

Timbers Civic Association, Inc. Fall Community Meeting

26 October 2019

Timbers Civic Association Fall meeting held at Timbers Recreation Area, with 10 households represented and an additional 2 households submitting votes by proxy, totaling 12 members to make a quorum in order to vote and approve all business as per Timbers Civic Association Bylaws.

A quorum of at least 6 households was required to vote and approve all business at this meeting as per Timbers Civic Association Bylaws with 17 member households paying prior to the meeting.

A quorum is defined as 1/3 of members in good standing (households who have paid annual dues) according to Timbers Civic Association Bylaws. For fiscal year 2020, there were 17 members in good standing meaning that a quorum of at least 6 (or 1/3) households needed to be present to vote.

Meeting called to order by the Timbers President, Hank Sengelaub, at approximately 3:15 p.m. The purpose of the meeting was to vote on the proposed budget, discuss the upcoming construction of a Gaga Pit and nominate/vote for 2020 officers for the positions of President, Treasurer and Secretary. Items to be voted on at this meeting:

1. 2020 Proposed Budget
2. Election of 2020 President, Treasurer and Secretary.

President introduced the executive board and committee chairmen:

- President: Hank Sengelaub
- Treasurer: Sue Tant (not present) - Nationals vs Astros World Series Game 4 GO NATS!
- Secretary: Donna Sengelaub
- Bylaws Committee: currently vacant
- Budget Committee: currently vacant
- Recreation and Maintenance Committee: Rick Miller nominated by committee and approved by the Executive Board.
- Fundraising and Social Committee: currently vacant
- Special Community Benefits District Exploration Committee: currently vacant

President: - No Motorized Vehicles in the Recreation Area! (except as assistance to set up for special events). We are not insured for any motorized recreational vehicles at the Recreation Area.

- We need to look at some sort of barrier system along the perimeter of Recreation Area to keep mischief makers from vandalizing the Rec Area with their trucks, ATVs or recreational motorized vehicles, etc. The Timbers Civic Association is **not insured** for motorized recreational vehicles in the Recreation Area.

Important because of children playing, community events or families camping out at the Recreation Area.

- Need to explore more signage posted stating “No Motorized Vehicles Permitted”
- Cancelled the electricity for the street light at the Recreation Area. The light has been out since July 2017. However, since July 2017 BGE continued to charge Timbers Civic Association automatically. Attempting to recoup that money from BGE for services not rendered.
- Hank Sengelaub summarized that the primary purpose and importance to maintain an Executive Board of the Timbers Civic Association. As per the deed to the Recreation Area, if the Timbers Civic Association were to dissolve, by law, ownership of the Recreation Area would be transferred to the heirs of Bertram Moore, Julia Moore and Anna May Bunker.

It is therefore the responsibility of all of the residents that the Timbers Civic Association remain a “legal entity”. This means that we remain financially solvent, that Recreation Area be maintained to a reasonably safe level, that liability insurance be current and that an Executive Board consisting of a President, Secretary and Treasurer be filled and active.

It is also important for committees to be established and to have fresh ideas and community involvement to keep the Timbers Civic Association vibrant, functioning and healthy. The four primary standing committees consisting of members must also be active the Maintenance Committee, Budget and Finance Committee, Bylaws Committee and the Fundraising and Social Committee.

The Bylaws are the rules that govern the Timbers Civic Association. At this meeting, there were no new amendments to be presented or voted to amend the Bylaws.

Treasurer: Sue Tant unavailable to attend the meeting. Hank Sengelaub presented the proposed budget and stepped through each line item for vote.

- Current balance for Fiscal Year 2020 \$11,870.60 (FY 01 July 2019-30 June 2020)
- Expenditures: Liability Insurance \$500 (due in March 2019); stamps \$55; PO box \$70; Electricity \$29 per month
- Social expenses (Halloween Party) must come from fundraising or donations.
- 17 households paid membership dues prior to Fall meeting.
- \$1500 held back as Emergency Fund each year as per Bylaws.
- Last fall Timbers Civic Association voted to discontinue BGE Service for light behind the basketball court. Timbers Civic Association has continued to pay for services to BGE even though the light had been inoperative since Jul 2017. Hank Sengelaub is putting in a request to BGE to recoup \$764 from BGE for services not rendered since July 2017.
- Good stewardship of the funds are essential to maintain solvency. Volunteer labor for mowing and leave removal has saved the Association money and careful stewardship has helped the Timbers Funds grow.
- However, we need to explore ways to fund the maintenance of the Recreation Area – particularly for mowing and leaf removal without going bankrupt.

Secretary: Roster of neighbors in the Timbers Civic Association updated 25 Sept 2019 and mailed to households 1-48 on Timbers subdivision plat.

- Since 2017 there are eleven new households in the Timbers eligible for membership in the Timbers Civic Association for Fiscal Year 2020.
- Will put out newsletter to all households explaining how the Timbers Civic Association is governed and the importance of collecting dues.
- Need volunteers to chair and join committees

- Donna will update and post minutes on the Timbers Civic Association Webpage. <https://timberscivicassn.wixsite.com/timbers-civic-assn>
- Need a marquis or banner type sign at entrance to Rec Area to inform residents of special events, meetings, clean ups, etc.

Recreation and Maintenance Committee: Rick Miller, Committee Chairman, presented the following:

- In the past we have relied upon volunteer labor to remove leaves and mow Recreation Area. Leaf Removal extends into December which negatively impacts the volunteer's time especially leaves fall from Oct into Dec. Currently looking into hiring an outside company. Estimated cost is \$300 to remove leaves each time and we are budgeted for this.
- End of February seems to be the best month to schedule a Community Spring Cleanup. Recommend renting a chipper and repurposing the wood chips to the playground area.
- Need to look at replacing the landscape timbers around the playground.
- Overgrown area along Tall Tree Trail below playground needs to be addressed. Steps and erosion control area by playground were drawn up and presented at 21 May 2014 not to exceed \$1000. Drawings are located on the Timbers Civic Association website.

<https://timberscivicassn.wixsite.com/timbers-civic-assn>

- Brought up possible design idea for perimeter barrier along Recreation Area.

New Business and Discussion:

1. 2019 Proposed Budget – attached to minutes
Vote to approve budget as presented: 12 yes 0 no
2. Vote for continuation of currently elected officers for FY 2020: President: Hank Sengelaub; Treasurer: Sue Tant; Secretary: Donna Sengelaub Vote: 12 yes 0 no

3. **Building of Gaga Pit** – Robbie Barson’s Eagle Scout Project. Robbie Barson briefed members of his schedule for building the Gaga Pit to promote outside play in the Recreation Area. The Gaga pit will be built the weekend of 09 and 10 November 2019. He raised \$600 and will provide all material. He has organized a working party made up of scouts from his troop. Food and drink is provided. Anyone interested in joining the working party to help him complete his Eagle Project is welcome to attend.
4. Discussed updating and/or repairing the Timbers sign. Bob Ellsworth built that sign over 40 years ago. It has served the community well. Discussion was initiated to replace the sign.
5. **Special Community Benefits District** – The Timbers voted last fall to form a committee to explore the possibility of Timbers Civic Association becoming a Special Community Benefits District. Donna Sengelaub will recruit interested members to form the committee.

There are about 80 Special Community Benefits District in Anne Arundel County which are residential organizations that have some sort of common space deeded to the community. These common spaces include recreation areas, pools, docks, etc. for which the residents of the community are responsible for maintaining. It is NOT to establish a Home Owners Association.

In a Special Community Benefits District, a formal budget is submitted to Anne Arundel County Council each year for approval. Anne Arundel County collects the dues as part of a homeowner’s tax bill. The Timber Civic Association then pays 5% of the dues collected to Anne Arundel County to recoup the dues from the County. The money must be spent according the budget submitted to the county council each year. The Timbers Civic Association books also must be audited each year, with a formal audit done by a CPA every three years.

Meeting adjourned at 4:40 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Donna Sengelaub
FY 2019 Secretary, Timbers Civic Association