

Minutes, May 12th ODHA Board Meeting

Meeting called to order at 5:35 p.m. Attending were all members but Marty who attended by phone for the first two items.

- Item: Private Road Ownership
 - The board approved steps proposed by Mike and Marty to secure ownership of the private road, and approved up to \$10,000 in legal fees if necessary and also the conduct of a survey if required.
- Item: Signage
 - Chris and Marty gave an update on attempts to place signage warning of the speed bumps and also to post “members only—use at your own risk” signage at the playground.
- Item: Elections and Annual Member Mailing
 - Board approved steps for board elections and the annual member mailing. If no one steps forward to volunteer for the board, we will seek to recruit someone.
- Item: Financials review; Dues Increase
 - After a review of our financials and Alex’s explanation that our reserves are below the recommended level, it was agreed that we need to increase dues. After discussion, the Board decided that an increase of \$50 was appropriate. Hatti recommended we go up a full 20% (as allowable under our Bylaws without triggering a member vote) but the board felt that an “even number” of \$50 was more palatable. It was unanimously approved.
 - Claudia and Alex said it is now possible to pay our dues online; there was a discussion of how much of a convenience/CC fee to charge. We settled on \$10 even though this is slightly less than we are actually charged by the platform. The online payment total of \$410 was approved by the board; people may still pay by check if they prefer and avoid the extra charge.
- Item: Website redesign and email options
 - Claudia brought a list of email addresses from official contact file that have bounced back as she set up our new emailing system. Hatti volunteered to call everyone to obtain new information if possible (subsequently completed.) Claudia is otherwise ready to do the dues mailing.
 - Hatti asked about whether we could have an official OrindaDowns or ODHA email address on the new platform. Claudia did not think this was possible, but she did design an official ODHA email template.

- Marty asked that we review the current website and recommend ways to make it more user friendly. He has provided a set of recommendations which Claudia is to implement.
- Item: Basketball cracks and court slope issue
 - The board agreed that the court needs to be resurfaced or replaced, and that something needs to be done to make the drop off at the southern end of the court less of a concern.
 - Hatti volunteered to contact American Asphalt (paving contractor used on the private road) to see if they do this kind of project.
- Item: Park Maintenance and Improvement
 - Patty brought the quote from the new landscape company, Garden Lights. Other options had also been considered but the Board felt that for cost and quality, the Garden Loghts proposal was superior. The board discussed and approved the quote. (Subsequently, however, we have learned that they were unaware they need to include the small parklet at the entrance off Lombardy.)
 - The board also approved Contacting the gardeners to add to their work maintaining of the strip opposite the park on the north, and provide a landscape plan for it. Hatti asked to be able to provide some input regarding what plants to include in the plan.
 - Thereafter, the meeting was adjourned. One further Board meeting will be planned to occur before the Annual Meeting.