

Timbers Civic Association, Inc
Corporate ID #: D01095603
PO Box 421
Arnold, MD 21012
TimbersCivicAssociation@gmail.com

September 12, 2020

1. Call to order. Annual meeting of Timbers Civic Association called to order at 6:07 pm on September 12, 2020 at the Recreation Area by outgoing President Hank Sengelaub
2. Roll Call of Member Households. In attendance: Beth Penn, Jesse Pollock, Ruth Rabin, Jon Mathis, Shane and Amanda Dauer, Kenny Herron, Bill and Janet Gordon, Sue and Peter Grub, Mike and Erica Corless, Eva and Joe Barsin (James Barsin, Robby Barsin), Hank and Donna Sengelaub, Sue Tant.
 - a. Sue Herrick, Bob Ellsworth, Judith Raymond, Rick Miller and Anne Raymond could not attend the meeting, but voted ahead of the meeting and delivered their completed ballots prior to the meeting.
 - b. Quorum of 1/3 required by Timbers Bylaws to conduct business. 32 households paid, 13 households present, 4 households voted in advance of meeting. Quorum met to conduct business.
3. Minutes of the previous annual meeting of 26 Oct 2019 read by outgoing Secretary, Donna Sengelaub. Spring meeting could not be held due to Corona Virus Shelter-In-Place Orders.
4. Treasurer's Report conducted by outgoing Treasurer, Sue Tant. Current balance in Timbers account for FY 01 July 2020 – 30 June 2021 is \$16,051.93, but has not been balanced yet with upcoming bills or expenditures through 30 September totaling \$4000.
 - a. Expected expenditures will include \$600 for August, September and October mowing; \$1000 for fall 2020 leaf removal; \$2000 for tree trimming and dead tree removal scheduled for Sept: \$400 returned receipt postage for Special Community Benefits District petitions.
 - b. Account Balance – at beginning of fiscal year, 32 households contributed for FY 01 July 2020-30 June 2021. Use of voluntary labor for mowing and maintenance in FY 01 July 2019-30 June 2020 with no capital improvement expenditures are the reasons why TCA able to accrue the current balance.
 - c. Current expenditures \$200 per month for mowing – mowing to run from May and through October. The amount of \$1000 set aside for leaf removal this fall. GP landscaping has done an excellent job.
 - d. This year 32 members paid and are considered members in good standing and therefore eligible to vote at this meeting.
 - e. List of current households (32), are considered members in good standing for FY 01 July 2020 – 30 June 2021 (listed according to Timbers subdivision plat numbers): Corless, Herron, Herrick,

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Penn, Anne Raymond, Silk, Ellsworth, Rabin, Mathis, Tant, O'Neill, Melvin, Dauer, Tyler, Isaac, Barsin, McGinnis, Dobson, Belovitz, Pollock, Vay, Henry, Spawasser, Kokish, Busch, Avery, Judith Raymond, Ebersberger, Gordon, Grube, Sengelaub, Miller.

- f. Timbers Civic Association received \$50 from the Burkhardt's and they indicated by the attached letter that they are withholding the entire amount in protest to further improvements in the Recreation Area. According to the Bylaws,- they did not contribute the full \$100, and therefore are not considered members in good standing for voting. Their contribution will be therefore be categorized as a donation (attached letter entered into the minutes).
- g. We also received donations of \$1085 mostly designated by donors to be used toward capital improvements at the Recreation Area (see attached list of donations/donors)
- h. Budget for 01 July 2020 – 30 June 2021- is attached.
- i. Anticipated expenditures through 30 June 2021 are: \$8,896. Other Expenditures: Leaf Removal - \$1000 set aside for fall 2020 and returned receipt postage for Special Community Benefits District.
- j. At the of current expenditures, we are operating at a deficit.

5. Report of Committees: Maintenance Committee

- a. Rick Miller, Chairman unable to attend due to Corona Virus quarantine. Hank Sengelaub gave the maintenance brief in his absence.
- b. Cleanup held in July which was a success. Despite the heat, approximately 25 people showed up to drag branches to the curb, cut fallen limbs, trim low hanging branches and power wash playground equipment and general cleanup Recreation Area. Mike Ebersberger's Elite Tree Service scheduled to take down three dead trees in the Recreation Area and raised the canopy of the trees in the playground and the perimeter. Will repurpose woodchips to the Playground Area. *(Jesse Pollock took the initiative and spread them one week later)
- c. New adjustable basketball hoop was put up in March – several fathers helped to erect it – categorized as a maintenance expense - was not a Capital Improvement because a basketball hoop already existed.

6. Report of Committees: Special Community Benefits District Committee

- a. Mike Corless, Committee Chairman, reported that supporting legal documents and the finalized petition developed in committee were sent to the county Special Taxing District Coordinator at

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the Budget Office for review on 31 August 2020. That petition will be reviewed and approved by the County Law Office for legal sufficiency. Then we can copy that approved petition and mail it out to the 48 homes to sign or not sign. This seems to be the best course of action if the Timbers Civic Association is to have a reliable stream of revenue to maintain the Recreation Area and be sustainable into the future. This would mean that all 48 households would be members in good standing and therefore all voting members. Expect the approved petition to be available for distribution in October 2020.

- b. Questions were raised by Janet Gordon and Peter Grube about raising current dues in lieu of becoming a Special Community Benefits District. Donna Sengelaub answered that this must be done by vote and a ballot measure and requires an amendment the Bylaws. Everyone benefits from a clean and safe Recreation Area because a well-maintained Recreation Area improves all of our property values, even if they do not actively contribute money or use the Recreation Area.
- c. We have been conducting business this way for the last 48 years to our detriment and dysfunction– with the Executive Board always operating on a shoestring and/or donating voluntary labor. We simply cannot continue to function this way for the organization to be financially sustainable.
- d. According to the caveat in the Timbers Recreation Area Deed, if the Timbers Civic Association dissolves due to bankruptcy, dysfunction or being sued, ownership of the Recreation Area will revert to the heirs of Bertram& Julia Moore and Anna May Bunker.
- e. Our experience has been that raising dues on people who always reliably pay, eventually results in those same people becoming resentful of those who don't contribute and eventually even those reliably contributing, stop paying.
- f. Donna Sengelaub explained in detail what being classified as Special Community Benefits District involves: We formally petition everyone eligible to be voting members in the Timbers Civic Association (membership in accordance with our Bylaws). We need 2/3 or 32 households who agree to become a SCBD by formal petition. The signed petitions are then sent to the County Special Taxing District Coordinator for examination and signature verification. Once this is done, the Special Taxing District Coordinator submits legislation to the County Council to establish the Timbers Civic Association as a Special Community Benefits District.
- g. At the December County Council meeting, residents are welcome to attend and voice their opinions in favor or not in favor of establishing the Timbers Civic Association as a Special Community Benefits District. The County Council holds a vote to “tax” the Timbers Civic Association members for the maintenance and upkeep of the Recreation Area. The County Council is the arbiter and is the remedy for any residents of the Timbers should the Executive Board not spend the money according to the approved budget.

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- h. Additionally, the total money in the Timbers Treasury is required by the County, to be bonded in order to become a Special Community Benefits District. Should the money be lost or stolen by the individuals responsible on the bank signature card, the money is insured and is bonded to be recovered. This means that the TCA will not lose the money. Instead, the insurance company will recoup the money by sending a bondsman to collect the money from the individual responsible for the loss or fraud.
- i. Finally, we are required to have an internal audit each year and every four years have an audit by a Certified Public Accountant. The Timbers Executive Board must submit an approved budget to the County Council each year. In December each year, a financial report must be submitted by the Executive Board to the County Budget Office.
- j. When property taxes are assessed 01 July 2020 of each year, the SCBD tax will be added to the property tax bill of the Timbers Special Community Benefits District made up of the 48 homes designated by the plat and supporting documents originally submitted. The county will collect 5% of the total collected taxes are due on 30 September each year. It is then distributed to the Timbers in November to be spent according to the approved budget.

7. Messy Garden Project Update (on Tall Tree Tail side near playground)

- a. James Barsin presented his Eagle Scout Project to take the area to turn into a path or garden. Plan is to clear the area with weeds, plant with native plants, path will be covered with woodchips and purchase a bench.
- b. Grant from Union Garden Association and door to door donations. Homestead Gardens donations. Suggestion was also made to check with Homestead Gardens for donations of money or plants.
- c. No Timbers funds will be used in this project. Anticipated start of project will be Spring 2020. James will be conducting the project under advisement with Bob Ellsworth.

8. Report of Committees Budget Committee; Ruth Rabin presented the Budget Proposal for 01 Oct 2020 – 30 Sept 2021 See attached budget.
- a. Annual Budget Approval: Budget format as per Special Community Benefits District format.

Vote regarding Budget for FY 01 July 2020-30 June 2021:

17 yes in favor of budget 0 no, not in favor of

9. Election of TCA Executive Board Members term to run from 01 Oct 2020 – 30 Sept 2021, with three consecutive terms in each office permitted in accordance with the TCA Bylaws.

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a. President

Mike Corless as President, Timbers Civic Association

16 yes - in favor of

1 no – not in favor of (cast by Mike Corless)

b. Secretary

Amanda Dauer as Secretary, Timbers Civic Association

17 yes – in favor of

0 no – not in favor of

c. Treasurer

Shane Dauer as Treasurer, Timbers Civic Association

17 yes – in favor of

0 no – not in favor of

10. Congratulations to the newly elected Timbers Civic Association Executive Board Officers:

- a. President: Mike Corless; Secretary: Shane Dauer; Treasurer: Amanda Dauer. Their term starts 01 October 2020 and ends 30 September 2021. With three consecutive terms permitted as per Bylaws.

11. New Business:

- a. Curb cut. There is one child in the neighborhood who restricted to a wheelchair. Additionally, families with strollers have a hard time accessing the playground given the concrete curb bordering the Recreation Area. A motion was made and seconded to obtain at least one curb cut for easy access to the Recreation Area. Anne Arundel County Public Works for Roads and Highways is the Department responsible for curbs and roads. Will contact them and report back. Bollards or two posts and a chain may be needed to prevent motorized vehicles intent on vandalizing activity, from entering and tearing up the Recreation Area.
- b. Cost for the post office box is going up each year. A motion made to see if it is possible to have a physical mailing address assigned to the Recreation Area so the Timbers Civic Association Officers can have a locked mailbox located at the Recreation Area for easier access and to save mailing costs postal costs for return ballots, secondary use as a suggestion box, etc. Will contact County Planning and Zoning, and the Arnold Post Office Supervisor to see if this is possible. Outgoing secretary will research and report back.

12. Good and Welfare. This portion of the Annual Agenda meant to alert residents of any members needing assistance. Several elderly residents in the neighborhood, if there are any weather events or emergencies, please remember to look in on them.

13. Adjournment. Meeting was adjourned at 7:20 pm.

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Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Sengelaub,
Secretary, Timbers Civic Association, Inc.