

## ACA General Meeting

June 25, 2015

Meeting Minutes: Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm

Members Present: Norman McDonald (P), Jimmy Hahn (1<sup>st</sup> VP), Katherine Bourne (T), Sharon Sanders (Sect), Bob Veitch, and Glenn Sweatman

Attending: 22 attendees at meeting

Guest Speaker: No guest speaker

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### General Business

- a. The minutes from the March 26, 2015 General Meeting was read by Sharon Sanders. A motion was made to accept the minutes, it was 2<sup>nd</sup>, all were in favor - none opposed, the motion was carried and accepted as read.
- b. The treasurer's report was presented and read by Katherine Bourne. There was \$28,864.78 in checking and \$7,624.51 in savings. 56% of assessments were paid for the year, with \$17,495 remaining owed from 351 properties. A motion was made to accept the treasurer's report, it was 2<sup>nd</sup>, all were in favor - none opposed, the motion was carried and accepted as read.

### Unfinished or Old Business

- a. Facebook Membership – The current policy for Facebook membership is residents of Archdale property owners in good standing, meaning their dues have been paid. Renters are not homeowners and should not have access because they are not members of the association. On June 30, 2015, those who are not members would be purged from the Facebook page. Norm asked that we think about that, and we will revisit this at the end of the meeting to see what the current attitudes may be.
- b. Storm Water Draining System – Prior to the meeting, Norm spoke with Councilman Bailey about this an ongoing project since April 7, 2014. It is a special funded project \$255,000 funded from county council for the remaining projects, Botany Bay Blvd., Botany Bay Court, Palmetto Buff, and Old Dominion that has not yet been attacked. We have a new public works director. There was no question in his mind that it was not being forgotten, and he was being held accountable. He said the county made a commitment to the repairs, so it has to be done. Councilman Bailey suggested that we invite him to our next general meeting. Someone at the meeting mentioned that there were a couple of surveyors down on Botany Bay Court.

- c. Cost of Speed Bumps – Norm spoke with county council and they said they would install speed bumps at the county’s expense if we get more than 50% of the people who live on that street to sign a petition requesting the speed bumps indicating that they are in favor of installation. Then within a week, Norman was told to cancel the need for a petition because of a new ordinance which took three readings to go through. The county would bill the HOA for speed bumps for \$740, and by paying the money, the implication is that everyone voted on it, so we don’t need petitions. Norm was supposed to have a copy of the new ordinance at the time of the meeting, but had not yet received it. It’s not a dead deal as one is desperately needed on Botany Bay Blvd.
- d. Sterling Forest Entry Lattice Repair – Sign was completed, but it needs a second coat of paint. We allocated \$350 for the project, but as we got into it we discovered a lot more rotted wood had to be replace. We were at the point where we spent \$500 and we still need another \$100 to finish the job. It took 3.5 gallons of paint @ \$30 a gallon, and \$40 for labor. Since we went over budget and still need more funds to finish the project, Norm made a motion to increase the allocated funds to be modified from \$350 to \$600. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup>, all were in favor, none opposed, the motion was carried an accepted.
- e. Knightsbridge Pond – No progress to report. The owner was busy with other projects and asked to speak with Norman later on this issue. It will remain under old business until it is resolved.
- f. Archdale Entrance Sign Repairs – \$2,000 was allocated. Jimmy Hahn has been leading the way on this project. Jimmy said we should have already had a delivery of the rocks however, the truck was delayed due to mechanical problems. They have picked up the rocks. They are going to pull out the old bushes as well as deliver the rocks. We are going with 2’x3’ rocks to be big enough to stop a vehicle from hitting the sign. Landscaping will be done after placement of the rocks. The rocks cost is 9 @ \$75 each and \$150 to pull up the bushes. He would not know the delivery fee until the rocks are delivered.
- g. Delinquent Accounts – It was approved by or Bi-Laws that we would retain an attorney to send letters to delinquent accounts. According to our Bi-Laws is says if you are delinquent on June 30, it goes to the lawyer collection. The lawyer that we were dealing with said he cannot do it because his practice had grown too much. Suggestions were made of residents in Archdale, who are lawyers, to fill the position. Norman ask that referrals be sent to him.

## **New Business**

- a. Facebook Access – We revisited the issue of Facebook to see if we should have a discussion to make any changes as to our stance on Facebook membership. We don’t let in teenagers, you have to be an adult, and should you request membership, use your own picture. Should we make changes or leave things as is? Someone at the meeting said she wished the renters could be on because they could help with crime watch. There were many scenarios posed as to how renters may be allowed access, but ultimately, it was left that we would leave Facebook access as it is - for Archdale property owners in good standing who have paid their dues.

- b. Traffic Enforcement – WE can rent Dorchester County police to patrol the neighborhood for patrolling and traffic enforcement at \$25/hr. They will be dedicated to the neighborhood during their time and they will use country equipment. They are off duty cops, and we pay Dorchester County Sheriff's Office, who in turn pay them. We are asking for ticket enforcement versus warnings being issued. A motion was made to spend \$450 for patrols, (for 6 hours, a month, for 3 months), the motion was 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2 opposed, the motion was carried and accepted.

### **Questions and/or Comments from the Floor**

Earlier during the meeting, there was a question from the floor about there being no minutes being posted from the December 2014 meeting on the website. Norm explained that it would not be posted yet because we don't post minutes from the meetings until they are read and approved at the following meeting.

Someone raised the issue of speed bumps being so wide that they can damage vehicle chassis going over them at high speeds like ER vehicles. Norm said he felt that with the county installing them, we can assume they will take that into consideration. Norman will bring a copy of the ordinance, and ask for money and decide where they should be placed, at the next meeting.

Someone said his account was delinquent because he never received the bill. The bills are not going to the correct homeowner address, but going somewhere else. Katharine explained that we are not being told when properties are sold. Norm explained that there are new rules whereas the closing attorney must disclose the HOA dues to the new owners.

The Crime Watch sign needs to be replaced as someone stole the old one. That is being taken care of.

Someone raised the issue of furniture being left at curb on Archdale Blvd. Norman explained the issue of tenants being evicted and explained the furniture is usually picked up within 3 days. If it's a homeowner, and there for a long time, Norm said to let him know and he would call code enforcement.

A motion was made to adjourn, it was 2nd. The meeting was adjourned at 8:19

Next General Meeting will be Thursday, June 25, 2015.

