

# **Tavistock Civic Association Annual Meeting Minutes**

Talleyville Fire Company Memorial Hall, March 19, 2026, 7 PM

## **Call to Order**

Eileen Measley, President, opened the meeting and welcomed attendees at 7:08 PM.

## **Introduction of New Area Representatives**

The board introduced new Area Representatives: Andy Depenbusch (Area E), Marc Kaplan (Area H), and Jill Boova (Area J). The board extended a warm welcome to the new reps.

## **Board Elections**

A vote was held for the election of officers to the board for 2026. A motion to accept the slate of officers was made by Rose Passarella and seconded by Amy Wallach. The current officers were nominated and unanimously approved for another year's term:

- President: Eileen Measley
- Vice President: Lottie Zapisek
- Treasurer: Annie Baker
- Secretary: Robert Measley

## **Treasurer's Report**

Annie Baker presented the current budget to the group.

- Expenses for the year totaled \$16,900.
- The current balance is \$24,407.

This year, due to three major snowfalls, there will be additional costs for snow removal (the contract covers two plowing events). An extra \$375 was paid for salting because of ice buildup. The state will reimburse the Tavistock Civic Association (TCA) for the entire cost.

New this year is an online Dues and Directory form, available at <https://forms.gle/1oszv1uysNVxqZ69>.

Paper forms are still available for those without computer or Internet access.

- Dues collection was nearly 100%, with only one home not paying. The due date for this year is May 31.
- Next year, a new Directory will be printed, resulting in an additional expense.

A motion to approve the budget was made by Tim Wilson and seconded by Joe Palladino.

A vote was held for approval of the Treasurer's report and the FY 2025-2026 budget. The motion was made, seconded, and all were in favor.

## **Committee Reports**

### **Deed Restrictions**

Dave Gazillo was not present. No report was provided.

### **Street Tree Committee**

Robert Measley reported that Tavistock has been recognized as a Platinum Status "Tree Friendly

Neighborhood” by the Division of Forestry for 2025-2027, one of only three in Delaware. This recognition is based on consecutive years of qualifying through active participation in the Urban & Community Forestry Program, including maintaining the Tree Committee, conducting annual planting and pruning projects, and use of dues to support these efforts.

- Last year, nine diseased Ash trees were removed. Approximately one-third of the cost was covered by TCA, and two-thirds by homeowners. About sixteen Ash trees remain, all of which may need removal over the next few years.
- No application will be made for a tree planting grant this year due to changes in grant requirements, including soil samples at each site, watering contracts with homeowners, and other stricter criteria under tight deadlines.
- A spring planting is planned at approximately twenty sites along Severn and Taunton. The committee will contact homeowners for details and consent forms. Participation is free for homeowners. The types of trees will be similar to those previously offered and recommended by the Delaware Urban & Community Forestry Program, depending on nursery availability. Stein Tree Service will handle the planting, as they have been used successfully by Edenridge I.
- The annual summer walk-through will take place in June to survey street trees for pruning and potential removals in the fall. Stein Tree Service will be used again this year. Residents are encouraged to contact the Tree Committee with any concerns or questions about their street trees.

## **Columbia Place**

Frank Maderich reported ongoing collaboration with developer Jerry Heisler since 2008. The developer is currently working on a modified plan to adjust the number of apartments between two planned large four-story apartment buildings near Route 202. Exchanges with New Castle County Land Use are typical. When completed, Columbia Place will have a total of 149 units.

## **Swales and Stormwater Management**

Eileen Measley reported no new issues. Residents are reminded to keep gutters and swales free of yard debris to prevent flooding. Always call “Miss Utility” before digging in your yard or near backyard swales: 800-282-8555 in Delaware.

## **Happy Hours**

Eileen is planning several “Pop up” Happy Hours this summer. Anyone interested in hosting should contact Eileen or their Area Rep. TCA will reimburse hosts up to \$150.

## **Community Safety**

Eileen reported that potholes can be reported to DelDOT on their website.

## **Edenridge III Liaison**

Lottie Zapisek announced the community yard sale will be held Saturday, April 25. Both communities are again sponsoring the yard sale. Flyers have been distributed and emails will be sent soon. A list of participating houses will be available.

The block party is scheduled for May 2, from 3 to 6 PM (rain date May 3). Main dish, band, bounce house, and other activities for kids will be provided. Flyers have been placed in mailboxes and emails will be sent out.

No Solicitation signs, a joint effort with Edenridge III, have been posted at each community entrance.

## **Old Business**

None.

## **New Business**

None.

## **Questions and Comments**

None.

## **Adjournment**

Lottie Zapisek motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 PM. Annie Baker seconded, and the President adjourned the meeting.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Robert Measley, Secretary.