

# **The Village in Burns Harbor Annual POA meeting**

Meeting Minutes  
November 14, 2019

## **Opening**

The regular meeting of the The Village in Burns Harbor Annual POA meeting was called to order at 7:05pm on November 14, 2019 in Traditions by Melissa Hamilton.

## **Present**

Melissa Hamilton, Steve Wisneski, Kerry Skeffington, Art Flores, Renee Jeffries, Linda Herbert, Frank and Mandy Rebac, Christian Jaworski, Robert Clark, Sara McKinney, Cassandra Kormandy, Branden Dahl, Janice Wisneski, Wilbur and Sarah Oudman, Tim Canfield, Doreen Olguin-Flores, Angel Bernahl, Karen Riefe, Julie Polarek, Nathan Riley, Brad Enslin

## **Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was unanimously approved as distributed.

## **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously approved as distributed.

## **President's report**

Some happenings in Burns Harbor- Toys for Tots drive at the Town as well as a collection for Westchester Food Pantry. There will be people walking around the neighborhood to collect for the 2020 census. Please be sure to fill out the information. The Town receives some funds based on the amount of people in the community.

The Village Traffic meeting took place last month and Chief Heckman was very responsive. The weather has made it difficult to place the crosswalks at this time and it may need to wait until Spring along with the speed bumps/humps.

Renee Jeffries introduced herself and gave the update on the financials so far this year. Not all the information was up to date. Some was only available through September 30<sup>th</sup>. Some of the Park improvements have not been able to be completed. The money has been set aside for improvements in Triangle Park and paid for the addition of the swings in Playground park. Steve Wisneski brought up that he felt that the amount for assessments was not correct. He said that the amount from Village Land Company and Treasure Homes was not what it should be regarding developer lot versus builder lot. There was some discussion regarding whether a lot was being charged for a certain amount for a certain length of time. The Budget was approved by all except for Steve Wisneski due to his concerns over the assessment amounts.

Wilbur Oudman questioned what finances have been set aside for the Park improvements. Melissa Hamilton said the improvements will be done in phases to not use too much of the Village Funds in one year. Tim Minier asked what some of the improvements are being considered. Some projects being considered for the Triangle Park are a walkway for people to be able to use without having to cross streets. A fire pit area and a water feature are also possibilities. Additional landscaping as well. Suggestions are gladly accepted. Steve said all the swings are in, but their installation is delayed due to the weather.

Sara McKinney asked who is responsible for the addition of streetlights. She lives on the corner of Weaver Way and Bolinger. It would be necessary for The Town of Burns Harbor to install the light. Sarah Oudman stated that there is an agreement between the Town, The Village and the developer about when a light is installed. There was some discussion about the Town not replacing bulbs and/or resetting the light timers when we lose electricity.

Activities for 2019- Movies in The Park, Yoga classes, Art Club, Earth Day Clean-up Memorial Day BBQ, Fourth of July Party, Fall Party and Holiday Party. All are projected to continue through 2020. Always looking for extra hands to help with these events. The to-do for the remainder of the year are replacing the banners, decorating the neighborhood for the holidays and the Holiday Party.

### **Election for 2020**

Introduction of the people running for office. Melissa Hamilton and Luke Kosnik are running for President with a one-year term. Wilbur Oudman and Kerry Skeffington are running for Board seats for two-year term. There is an opening on the VARC for a two-year term. Luke Kosnik is running and two openings for Chancellor.

Janice Wisneski stated that she wanted it to go on record that she felt that having Wilbur Oudman on the POA Board was a conflict of interest due his affiliation with Treasure Homes and Village Land Company and the way the Board interacts with each other and decisions made regarding builders and the developer. Tim Canfield asked how the Board felt about Janice's statement. Melissa Hamilton said that she understands what Janice is saying but that Wilbur Oudman is a fellow neighbor and the situation can be viewed in different ways. Linda Herbert said that the affiliations are not going to be Wilbur's only concerns. Tim Canfield said that Wilbur's affiliations will add influence and Melissa agreed that they would. Wilbur said that that could be a positive thing. Tim Canfield said he was making a general statement that influence isn't always good or bad but some people have already expressed a concern about it and that there are people in the neighborhood that probably aren't aware of the possible conflict of interest. Janice Wisneski said she felt that the Board makes a lot of decisions that could have an impact

on the neighborhood and since a large number of homeowners are not at the meetings, they could be unaware of the influence that Wilbur would have on those decisions. She feels that something like that puts the POA in a bad light. Linda Herbert said that she was hearing what Janice was saying as the influence on the decisions could be intentional or unintentional and Janice agreed. Renee Jeffries said that is one of the things with having a Board is that there is more than one person making the decisions and voting. Linda Herbert said she felt it was good of Janice Wisneski to bring it to Wilbur's attention so he could be aware of it. Sarah Oudman said this issue comes up with the Town of Burns Harbor Board and that person recuses himself.

### **The new Board Members for 2020**

President- Melissa Hamilton

Board openings- Melissa Hamilton and Wilbur Oudman.

VARC- Luke Kosnik

Chancellors- Sara McKinney and Luke Kosnik

### Open Meeting

Robert Clark asked about the Landscaping. We have two landscaping companies currently. David's Landscaping does our mowing, weeds, etc. We have The Ground Guys for other things like flowers and maintaining the rest of the landscaping. Steve Wisneski said the Grounds Guys have not done what they said they would do and that there is a lot of maintenance due for the landscaping in the Gazebo Park especially. Tim Canfield said Lakeshore was a previous landscaper that did well. Melissa said the previous Board had stopped using them because of the expense at the time. Robert Clark said he felt that David's didn't do very well, especially when it came to Triangle Park. It was mowed unevenly and there was often soggy grass in the center that was torn up with the mowers. There was some discussion about the sprinkler system and if there could be a sensor placed. Discussion regarding changing the days that the company mows, if it could be closer to the weekend movie nights.

Linda Herbert asked if people could be made aware of the POA meetings. She was upset that she came to a meeting and it was over before the time it was set to start. Kerry Skeffington explained that there was confusion by several Board members about the date of the Meeting and it was decided to call the meeting early due to there not being enough members at the meeting. Melissa said that the Meeting are always on the website and they will be updated on Facebook. Sarah Oudman also puts the sign up front.

Janice Wisneski asked about the sign on Route 20 that advertises for Traditions and Village Land Company. She wants to know if there is a time limit on how long it will be there. Sarah Oudman there is a Town of Burns Harbor ordinance that states there are only so many signs allowed and that is a temporary sign set up to sell the lots in The Village. It will eventually be replaced with a permanent sign. Sarah said she will be glad when the sign is gone because it will mean all the properties are sold. Steve asked what that would mean for the Traditions billboard. Sarah said that it won't be a billboard but a permanent sign in line with the Town code. There is no limit to the amount of time the temporary signs are allowed. Janice questioned how the property is taxed and whether it is a common area. It is Common Property but not Common Property to the POA per Sarah. It was determined by the County several years ago. Janice said it is common property to the subdivision and that people of the neighborhood should have a say in the signage. Steve Wisneski said he feels it obstructs the view of east bound traffic for turning onto Route 20. Brad Enslin said the sign has been there since the beginning of the neighborhood and the only thing that changed is the cover that goes over the sign. He said the land was bought and is not common property and the fencing and pillars are on land that doesn't belong to the POA. Steve renewed his objection to the sign for obstruction and Brad said that could be since the original entrance to the Village was supposed to be with Harbor Way and closer to 149.

Sarah Oudman attended the Town of Burns Harbor Board meeting the previous evening and the street department stated the Village did very well. The leaf pick up will continue until the leaves are gone.

### **\New Business**

Traditions Resident Eduardo offered his service of sidewalk and driveway snow removal to residents of The Village for \$50 per month. Linda Herbert asked if there were a limited number of customers that he could take on and Eduardo said it is possible he may have a limited number depending on how many residents that accept. It is easier if they don't have to skip homes.

### **Agenda for Next Meeting**

List the items to be discussed at the next meeting.

### **Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:05pm by Melissa Hamilton. The next general meeting will be at time on January 2020, in Traditions.

Minutes submitted by: Name

Approved by: Name