



Rustic Hills Improvement Association

DRAFT MINUTES of Board of Directors Meeting

May 5, 2020 at 7:00 pm

Held electronically via Zoom

Due to Colorado Public Health Order on COVID-19

Board Members Participating:

Doug Eberhart	Eric Younger	Tracy Dunson
Tamie Farris	Brad Steininger	Roy Thompson*
Jamie Wilson	Stacy Sahlstrom	Jim Kelly
Roy Thompson*	Bev Smith**	John Dolve**

*Board Member Thompson attempted to participate but reported having technical difficulties trying to get the Zoom software to work.

** Committee Chairs are Board members, per the RHIA Bylaws

Other Participants:

Kris Sahlstrom	Chaim Goldman	Josie Watters
Ron Smith	Amy Rickman	Alvin Kuosman
Fred Dunson		

This meeting was conducted virtually on the Zoom Conferencing Platform. We were unable to meet in person under Colorado's "Safer At Home" Public Health Order due the COVID-19 virus global pandemic.

- 1 Call to Order and Introductions:** President Doug Eberhart asked board members attending online to introduce themselves. Others attending were asked to send an email to rusticboard2018@gmail.com to announce their participation. The meeting was hosted by RHIA Secretary Tamie Farris.
- 2 Minutes of Prior Meeting:** President Doug Eberhart asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the March 10, 2020 Board meeting, prepared by Secretary Tamie Farris, and there were none. Jim Kelly moved for approval of the minutes. This motion was seconded by Stacy Sahlstrom and passed unanimously.
- 3 Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Tracy Dunson reported that there was a total of approximately \$6000 in the three RHIA accounts at Ent Federal Credit Union. The new neighbors at 1907 Payton Anthony Seran and Juliette Frederick, have not yet moved in but have already sent in their dues.

A dues payment postmarked last October was received in April from Randy and Missy Cloud due to a Postal Service delivery error. A dues check for \$25 dated in October but postmarked in April was returned to Patrick Higgins with a note explaining that the dues for the 2020-2021 year are now \$50. The board needs to mail out a dues request to those who have not yet paid.

4 May Annual Meeting Postponement: Due to the public health order in Colorado, no public gatherings of more than ten people can be held, at least through May 26th, making it necessary find another option for the Annual May Meeting mandated by the RHIA bylaws. In the past, many RHIA members have paid their dues at the Annual Meeting. Several options were discussed:

- a. Attempt to hold the meeting in May, electronically, via ZOOM.
- b. Postpone the meeting indefinitely, to a date to be determined later.
- c. Set a distant date and hope that group meetings will be allowed by that time.

A motion was made by Stacy Sahlstrom and seconded by Eric Younger to choose option B. The motion passed unanimously.

A letter will be drafted by President Doug Eberhart and mailed to all property owners detailing option B and asking for dues checks to be mailed in for those who had not already paid.

5 Annual Meeting Business Requirements: The RHIA Bylaws call for several actions to occur at the annual meeting:

- a. Set dues for the next fiscal year (begins May 1st, 2021)
- b. RHIA Board to propose a budget for the approval by the membership
- c. Election of Officers – current terms expire on May 31st

The Board discussed options for dealing with these topics without being able to hold an annual meeting in May.

Since the new dues amount will not go into effect until May 1 of next year, there is plenty of time to address this issue in the next 11 months.

Since a budget was approved in May 2019 by the RHIA membership, it was suggested that that approved budget be used on a provisional basis (i.e. until changed by the RHIA membership) for the new fiscal year that has just begun. It was noted that the largest budget item is the summer picnic and it is unclear at this time as to whether or not it will be possible or wise to hold that event this year.

Election of officers is a tricky matter as the Nominating Committee Chairman has been unsuccessful in recruiting volunteers for his committee, and because the bylaws state that nominations can be made at the annual meeting. A mail election would not offer the flexibility of the regular annual meeting nominating process. Doug Eberhart asked if all current Board members would be willing to continue to serve in their positions on a provisional basis until a new election can be held. All Board members agreed to serve.

6 a Audit Committee: Stacy Sahlstrom reported that the committee met on April 25th, 2020 attended by John Dolve, Tom Hartig, Harry Keefe, Janice McLain, and Jamie Wilson. Jamie Wilson presented the information on the Trash Coalition. It has a balance of approximately \$22,000 at Ent Federal Credit Union. Under contract to RHIA, Janice McLain receives \$350 a month to oversee Waste Connections billing. The balance sheet should reflect the prepaid accounts and Jamie Wilson stated that that was being worked out. Some people habitually pay late and the late fee should be enforced.

RHIA audit findings were compiled from bank statements sent in by Treasurer Tracy Dunson from the Ent account. There were 129 dues checks received in 2019.

Reportedly, Janice McLain has requested more money in order to provide the prepaid account information the Audit Committee requested. Treasurer Tracy Dunson, who is an accountant, felt that adding the prepaid accounts is not a lot of work and we should not have to pay Janice more for the providing this information.

The board expressed willingness to find an alternative vendor if accounting services if Janice McLain (Red Oak Associates, LLC) is unable or unwilling to provide requested Waste Connections billing administration at the agreed upon rate. (See addendums 1 & 2)

- b Nominating Committee:** Committee Chair Jim Kelly stated he had been unable to find anyone to serve on the committee with him but Bill Brown has volunteered to help. When we are able to schedule an Annual meeting we will send an email out asking for volunteers to serve on the committee or serve on the board.
- c Architectural & Protective Covenants Protection:** (Committee Chair Eric Younger) There was a request for an additional outbuilding at a Constitution Avenue property that already has several outbuildings. The property owner was advised that this request would need a variance from the city. The board does not support the granting of variances.

Also, an inquiry was made about radon mitigation, and the property owner was advised that this would not require approval from the architecture committee.

- d Bridle Path and Trails:** John Dolve-said he had no new information or issues to report.
 - e Hospitality Committee:** Bev Smith said the JULIET group has been having Zoom chats on Mondays and had about 10 people for online bingo. The Hospitality Committee meets on Fridays. They currently have two new neighbor households they will visit when conditions permit.
 - f Rustic Hills Trash Coalition (Jamie Wilson):** Discussion listed in section (a) under the audit report.
- 7 Coyote Discussion:** At least two coyotes have been reported in the neighborhood since February. In the RHIA newsletter, residents have been advised to safeguard their pets and have been asked to report any incidents with coyotes, but no incidents have been reported.

Trapping and removing one coyote would costs at least \$400 and the animal would be euthanized. In the past, there was a RHIA Coyote Control Fund but it was later rolled into the Neighbor Up Fund. No expenditure for coyote trapping was included in the FY 2019-2020 budget, and no funding is included in the 2020-2021 provisional budget.

Doug Eberhart sent out articles on coyote behavior and control from Colorado Parks and Wildlife and from the National Humane Society. These articles suggest that coyotes are an established part of urban life, especially in western cities, and that if you remove them more will move in to take their place. The articles suggested that coyote attacks on humans are extremely rare, but attacks on household pets are quite common.

It was agreed that RHIA is not responsible (nor liable) for coyote control but should continue to monitor the situation, report sightings and send out information to property owners.

8 Other Matters

a The alleged Flag Pole Thief has a court appointment on May 12th at 9:00am which will probably be postponed due to the coronavirus restrictions.

b Road Paving – Doug Eberhart stated that no money had been identified for more paving in Rustic Hills Acres and, with tax revenue down due to the pandemic, future paving is likely to be delayed. Doug will contact Tim Roberts, the City Traffic Engineer, about the possibility of installing speed bumps, stop signs on our newly paved areas. There is concern for increased speed on the roads and danger to humans and animals while walking. The 6-foot walking paths that were supposed to be installed along each paved area had not been done. However, the contractor has stated that they will be cutting back the asphalt to install the walking paths.

c Food Drive - Tamie Farris suggested that the board hold a food drive in our neighborhood. It was decided to have the drive on Saturday, May 30th. Property owners will be sent a notice asking them to drop off their donations between 10:00am and noon at the Steininger house on Brady road or leave the donation by their mail box by 10:00 am and a board member will pick it up.

d Neighborhood Skills Wanted/Skills Offered List - Chaim Goldman, Neighborhood Watch Chairman, has created a survey to determine the skills, and business held by property owners and services need by neighbors in RHA to share with all. Jamie Wilson made the motion that we go forward with sending the survey by e-mail and it was seconded by Jim Kelly and passed.

9 Upcoming Events

a City Chipping Program is still scheduled for August 10th, 2020 and Neighborhood Clean a day is still on for July 18th. Eric Younger is willing to donate a trailer to use for cleanup day.

b The annual picnic will be discussed at the next meeting when we might know more about what types of gathering will be allowed.

10 Date of Next Board Meeting – Tuesday, July 14th (probably electronic via Zoom) at 7:00pm