



FOREST HILL HOME OWNERS INC.

Minutes of Board of Trustees Meeting

Date: June 8, 2023, 7 pm

Forest Hill, Presbyterian.

President Aaron Haynes called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. Ten trustees were present; one attended by phone. Present: Mary Rice, Sarah Fuller, Lisa Henry, Jim Havach, Donna Kolb, Fran Mentch, Jan Milic, Dru Robertson, Tony Rucpic, Brad Toth. Chris Hubbert attended by phone. Howard Maier also attended.

Minutes from the June meeting were corrected and approved.

New Business.

- 1. Blue Cottage sidewalk.** A new gas line was put in along Lee Rd and the Blue Cottage sandstone sidewalk blocks were removed and replaced with concrete. Tony spoke with the contractor representative, Vedo. Before any work was started Vedo told Tony he was going to bring over a form for him to sign explaining what work was to be done and what would be done with the sandstone pieces, but never did so. Tony explained we wanted the sandstone to be put back. As that did not happen, Tony talked with Vedo, who then had two pieces of sandstone replaced. Tony requested that all sandstone that was removed be put back. Vedo claims all the other pieces were broken and that there were not many other pieces. He states he has a video of the sidewalk before the gas line came through. No one has seen the video. Jim and Chris plan to follow-up regarding the sandstone that was removed.
- 2. Sidewalks.** Howard Maier reported on a project he has been working on regarding sidewalk repair in Cleveland Heights. He has talked to city council about implementing a citywide plan. In Lyndhurst the city has the sidewalk repaired and then bills the homeowner. In Shaker Heights the contractor provides an estimate and the home owner can proceed with that contractor if they want to. Howard asked if FHHO was interested in the idea of working with contractors to see if they would provide the repairs at a reduced cost since the bidding and construction will be on a larger scale and homes will be in the same area. Board agreed there was interest and Howard agreed to take the lead in implementing this.
- 3. Landmark designation for neighborhoods.** Chris has spoken with members of the Cleveland Heights Landmark Commission. The LC has expanded the landmarking process to include neighborhoods. This would require a majority vote of the people living in the landmarked area. Only CH neighborhoods in the FHHO are eligible as the Landmark Commission is part of the CH government. East Cleveland may be amenable to the same program; no one has checked on this. No CH neighborhood has been landmarked yet, so the mechanics of the process have to be worked out. Cleveland Restoration Society and the Landmark Commission would provide education to the public and help pay for flyers and the voting process. Benefits for a neighborhood being landmarked is that they would get increased scrutiny and standards from

the CH Architectural Board of Review, and the neighborhood will have a greater sense of community and pride. The designation will help protect the architectural integrity of the houses. It may be best to landmark neighborhoods one at a time instead of trying to landmark the entire FHHO section in CH. Chris will follow up.

- 4. EDEN housing.** The Halls contacted Tony about behavior of the tenants at the EDEN property at the corner of Mayfield and Forest Hill Blvd. The tenants have been noisy and disturbing people who live on Rumson; they have called the police. Suggestion was made that Rumson residents attend the Meet the Police meetings the CH police hold once a month and tell the police about their concerns. Fran agreed to call EDEN to find out who manages the home so that the Rumson residents know who to call if problems continue there.

Standards. The syndicate/owner of 3330 Chelsea was directed by ABR to install Grand Manor shingles; this roof is a satisfactory match to the aesthetics of the slate roof that was removed. The Standards Committee feels that this was a victory in working with the Architectural Board of Review, in that they did not simply provide a retroactive approval of the low-quality asphalt roof that the LLC owner had put on the roof. Replacement of the roof at 3400 Hollister is still being negotiated with the owner.

Garage Sale. 28 homes participated. \$300 was collected and so we broke even on the costs of signs, flyers, advertisements, etc. Sarah will follow up with Future Heights as apparently they did not run an ad we paid for. As the project was successful there was discussion about possibly holding another one in the fall. The sale at the Blue Cottage netted \$469 and there were separate donations totaling \$225. Many community members were glad to have the opportunity to see the Cottage and said they liked the building but had never been inside and were glad to be able to do so.

Marketing. Brad is creating an Instagram account.

Treasurer. Donations are about the same as last year. Jan and Mary volunteered to call people who used to give to FHHO and ask them to give again this year.

Membership Committee. Dru asked that only a letter be sent to renters, instead of the welcome bag and materials. (What did we decide?)

Newsletter. The goal is to issue a September newsletter. Les Jones is the FHHO newsletter editor; send articles to him.

We would like to ask people to opt out of the paper version of the newsletter as it is expensive to send.

However, we must send out a notice of the annual meeting every November. Must be sent 10 days before the meeting. (Question: must we do this in paper mailing?)

Announcement. Sarah announced that the Metroparks will be holding Family Fun Days at Forest Hill Park.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Submitted by Fran Mentch, Secretary.