

Sky Lake - Highland Lakes Area Homeowners Association
Board Meeting Minutes
January 15, 2020
Highland Oaks Park Recreation Building

President Rick Schermer called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm. Board members in attendance were: Mort Braverman, Marc Frankel, Marc Hurwitz, Freyda Hyman, Jacky Needelman, David Promoff, Stephanie Ruiz, Brenda Auerbach, Erica Chao, Sharon Curtis, Howard Fine, Madeline Langbaum, Leigh Needelman, Cathy Pieters, Ahuva Stadlander, and Bob Weisblum. Rick introduced the potential new Board members: Alexandra Alazrachi, Marcela Bogomolni, Alex Ciklik, Philip Holcman, Norman Pieters, and Aaron Rubin. Attending as guests were Russ Rywell, Isaac Salver and Jordan Heller. Rick thanked everyone for attending.

Minutes: A motion was made by Brenda, seconded by Bob, to accept the minutes of the November 13, 2019 meeting. The motion was passed.

School Board Candidates: Rick introduced 3 candidates for the School Board seat that will be available with the retirement of Dr. Martin Karp. Russ Rywell, Isaac Salver and Marcela Bogomolni each spoke briefly about their background and plans if elected. The HOA is planning to host a Candidate Forum so that our area residents can hear what the candidates have to say.

Treasurer's Report: David reported that as of the Dec. 31 bank statement we have \$24,609.80. Dues checks and deposits from Pay Pal will increase this amount. There are also some outstanding invoices from the newsletter.

Government Relations: Bob reported that the proposal to add 40 houses at Presidential was defeated. The request for speed humps in Sky Lake was rejected. He is waiting for a copy of the report as to why they were rejected. Efforts to find a traffic engineer to fight the overpass have not succeeded. He suggests we start a petition to show the community's objection to the current design.

Membership: Freyda noted that we already have 55 paid memberships for 2020, with 94 of the 2019 members yet to renew. She reminded the group that everyone on the slate for the 2020 Board must pay their dues on or before the day of the election.

Food Truck Event: Cathy thanked everyone who worked on making the last event such a success. Our next event is scheduled for March 15 and she is in need of help finding sponsors. She also mentioned that the Toy Drive was a huge success thanks to everyone's generosity. We were able to fill an entire truck sent by the MDPD.

Infrastructure/Traffic/Beautification: Rick gave Bill Clayton's report. Our request to the Super Bowl Committee for painting of the Ives Dairy Road wall was turned down. This issue has escalated as there is now mold and repairs are needed in addition to cleaning and painting. We are hoping that by working through Code Enforcement, the owners involved can be forced to repair and clean their section of the wall. Plans are going forward for more development along West Dixie Highway without any planned road improvement. Ahuva noted that the additional traffic will also raise air quality concerns.

Parks: Mark F. spoke of the fish kill caused by the cold weather snap. The County wanted to hold the HOA responsible for the cost of cleanup but the crocs and vultures took care of it. The committee is trying to get a "manatee gate" installed to reduce the presence of crocs in the area. They are working on another bird walk for late March and possibly another movie night in late Feb.

Security: Rick gave Eitan Sasson's report. There are several MDPD cars in the parking lot because there have been reports of drug use in the park and extra details were added. We will see added police for the various Super Bowl activities that are being planned. There will probably also be more AirBnB and homeless activity. Rick explained the issue that came up over our security guards needing military background. This requirement has been struck from the contracts.

Newsletter: Stephanie reported that we bought a new multi-use address list. The newsletter will be at the Post Office on Friday to begin mailing. We have 700-800 extra copies for events and meetings. Bob suggested posting on Next Door that the newsletters are available so that the condo residents can request them. About \$5,000 worth of ads were sold and our total cost was about \$4,000. The mailed version will be black/white but a color version will be available online.

Communications: Erica suggested that we make our website secure for about \$40. She has updated our email system. She is exploring an auto-renew feature if someone pays dues online.

Nominating Committee: Bob noted that we have 7 new proposed Board members on the slate for 2020. He is looking forward to them bringing fresh ideas. This will bring us to 27 people on the Board. Rick is open to adding additional people during the year if anyone is interested.

Education: Sharon met with the head of the school crossing guards and both agree that the new traffic patterns are working better than the old ones.

New Business: Rick is working on the agenda for the GMM. Commissioner Sally Heyman will handle the swearing in of the new Board. There will be representatives from the various government officials. He is working on the School Board Candidate Forum to be held at HOM. We need to obtain an insurance certification and pay a rental fee. He is exploring dates in March to make sure there are no conflicts. Sharon agreed to chair the effort.

Upcoming Meetings: GMM = Jan 29; Board = Feb 12, March 4; Food Trucks = March 15

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Submitted by Freyda Hyman.