

Darley Civic Association

Highland Woods | Indian Field | Darley Rd

Darley Civic Association Meeting

May 1, 2024

Trinity Presbyterian Church

1120 Darley Rd

President, Dan Schmick (Highland Woods) - *not present for this meeting*

Vice President, Susan Hartnett (Indian Field)

Treasurer, Mark LaVere (Highland Woods)

Secretary, Ken Velasquez (Highland Woods)

Susan Hartnett (Vice President) calls the meeting to order. (note: asked everyone to silence cell phones and be respectful when others are talking)

Councilman Cartier with us, speaking first:

- The councilman has a monthly newsletter of NC county happenings, passed around an (email) sign up sheet.
- Budget process: Brandywine Hundred library renovations. Notes there will be no property or sewer fee tax increase. NC County police salaries not competitive. There is a proposal for \$8M reserve funds with incentive pay for \$72k a year and are hoping to get in budget this year
- Neighborhood police report: only 14 calls, nothing major or important. Noted that residents should lock car doors at night, and don't leave valuables in them. As a deterrent noted floodlights with motion sensor are a good idea to help protect property.
- Bechtel park: Hasn't had renovations since the 1970's, and developing a capital plan for park to fix some issues. It is a \$4.2M capital investment program that would revamp tennis courts (meeting attendees asked that pickle ball not be allowed), feeder roads, and address drainage. The mansion (in the park) is also in need of renovation. Open for civic meetings, need to raise capital for it.
- New train station in Claymont is open, parking still free.
- Councilman noted that he filed for re-election, and is happy to serve- would like to continue.

Questions for councilman

- Sink hole in Indian Hill remains- calls were made 3 or 4 times without any action. Noted to send a follow up email with photo and contact Sean Matthews.
- Vacant property issue: Send an email with information on the property in question 7 Mill

Race Rd. It's been 20 years the house has been sitting vacant and numerous attempts have been made to address the issue. Chris Yasik is the code officer (Title: Certified Property Maintenance & Housing Inspector). Send a follow up email to councilman.

- Right of way question on Farm Ave. going between Highland Woods and Indian field. There is no connection, but was going to be- there was a property line issue. Noted there is need for drainage improvement. Speak to NC County Conservation District, which is affiliated with state government. For issues in District 8- Kevin Donnelly is the Exec Director.
- What is opening in place of the old Boston Market in claymont? Chipotle.
- Are the new warehouse(s) being filled? Area scheduled for mixed use development. It is in process.
- Individuals driving on Chestnut Street are still driving too fast/going over speed limit. It is a state road, not NC County and is managed by Deldot. Sean matthews has new road rating systems. They are working on it, will report back.
- Resident question. There is overgrowth on her property from another neighbor- who to talk to? County complaints on property conditions.
- Y/Hanby adding pools? No additional pools to his (councilman) knowledge. Notes it is protected property and will not be developed.

Meeting minutes read- Ken Velasquez (Secretary)

There were conversations on items during the reading: sink hole in Indian Field, 'library' on corner of Lorraine's house, Chestnut Street repair/ 'dangerous' driving.

New business

from Shannon

Block party June 20 on Farm Ave. (at dead end). Need tables, chairs, byob, food(?). Also working on a community yard sale in fall (October) Date is tbd. Question about setting up a Facebook group, and potential to connect to the Darley Civic website. Need to speak with Dan and the board.

from Mark

- Problems with sand barrells contact Anthony Uro.
- Still working on the banking issue- never got call back. Still a need a co-signer, etc.
- Reported on association funds- passed around hand out. Around 50% of association are paying dues, Highland Woods dues are paid up, Indian Field are not for 2023, still collecting dues for 2024.

Back to Susan

Meeting adjourned.