



**Board of Directors Meeting  
May 6, 2015, 7:30pm  
Reston Community Center, Hunters Woods Rooms 3-4**

**Call to Order and Review of Agenda**

The meeting was called to order by President Jeff Byrd at 7:34 p.m. Pat Nichols, John Lankau, Charles Colby and Yanni Chryssomitis were also in attendance. President Jeff went over the agenda for the evening. Jeff announced that member John Klonaris will be recording the meeting.

**Report of the Secretary/Approval of Minutes of March Board Meeting**

The minutes from the March 2015 meeting were discussed. There were no comments or changes from the Board or from members in attendance. Secretary John Lankau motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Pat. The motion passed 5-0. The March 2015 minutes were approved.

**Report of the Treasurer**

Treasurer Yanni Chryssomitis reported that the cluster currently has \$114,617.80 in our checking account and \$203,552.88 in our saving account. He is considering a new no risk, fixed income product (e.g. CDs) for diversifying savings to get a better return. To date, snow removal has cost \$11,250 out of \$15,000 budgeted for calendar year 2015. This budget will also include November and December 2015, but those are typically lighter months. Finally, this year 80 out of 118 households participated with the early discount program for 68% of households, which is very similar to last year.

**Committee Update – Social Committee**

Committee Chair Deborah Colby provided an update on the Social Committee. She provided an outline of the events planned for 2015:

Friday, May 8, will be the Social Activities Committee Dinner, 7:00 p.m. Cantina D 'Italia, Herndon, VA.

Saturday, May 16 (rain date May 17), Book Swap, 4:00 p.m. at the Playground, IRR. Milk/Iced Tea/Lemonade & Cookies to be served. Residents can bring books to trade, or just come to donate or take home donated books. All remaining books will go to Friends of Reston Library.

Tuesday, June 2, HGCA Book Club organizational Meeting, 7:30 p.m. at 11734 IRR. This is not the "permanent" time or day but is to see if there is enough INTEREST to start a neighborhood book club.

Saturday, June 13 (rain date June 14), HGCA Celebrate Summer Pot Luck Picnic and/or Cookout at the Basketball Court, IRR, 5:00-8:00 p.m.

Sunday, July 5, dusk, Basketball Court, IRR. Undetonated (Legal) Fireworks Event. BYO Fireworks, lawn chairs, bug spray, snacks, etc.

Saturday, September 19 (rain date September 20). HGCA Autumn Pot Luck. Time TBD.

Also being planned: Saturday October 31, carved pumpkin contest & spiked punch for parents of trick-or-treaters. Pre-holiday Glitz n Glamor event, dress up and go out in the neighborhood for wine and cheese. Possible date, Tuesday December 8.

She added that the Social Committee has also discussed the idea of a “Welcome Packet” for new residents in the neighborhood.

### **Committee Update – Playground Committee**

Playground Committee Chair Rebekah Wingert-Jabi provided a summary of the Playground Committee’s progress to date. The committee had an initial brainstorming session to see what ideas are on the table, including varying slides of different heights and determining how many age groups can be supported. The central play area is a location that could be used for social gatherings that might invite a broader community interest.

The big question is always “can we do anything?” because of the area’s location on the pipeline. The committee is working with All-Recreation (this company was recommended by Reston Association). They suggested that Miss Utility will need to be called first to mark the area, and they will understand the pipeline requirements for the area. Then the vendor can come out and assess what is possible in the location.

Rebekah has spoken with Williams (Pipeline) and Miss Utility. Miss Utility didn’t confirm whether they can mark the pipeline, but they will assess and give us a contact if they are unable to assist, so that is the consensus first step. Rebekah suggested the community be notified in advance of Miss Utility’s visit so they know why the markings are on the ground. Yanni commented that he is on board with the plan as long as All-Recreation is aware that the community is looking for a plan in the 2016 or 2017 budget, not an immediate installation. He also suggested cleaning up the lines as quickly as possible.

Joe Caravella said that the current tot lot was build several years ago by Board members and residents. He added that as long as drilling isn’t involved, Williams shouldn’t have a problem. He added that there are new playground regulations for how they need to be anchored and setup. Jeff Byrd mentioned that member Jeff Wiese might be able to assist with contacts at Williams.

Deb Colby asked not to wait until 2017 to get the playground installed. Jeff responded that this would constitute both a change to common ground and a budget item, so 2016 is the earliest it can be on the docket. Sharon Egan added that, in the past Indian Ridge Rod received the best equipment and Hunters Green Court got the leftovers. She asked that Hunters Green be considered in scope of the committee.

Joan Stolbach added that there might be an insurance differentiation between a tot lot and a playground. Yanni said he would look into that as an action item. Fran Freedman asked if there are any records from the previous Playground Committee, but no one in the room was aware of any.

### **Neighborhood Directory**

Charles Colby was given the floor to describe the proposed concept of a Neighborhood Directory. This was an idea that originated from the Social Committee. It would be a paper form that doesn’t rely on electronic access and email. Deb Colby added that her beach community has a similar setup with an opt-out option. It includes the address, name, phone number and email for all participating residents.

Jeff added the idea of also including family's children's names as well. It would need a disclaimer on the front that it is solely for the private personal use of neighbors and not for solicitation. Janice Berger said she doesn't know how many people in the community are not technology oriented. This would allow people to update their contact information so it is updated and distributed at a recurring interval (like when bills are sent out).

Jeff's said his main objection is that he doesn't want this type of information posted on the internet. Dave Sande asked if Nextdoor has a similar ability. John Lankau responded that it does, but most people don't put their information on the site, and it goes against the directory objective of having an analog version of the document. Sharon Egan added that she thinks it should be an opt-in, not opt-out directory. Deb responded the other community has different ways to opt out such as email or when they send the bill in. John Lankau asked her how large the community is and whether or not they used a management company. Deb replied that the beach community has a management company and its 128 units.

Yanni said he thinks it has to be opt-in, because of privacy concerns. He also added that this would be a lot of effort for those who are not knocking on their member's doors. Janice Berger added that there used to be a similar Reston Directory for the whole town.

Jeff summarized that the sticking point is opt-in or opt-out. Do I want my family's information in this neighborhood directory? John Lankau pointed out that the Board would need to use the Parking Database if this were to be an opt-out project, and he was concerned that this opt-out could be a deterrent for people registering their vehicles. Jeff added that even if only half of the community opts in, the entire community should still receive a copy. Ideally it will inspire others to join.

Jeff suggested the most viable option he sees is a paper form sent with the dues for an opt-in situation. Joe Caravella said you have to dedicate manpower to keep it current and it's out of date as soon as it's printed.

The Board considered the optioned and determined that this effort will not be explored further at this time.

Fran Freedman asked if there could be a straw poll at the picnic in June. Dave Sande asked for a Nextdoor poll to gauge public support. John Lankau said he would post the poll on Nextdoor.

### **Parking – Enforcement and Expansion**

President Jeff Byrd started the topic regarding parking enforcement. There are several threads on Nextdoor about parking. Jeff said that the Board's response options are limited and can take action mostly on repeat offenders over a period of time. Everyone is asked to talk to your neighbors first to try and resolve differences. It won't always be well received. Jeff wanted to make sure that everyone is aware that the Board is not the police. Residents are encouraged to continue to report incidents to the Board, but we may not always have the authority or ability to take immediate enforcement action.

Charles added that towing is in the extreme category of response. He added that towing could be having a tow company to call. Two things to think about are when there is a serious issue. Sometimes there is a problem, possibly around renters, and he asked if the current parking rules are clear enough? Charles senses the resolution is too complicated and some residents can get aggressive and block cars in. If we do need to tow, do we have an arrangement? Jeff added that the Board has a tow company to contact when needed.

John Lankau added that residents are allowed to contact a tow company their own if they find a car in their reserved space, but they cannot do so in the name of the association and have to assume the cost and the risk of the towing.

Helen Hauer asked about ticketing. John Lankau responded that the police can be called and ticket a car parked in a fire lane, as that is a legal issue. The Board does not have the authority to levy fines against parking violators because of a recent Virginia Supreme Court ruling.

John Klouaris asked if the Board enforces the parking regulations or not.

Jeff Byrd responded that the Parking Resolution ends with a clause that gives the Board the ability to choose not to enforce in certain circumstances, and the Board exercises that clause when deemed appropriate.

Jeff added that parking is fluid and not one size fits all. Yanni added that the Board is not actively going around the neighborhood and looking for issues. The Board enforces issues as the Board becomes aware of them. Charles mentioned instances when residents have discussed parking problems on Nextdoor but never filed a complaint with the Board.

As a side note, Jeff mentioned that the Board received 26 emails submitted through the website's "Contact Us" form all at once earlier in the week. It appears that messages sent via that link from November 2014 - May 2015 were not sent until recently. As a result, the Board is going through the submissions to follow-up with residents. He added that the Board makes an effort to respond to every query that is received, so if residents do not receive a response or acknowledgement within a few days it is unusual and please let the Board know.

On the topic of Parking Expansion, the Fire Marshal's response to the Board's letter shows that we must move towards a common area change in order to get more parking. Jeff said that his belief is that there is usually adequate parking, but there can be an issue at surge times. Are residents willing to pay for it? Do we table this for a little while?

The Board can spend a Saturday with 4 focused group meetings with the people who physically live in the various areas of the cluster. We could bring some maps and look at the area in person with the local residents.

Another idea is to just widen the road to a width that the Fire Marshal would allow us to remove yellow curbs and create some overflow parallel parking. Janice said she was interested in the curb expansion idea. Sharon added that Hunters Green Court should be considered as one focused group because of how fluid the parking is there. She likes the idea of meeting in the affected areas.

Charles mentioned that a few spaces can be created with repainting certain areas in the cluster. Jeff added that these were already voted down a few years ago. John Klouaris said he doesn't like the idea of going to multiple areas as their own entities. Joe Caravella asked about the idea of going with other clusters as a class action against the Fire Marshal. Jeff said we haven't heard anything else about it. Dawn Jones mentioned that she liked the idea of meeting in focus groups. Rebekah said she likes the idea if there are practical solutions to discuss. Jeff added that the idea of picking specific parking spots causes problems. John Lankau added that the focus group approach allows us to look at the parking plan could be looked at in person with the areas of concern. Deb added that it should be done as part of repaving. Decisions have to be made for the good of the entire community. Lastly, even if only one area (Hunters Green) needs parking, doesn't the whole community have to pay? Bob Schnapp said the original question was whether or not we need more spaced – yes, we lost parking and there is

contention about it. Payments, it could be done to build up capital over time. Dawn Jones asked why the survey was not considered to answer the question. Charles added that the survey was unable to provide a clear consensus. Yanni added that the town hall is meant to compliment the surveys conducted in 2014.

Helen asked for the focus groups to ask people to prioritize paving, playground, or parking. Dave Sande asked if we are funded for paving, and Yanni responded that it is considered in the budget already.

John Lankau summarized that the plan should be to meet with residents in a focus-group way (4 groups by geographical location), present the spaces, determine associated costs with a parking plan or two (spaces vs. parallel expansion), setup a plan to submit to Reston Association and the vote on the plan (or plans) at the July Board of Directors Meeting.

### **Board of Directors Round Table**

Due to the time left (approximately 15 minutes), Jeff motioned to skip this section, and Yanni seconded the motion due to a lack of time. The motion was approved 4-1 with Charles Colby dissenting. He asked to discuss the idea of moving the Board of Directors to a monthly schedule instead of every-other-month.

### **Member Comments**

Fran Freedman asked for the Blade Runners liaison for mulching the area behind her house. Charles and Yanni mentioned that it has been reviewed recently in a walkthrough, but it is still muddy. Sharon Egan wanted to make sure Blade Runners is making mulch from the chopped down trees. Jeff said it will be brought up to Blade Runners.

With no additional member comments, the Board adjourned to executive session at 9:19pm.

### **Executive Session**

No reportable action was discussed during executive session.

### **Adjourn**

Jeff motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:34pm. John Lankau seconded. The Board voted 5-0 to adjourn the meeting.

Members in Attendance:

<b>Homeowner Name</b>	<b>Address</b>
Joe & Susan Caravella	11621 Hunters Green Court (HGC)
Sharon Egan	11633 HGC
Rebekah Wingert-Jabi	11708 Indian Ridge Road (IRR)
Michele Simon	11717 IRR
Dawn Jones	11728 IRR
Debbie Colby	11731 IRR
Janice Berger	11734 IRR
Helen Hauer	11744 IRR
David Sande	11755 IRR
Joan & Rene Stolbach	11757 IRR
John Klonaris	11768 IRR
Fran Freedman & Bob Schnapp	11773 IRR

Approved By:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeff Byrd". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping "J" and "B".

President Jeff Byrd

July 7, 2015