other; no renters.

A MOTION was made by Chris Hubbert to defer the vote for Trustees to be held in early 2017 and was seconded and passed by CONSENSUS.

A MOTION to adjourn was made at 9:24 p.m. by Pete Grebus and supported by Dale Rothenberger. CONSENSUS

Joyce Rothenberger, Secretary