

Minutes of the OHHA Board Meeting of May 19, 2003

Board Members Present: Diane Ballou, David DeLeonardo, George Dimic, Nancy Harrison, Joy Rowan, Doug Sprague

Absent: Chris Powell

Others Present: Vicki DeLeonardo, Becky Ridgeway, and Robert Ridgeway

Check In: At Doug's suggestion, the meeting opened with an exchange of recent pleasant events, getting us off to a good start.

Approval of agenda: The agenda was approved with a few additions, as shown below.

Approval of the Minutes of the OHHA Board Meetings of December 9, 2002; March 3, 2003; and April 7, 2003: One misspelled name per set was corrected. The corrected minutes were then approved unanimously. We're finally caught up.

Treasurer's Report: The accounts have still not been transferred, so there was no report. David promised to take the initiative on getting the transfer completed.

OLD BUSINESS

Letter from Member/Dimic Fence Variance: George Dimic participated in the preliminary discussion as would any other contractor, describing the goals and history of his fence. After complaints, he polled 25 of the nearby neighbors and requested a height variance from the City. Doug re-polled 18 of the nearby neighbors. Neither poll found significant opposition to the fence, with these exceptions: the neighbors wanted no parking, did not want the fence to set any precedents that would affect future planning, and there were some safety concerns about obstructions to visibility as one drives around the curve.

The discussion then turned to decision-making. George recused himself from that discussion, remaining silent during that portion of the meeting. The remaining members then reviewed written proposals, and voted unanimously to decide whether to support the request for variance with contingencies, as suggested in one proposal, or to raise concerns and express no opinion about the variance, as suggested in the other proposal.

Next, it was M/S/P on a vote of 4/1 to support the request for variance with contingencies.

Next, the group went over that proposal in detail and made numerous corrections. The contingencies were: (1) Safety: The City will address the issue of safety at the Dimic corner. (2) Height precedent: If the variance is granted, the City not treat it as a precedent for higher fences in the neighborhood. (3) Curbing: The City recognizes that the curb and street drainage that Mr. Dimic has installed may not be regarded as a final solution for curb and street drainage. Each of these was expanded in the letter.

Doug agreed to make the changes, send it to Nancy for any corrections, and send it.

Streets Committee Report: There wasn't enough time for a full report. Joy reported

that 1) Some patching was done immediately after the Streets Committee met with City manager Jesus Armas, but due to continuing drainage problems, much of that has already begun to break down; 2) Mr. Armas was able to allocate \$50,000 in the '03-'04 City budget to fund a consultant for the pre-preliminary engineering report on our streets. The City Council will vote on adopting the budget in early June and Mr. Armas is confident that this line item will be approved.

At the present time, there is no scheduled meeting of the Streets Committee. Various Streets Committee members continue working on smaller tasks and information gathering. Some questions were raised about whether it might be better to simply spend the \$50K on fixing immediate problems on Tribune. Joy responded that the City manager was generous in helping us work toward an overall streets solution by creating this line item in the City budget. OHHA does not have the authority to change the purpose or use of how funds are allocated in the City budget.

Because we were running out of time, the remaining Old Business items were skipped:

Neighborhood Alert report

Request for comment on Parkside construction

Neighborhood heros

Go over notes from March 3 meeting to see what other old business might need to be resurrected.

NEW BUSINESS

Shabby, dangerous house on Parkside: Robert and Becky Ridgeway described a house in a dangerous state of disrepair which is near their home. They have spoken with the owner, and were unable to learn his plans. They want to know what he plans to do, and when. It was M/S that OHHA would call the City. This was amended on a vote of 3/2 that OHHA would contact the owner before calling the City, and call the City only if no satisfactory response were forthcoming. The final motion passed, 4/1. David agreed to contact the owner and ask if he is getting construction permits, and what the schedule is.

The other item of New Business was also skipped:

Gourmet club? Bridge club?

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held on June 9, at 7:30 p.m., at the home of Doug Sprague, 26285 Parkside.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Harrison