

REHOBOTH BEACH HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION  
BOARD MEETING  
Saturday, August 20, 2005

Board members present: Hoyte Decker, Neil Frock, Greg Gause, Fritz Hessemer, Trixie Miller, Roger Pool, Tim Spies, and Libby Stiff

Board members absent: Elaine Boyle, Andy Dorosky, and Linda Kauffman

Others present: Sonie Decker, Alan Henney, Marcia Maldeis, City Commissioner Kathy McGuinness, Nancy Martin, Judy Mellen, Margaret Neal, and Patty Brown.

The meeting was called to order at 8:06AM.

**Minutes**---The minutes of the June and July 2005 meetings, copies of which had been distributed prior to the meeting, were reviewed and unanimously approved.

**Treasurer's Report**---Mr. Decker reported that the audit for calendar year 2004 had been completed and there were no exceptions. He then presented recommendations of the Budget Committee, the members of which are Ms. Mellen, Mr. Hessemer, Mr. Salin and Mr. Decker, for 2006. The 2006 budget was approved unanimously and will be presented at the October 15 General Membership meeting. As part of the budget review, Mr. Hessemer volunteered to contact All Saints' Episcopal Church and ask about the availability of the parish hall for future meetings.

**Committee Reports**

**Communications Committee**---Mr. Decker stated that the Communications Committee, the members of which are Mark Aguirre, John Roehmer and Mr. Decker, has prepared a schedule for the production of the Newsletter. Ms. Miller agreed to continue to edit board meeting minutes for the Newsletter after her term as director expires. Mr. Decker stated that he continues to get positive feedback about the website and asked for help constructing it.

**Membership Committee**---Ms. Stiff and Mr. Decker asked Ms. Maldeis for copies of the membership list.

**Bylaws Committee**---It was motioned, seconded and unanimously approved to retain the current prohibition against proxy voting because members will have the right to vote by absentee ballot.

**Nominations and Elections**---Mr. Frock reported that Mr. Hessemer, Margaret Neal, and Mark Aguirre will run for the board at the annual election. He noted that if Mr. Dorosky resigns there will be three open seats that may be filled by appointment. Mr. Gause, Mr. Frock, Ms. Miller and Mr. Spies will not seek re-election. It was agreed to put a notice in the Newsletter asking for appointees.

**Board of Adjustments**---Ms. Stiff discussed the July meeting.

**Planning Commission**---Mr. Spies discussed the August meeting.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**Meet the Candidates Forum**---There was a discussion of the July 2005 Meet the Candidates Forum. Ms. Stiff thanked Mr. Frock and Mr. Mills for a well-run meeting.

Ms. Stiff stated that the RBHA needs to try to bridge the divide between the homeowners and the business community and proposed a series of roundtable discussions. Ms McGuiness suggested that Ms. Stiff talk to Fay Jacobs, ED of Main Street, and it was agreed to ask Ms. Jacobs to a board meeting. Ms. McGuiness also stated that the Chamber of Commerce has a Downtown Advisory Committee. Ms. Stiff asked that a board member chair a new RBHA committee to help resolve these issues.

It was agreed to discuss the matter again at the next board meeting and at the October General Membership meeting.

Ms. Miller suggested that the RBHA mission as set forth in the bylaws be reviewed vis-à-vis the business community before a committee is created.

**Thank You Coffee**---Ms. Stiff will organize the event, which will be held the fourth week of September.

**Role in Sept. 10 Referendum on FAR Reduction**---It was agreed to place an ad in the newspaper showing a sample ballot and briefly describing the issues.

**Character of Rehoboth Beach**---It was agreed to postpone the discussion until the September meeting.

**School Property**---Mr. Frock reported that it will be at least three years before anything happens to the property; and that anything on the footprint of the building and the parking lot is likely to be developed, the rest of the land to remain as green space.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Tree Ordinance**---City Commissioner Kathy McGuiness presented a draft copy a proposed ordinance from the Park and Shade Tree Committee. Describing the process, she said ordinances from other towns had been reviewed and consultant for the Comprehensive Development Plan Kyle Gunderson of URS had made suggestions.

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Asking for participation on the committee from residents, Ms. McGuinness stated the next three meetings will be on Aug. 25, Sept. 13 and Sept. 27.

**FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER**

Mr. Hessemer reported that Chevy Chase MD, faced with the demolition of small house and their replacement with McMansions, has placed a six-month moratorium on new building.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:20.

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Timothy C. Spies, Recording Secretary