Oakbridge Community Services Association Minutes • Board Meeting • 2020 Oct. 21

1. Call to Order and Quorum Count

Meeting called to order via Zoom at 7:08 PM by President Darwin.

7 Board members on line: Mark Allen, Kraig Bodie (Vice-President), Abigail Darwin (President), Brent Denton, Brian Shah, Laura Schweitzer (Treasurer), and Jordan Speicher; also on line: Richard S. Russell (Secretary)

2. Adoption of the Agenda

Without objection, accepted as distributed.

3A. Introductions of Members and Guests

Guests: Ron Hay, Kat Ho, Cassie and Mark Retzlaff, Brian Strobel, Christine Wooddell

3B. Remarks by Guests

Brian Strobel expressed a desire to permit fences (which the Architectural Control Rules currently prohibit) as a safety matter for pets and children. His experience as a veterinarian is that invisible fences are not as effective as advertised.

Chris Wooddell also wants to have a small fence around her garden area. She was advised to file a formal request with the ARB.

4A. President's Report

none

4B. Treasurer's Report for September

Deposits: none.

<u>Expenses</u>: Check #1194 for \$685.75 paid on 5th to Lawn Care Plus; #1195 for \$552.94 on 6th to city treasurer for curb-and-gutter work;

#1196 for \$178.78 on 18th to city treasurer for water/sewer bill. Cash on hand at end of month: \$18,134.95.

4C. Secretary's Report

(1) Minutes of virtual Board meeting of Sep. 16 were distributed; they should mention we actually have 145 houses; as revised, approved without objection.

(2) NextDoor update: Still at 125 households, 84% of the 148 NextDoor **thinks** we have. NextDoor has stopped offering to send postcards to addresses that haven't signed up, but we can tell by looking at the map who they are if we want to hand-deliver invitations to them.

NextDoor has a Halloween "treat map" that people can use to indicate that they've got cool jack-o-lanterns, spooky decorations, or costumed "wave parades", but **not** places where they're handing out goodies for kids; so far it has no entries.

(3) Status of 2020 Oakbridge Directory: No progress to report.

4D. Architectural Review Board Report

(1) Action on applications, appeals, and complaints: none.

4E. Social Committee Updates

Leaf raking of common areas coming up on Sunday, Oct. 25, at 10 AM. Rain date is 2 weeks later on Sunday, Nov. 8, also at 10:00.

4F. Webmaster Report

Everything is up to date, including newly posted Board candidacy documents.

5A. Proposed Revisions to Architectural Control Rules (ACR)

Brian moved, Kraig seconded, to approve the appended Version 9.6 of the revision to the Architectural Control Rules, as unanimously recommended by the Architectural Review Board.

Brent moved, Abigail seconded, to amend B3.1(b) to replace

(b) A utility or storage shed of no more than one hundred (100) square feet in area and eight (8) feet in height is permitted in back yards only. It must be at least ten (10) feet from any lot line and may house inanimate objects only.

with

(b) A utility or storage shed of no more than one hundred (100) square feet in area and eight (8) feet in height is permitted in back yards only. It may house inanimate objects only.

Amendment adopted without objection.

Main motion as amended adopted unanimously.

5B. Fall Raking

Agreed to announce leaf raking of common areas on Sunday, Oct. 25, at 10 AM. Rain date is 2 weeks thereafter on Sunday, Nov. 8, also at 10 AM.

5C. 2021 Budget Preparation

It was suggested that perhaps we might have a Finance Committee to do preliminary legwork on getting a draft budget. Laura has been preparing one using the same procedures as last year. We still haven't received the bills for the major street and sidewalk work. The city has until Oct. 31 to send us the bill. Richard will follow up with the city on this. The Lawn Care Plus contract was renegotiated last year, and it was for two years (2020-2022). Laura is proposing to use a rounded average of this year + 2% for next year. Same with city water/sewer bills.

We still have money in reserve for tree removal and stump grinding.

Laura will send out her recommended budget prior to the November meeting.

5D. How To Handle Halloween

General attitude was that people who are willing to hand out treats should just leave their lights on. Jordan said he could publish the county's safety recommendations on our website; no objections.

5E. Holiday Party

Abigail had suggested we might do a holiday party over Zoom but doesn't have the time to set it up herself. Does anyone else want to do it? No response.

5F. Good Neighbor Program

Abigail asked whether anyone would like to line up a representative from the Madison Police Department to talk about this. Brian said he'd approach the West Precinct captain about speaking at our annual meeting.

5G. Next Board Meeting

Abigail suggested the next Board meeting be via Zoom on Wed. Nov. 18 at 7 PM. Adopted without objection.

5E. Other Business

none

6. Announcements

(1) Departures. Brian announced that he'd be stepping down as chair of the ARB when his current term expires. He still wants to be an ARB member, however, and is deciding whether he also wants to run for re-election as a Director.

Kraig announced that he wouldn't be running for re-election to the Board when his current term expires. He still wants to be an ARB member, however.

(2) Candidacies. Richard noted that the Board seats currently held by Brent, Kraig, Brian, and Jordan will be open at the annual meeting in January. If Board members know of anyone who'd be interested in serving, please encourage them to check out the candidacy forms on our website.

(3) Fences. Brian Strobel said he'd like to run for the Board with the avowed intent of making us all appreciate fences.

7. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted, *Richard S. Russell*, Secretary