

**Admiral Heights Improvement Association
Regular Board Meeting
May 3, 2011
Minutes – As Approved 7 June 2011**

Called to order: 1930

Attendees:

Hausknecht, Golden, Comstock, Collins, Wright, Crews, Thorn, O'Neill, Grebasch

Not in attendance:

Aha, Smith, Burdick

Reading of the April Minutes:

February minutes approved.

April minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report:

While Mr. Smith was unable to attend, he provided the Treasurer's Report, dated 3 May 11. The Board voted to accept the Report for review and consideration at the next meeting.

Board Status Notice:

The Board was notified that long-serving member, David Aha, has decided to resign. The Board will consult the By-Laws and determine the proper manner by which to fill Mr. Aha's seat. The Board emphasized that this would be done in a transparent manner consistent with the By-Laws.

President's Comments:

Mr. Hausknecht noted that the transition from Mr. O'Neill's leadership of AHIA continues, and thanked Mr. O'Neill for his gracious assistance during this very busy first month of the new Board's tenure.

Further, Mr. Hausknecht discussed the major events of the recent past, including:

1. **Greenscape (April 16th)** – the volunteers who participated in this community-enhancing activity were noted and thanked for their efforts.
2. **Spring Yard Sale (April 9th)** – this semiannual event, which occurred soon after the new Board took office, was advertised in a variety of media including craigslist, and The Capital. Mr. Hausknecht thanked Ms. Thorn for her efforts in ensuring that the event was advertised as much as possible in the time available. There was a discussion about the timing of the Fall Yard Sale event. The Board will investigate the most opportune time for this event, given stadium/city-wide event schedules (Navy football games and boat shows), the bulk trash pick-up schedule, and other considerations and post the date of the event as soon as possible.

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3. **Family Fun Run (April 23)** – This first-time event was generally considered a success. The Board will review the “lessons learned,” from this event, and consider the balance of AHIA’s “costs” (e.g. work to recruit and organize volunteers, disruptions to streets/residents in Admiral Heights) versus benefits (e.g. community participation in a family-friendly, healthy event, the amount of funds the event turns over to AHIA for community maintenance and improvement activities) in determining whether it is in the best interests of AHIA to participate next year. Mr. O’Neill reported that the organizers of the event will be turning over AHIA’s portion of the proceeds in the near future. He advocated for continued AHIA participation in this event as good way to generate funds for the organization.

4. While not a scheduled “upcoming event,” there was a discussion about AHIA’s participation in the City’s “**mosquito control**” efforts. AHIA is the sponsor of this participation. It was noted that Admiral Heights has generally supported this effort, and is committed to working to ensure that those residents who want to participate are assisted in doing so. The Board is equally committed to helping to ensure that the choices of those residents who prefer that their property not be sprayed are fully protected. The Board will ask that information about the mosquito control effort, and steps residents can take to “opt out” of participating, are including in the upcoming edition of The Mast.

Upcoming Events:

- **Meet the Creek, May 7th** (11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.) - Mr. Golden’s efforts to organize this event continue apace. The services of a water taxi have been procured, as has a loan of microscopes, kayaks, and canoes. A representative of the Naval Academy’s science department will discuss marine biology, and the Chesapeake Bay Foundation will present information about how residents can help to protect the Chesapeake watershed. Snack and refreshments have been arranged.
- **Independence Day Bike Parade and Annapolis Parade Float** – There was a general discussion of how best to facilitate organization of these events. Ms. Wright will make inquiries of the Mom’s Club.
- **Boating Day Camp** – This first-time event is scheduled for Dewey Dock July 11 - 15th, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. each day. There are 12 young people signed up to date. The age range of participants is 6 – 15 years. Arrangements have been made for a temporary restroom facility for participants. The only remaining issue is to find a resident near to the facility who would be willing to provide

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participants with a place to take shelter in the case of inclement or dangerous weather.

Committee Reports:

- **Grounds** – Mr. Collins followed up on the earlier discussion about Greenscape, noting that the work on the area near the Admiral Heights sign on Cedar Park Road went well and the “approach” to Admiral Heights from this direction is much-improved.
- **Weems Creek** – Mr. Golden reported that water testing has been arranged. There was a discussion about the on-going efforts to address the situation of Cowhide Branch, and the potential that this may become controversial as some believe that the area has become a relatively stable and healthy ecosystem that should be left “as is.”
- **Traffic Calming** – The long-discussed traffic calming arrangement is now in place at the intersection of Sampson and Porter Road. There has, thus far, been very little feedback from residents about it. The Board will report and collect any feedback it receives about the efficacy (or lack thereof) of this arrangement. Mr. O’Neill reported that it now appears the City will be constructing sidewalks to ensure that pedestrians have a safe way to get to the new Germantown school.
- **Mom’s Club** – Ms. Wright is, as reported above (in “Upcoming Events”) making inquiries to determine who might be interested in coordinating the Bike Parade.
- **By-Laws** – There was a brief discussion of the status of the re-consideration of amending the by-laws. No decisions were reached about the matter, although the suggestion was made that it would be in the best interest of the organization to promote transparency by having the proposed amendments posted, with a point-by-point explanation of the rationale for each change by the proponents thereof.
- **Neighborhood Watch** – No report

New Business: Mr. Comstock discussed an effort by the school district to facilitate the establishment of environmental learning areas on the grounds of the new Germantown School. The school district would welcome the participation of AHIA in establishing and maintaining landscaping and ‘display areas’ that will help students and the community ‘connect’ with the environment. While the school district has just undertaken this effort, the Board agreed to

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consider, when plans are more developed, becoming a 'partner' in this effort, if it determines it is in the best interest of the organization to do so.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 7th.

Adjourned – 2058.

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