



# FOREST HILL HOME OWNERS INC.

May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Virtual meeting

Attending: Gretchen Mettler, Ronald Ramsey, Jacqueline Kelly, Beryl Tishkoff, Sam Kohn, Mark Madland, Tom Winston, and Lee Barbee.

Excused: Bob Charlick, Chris Hubbert

Gretchen called the meeting to order at 7:05.

There was one correction to the previous minutes regarding attendance. The April minutes were approved as submitted.

## **Treasurers report**

Tony reported that FHHO was doing fairly well. He reported total revenues of \$7194.96, 47% more than last year at this time. FHHO's fixed expenses are just north of \$11,000, with landscaping being handled by dedicated residents, that too will help reduce costs/expenses FHHO should expect this year.

Tony optimistically stated that FHHO is on pace to raise an additional \$4,512 to break even for 2021 and that there have been 71 individual donations so far.

Regarding the damage at the Blue Cottage, Vern and Ellsworth Hann, Inc met with FHHO's insurance adjuster to discuss the repairs needed for restoring heat in the Blue Cottage. Tony made detailed claims for the full damage and is working on getting as full a settlement arranged as soon as possible. The Board then considered what ways the Blue Cottage's efficiency and cost could be reduced via these repairs, which they will consider further in the future after hearing from HVAC experts. Tony invited Mark Madland to participate in the planning.

## **Marketing and Communications**

Following Tom's suggestion from last meeting, Ann sought pricing for FHHO yard signs to more prominently show support for FHHO donors and supporters. The quote Ann received was \$12 a sign with an order of 100. The Board discussed what messaging could be included on those signs to communicate what FHHO is all about and why it matters. The Board spent some time considering the best design of the signs as well.

After agreeing on a preliminary design of the sign, Mark moved that Ann pursue buying 100 signs at \$12 each to be given to donors. Seconded by Ron. The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Avidly, Gretchen called dibs on the first sign.

### **Bylaws Committee**

The statement below was submitted by Chris on behalf of the Bylaws Committee:

As I previously indicated, I reached out to several non-trustee residents to obtain feedback on the preliminary draft bylaw revisions. As a reminder, this draft addresses membership criteria, member meetings and voting. I received one response and sent a reminder email this last Sunday. I expect at least one more set of comments. I will wait until mid-month and then provide the committee with any feedback I have received. Shortly after that I would expect to provide a draft to the full board for review and comment.

I have also begun the process of reviewing the next provision of the bylaws, which addresses the board of trustees, by providing high level questions to the committee members concerning the structure of the board to serve as a guide for drafting proposed revisions.

### **Fundraising Committee**

Beryl thanked Mark for suggesting she sell T-shirts at the litter clean-up event. Beryl happily reported that 4 were sold at the event, and more have been purchased following the most recent newsletter, moving the T-shirt fundraising effort from the red to the black.

Gretchen reported that Latrelle Winston and the Events Committee planned to do a plant sale on the Blue Cottage lawn, which would be another opportunity to fund raise and sell FHHO merchandise.

### **Other business**

Sam reported the RJE team met to discuss ways to hear from residents who feel they had been treated unfairly, which could take the form of a grievance committee. Lee noted how another community organization in the area officially recognized unfair treatment and that made a substantial impact for the affected individual and community reputation of the organization. The committee will meet to come to a consensus on whether to implement a grievance process for FHHO, and how best it might be designed.

Esteemed event planner Latrelle Winston reported on the Events and Social Committee's idea for a plant sale/exchange. She stated the purpose of the event is to get residents excited about their yards again by exchanging or selling plants with neighbors. The suggestion is to hold an event in mid-June to enjoy perennials and so that herbs can be planted. The proposed event will take place from 10a-2p on June 19<sup>th</sup>. They are planning to ask Lois Rose, a Master Gardener to be at the event for anyone needing advice regarding the care of plants in their own garden, and information flyers will be available for gardeners. Residents will be permitted to sell plants, if they so choose. The event will be publicized via Nextdoor and through Evites, the FHHO web site and signs in the Blue Cottage lawn.

Latrelle continued by requesting \$40-75 for the yard signs to advertise the event ahead of time. The committee concluded that Office Max probably has the best price.

The Board reacted positively to the event and discussed of various revenue models for fund raising.

Sam moved to authorize no more than \$100 to cover the sign expenses. Seconded by Beryl. The motion was passed unanimously.

Gretchen proposed Saturday May 22<sup>nd</sup> for Burlington lot clean up which would include some trash pick-up, weed whacking, pulling scrib trees too close to the fence line, mowing the tree lawn, mulching, and testing of fence posts. Jackie Kelly offered to work on Friday May 21 to pick up trash.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 9, 2021 by Zoom.

Meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

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Sam Kohn, Secretary