

## **Hethwood Foundation** **Quarterly Board Meeting Minutes**

April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2014 @ 12 noon in the Huntsman Clubhouse

The following Hethwood Board members were present: Donna Gresh, Bruce Harper, Richard Hirsh, John Burke, Bill Sanders, Melinda Dunford, Alice Allen & David Hubble, Josh Sharitz and Carol Schafer-Powers were also present from the Hethwood Foundation as well as Bob Bowden (Stroubles Mill) and Scott Sink (Chowning Place & Hethwood Market).

### **I. Opening Remarks**

Donna opened the meeting & welcomed everyone @ 12:05 and thanked Scott Sink & Hethwood Market for providing lunch.

### **II. Public Comment**

Scott Sink owner of Hethwood Market addressed the Hethwood Board regarding an agreement/contract for use of the .49 acres between the Hethwood Market and tennis courts. It was discussed that Town of Blacksburg zoning administrator Andrew Warren requested that we apply for rezoning (4month process and cost of \$1050.) The land is zoned for open space planned residential and we might be opening ourselves up for complaints. Neither party really wants to do that because use would seemingly benefit both. Some uses would be Hethwood Market to have some raised beds for gardening, picnic tables there, birthday parties, pumpkin patch and other activities. Scott would install a split rail fence around the area. If either party wants to end the agreement he would have 60 days to remove fence and put area back to original shape. Josh and Scott will meet with Andrew Warren to discuss possibilities for lease, since this is not a permanent change. It was also asked who would be responsible for inappropriate use and insurance?

Bob Bowden expressed some concern about two wire fences and a neighbor's vegetable garden that might have exceeded the back plane of the yard.

It was expressed that a garden behind the back plane of the house, seems to be a reasonable definition for the back yard. Hethwood will look into the fences.

### **III. Stroubles Mill ACC Discussion**

Donna made a motion to go into closed session @ 12:27pm to discuss a Stroubles Mill ACC member issue. Melinda seconded the motion.

A motion was made by Richard to reopen the regular meeting and seconded by Bill at 12:56pm

The motion to remove an ACC member from the Stroubles Mill ACC was made by Bill, seconded by Melinda, and approved by all of the board members present.

**IV. Minutes of the Last Meeting**

Donna asked for a motion to approve the minutes as emailed from the January 24<sup>th</sup>, meeting. The motion was made to approve the minutes by Bill and seconded by Richard. All approved and the minutes were approved as emailed.

**V. Recreation Report**

Carol reviewed the recreation report. Yoga is still doing well with instructor Nicole Paglione. The Super Bowl party had over 50 people and Senior pizza & movie Great Gatsby was a big hit.

**VI. Old Business**

**A. Update on Heather Dr. Tree Project**

The area of interest is along Heather Dr. from Plymouth St. up to the 4-way stop, where it is planned for the aging pines to be replaced. We are looking for plants that will once again provide coverage and be hardy plants for the area. Some suggestions from Total Tree Care are Skip Laurels and American Arborvitae or something similar. Larger (8') trees are larger than budget so we are still trying to negotiate size & price. Josh will share info as it is obtained.

**B. Mission Hills ACC-Chair Resignation/Appointment of New Members**

Patty and Scott Rennekar have moved out of the area and resigned their respective positions on the Mission Hills ACC. Letters were sent out to Mission Hills owners to ask for interested persons. Leslie Bloom and Chris Vogt of Mission Hills have stepped up for the neighborhood and have volunteered to co-chair the ACC committee. Bill made a motion to appoint them to the ACC and it was seconded by Bruce.

**VII. New Business**

**A. Review & Approval of Feb. 2014 Financials**

Josh reviewed the financials and a motion was made by Bill to approve the February financials and seconded by Richard.

**B.** Josh explained the 2014 Reserve Study. It is a tool to plan for the future, but he feels that some of the cash recommendations are unrealistically high. He will begin (with input from the board members) to construct a 10 year plan. Board members please review and send Josh your thoughts.

**C. Solarize Blacksburg**

The Town of Blacksburg (Carol Davis) & Community Housing Partners are trying to make solar energy alternatives more affordable through bulk purchase and various tax credits. It was discussed that we already have an ACC application form specifically for alternative energy that should be used by owners to apply for ACC approval. This is a good time to determine what is acceptable to relay to the ACC. According to our attorney Mr. Creasy, we can limit size, and some location

elements. Panels may not cause a hazard to another property. We already have an application pending for solar panels to be located on the front of the roof of the home. Do we want to allow for panels on front of home and what angles? Solarize Blacksburg can measure solar levels and they have determined that panels parallel to the roof provide good exposure in this area. We can request energy measure report for someone wanting panels on the front of the house or some place that ACC and Hethwood feel is unacceptable.

We should consider the possibility that people will take down trees for better exposure. We really can't prohibit tree removal...seems counter productive, but we can *ask* if any trees are cut down that a new (perhaps smaller) tree be planted. We discussed limiting solar panels to the back roof area if possible, parallel to the roof and not in the yard.

Hethwood will put guidelines together and give to ACC. If ACC approves something that is not acceptable Hethwood can always deny.

#### **D. Rain Barrels**

Should we allow? We don't disallow. Is this considered temporary like potted plants...or part of the landscaping? Josh said most rain barrels we've seen have been colors to blend. The Board left the issue stating that it would be treated as landscaping, and if it was noted that an area was not being maintained that it would be addressed with the homeowner.

### **VIII. Adjournment**

Donna made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Bruce seconded it. The meeting was adjourned at 1:40pm.