

BROOKSIDE COMMUNITY, INC

Civic Meeting Minutes – December 4, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 7:37 pm by President Victor Enos.

Minutes of the November 7 meeting were read. It was moved (Wheatley/Schofield) and approved to make one correction: In Mr. Wheatley's crime report, the individual turfing off Old Newark Road had not been identified.

State Rep. Ed Osienki reported that bridge replacement work is currently two weeks behind schedule. The contractor will be working Saturdays in an effort to make up the delay. Although hot mix plants will shut down soon, a temporary finish will be used on the area so that the road can open as soon as possible. When the plants re-open in spring, the finish coat will be completed. To make contact with Delmarva Power concerning smart meters call 1-855-639-6383, or www.takecontroldelaware.com.

Rep. Osienki will be available at the Newark Senior Center with Councilwoman Lisa Diller on the first Friday of each month at 9:00 am to answer questions from residents. He pointed out that the Polly Drummond Hill yard waste site will be closing as soon as the County finalized arrangements for a new supervised site at 39 Brookhill Drive off Route 72. The old site was not supervised which resulted in individuals dumping materials that were not yard waste, and was also being abused by contractors. He will follow up on the drainage issue west of Marrows Road with the County. The Lions Club is contributing donations to provide the needs of the four Hohn children from Brookside Blvd. whose parents are incarcerated for child abuse. He will check with DelDOT on the missing stop sign/s at Mallboro Drive, and also regarding the placement of stop signs at Brookside Boulevard and Montrose Drive.

Bryan Townsend, Senator elect for the 11th district, reported that he has been working with the Div. of Family Services regarding the Hohn family children. Some communities are doing fund raisers to help the children. If people wish to help, the best idea is to send gift cards to the Div. of Family Services at 820 N. French Street in Wilmington designating them for the Hohn Children. He has also been working with Freeman Williams of the Christina School District who is seeking residents' involvement in strategic planning. There will be a special session on Dec. 5 to vote on judicial appointments. There will be a Sunset committee review of the Public Service Commission.

Renee Bensley reported for Councilwoman Lisa Diller. Jeremy Bennet, neighborhood watch coordinator in Todd Estates, is coordinating a gift card effort for the Hohn children. To speak with him call 593-8301. She pointed out that the deadline for school tax reductions for seniors has been changed to April 30. There are currently 23 open

code violation cases in Brookside. Plans are in progress to continue Camp Brookside at Brookside Elementary School during the summer of 2013. It operates from 8:30 to 12:30 Monday through Thursday at a cost of \$5/day. This include both breakfast and lunch for participating children. For more information call Heather Mergenthaler at 395-5632. She will check with the appropriate county department regarding the tree that is down in Cool Run.

Bill Wheatley reported that during the period of Nov. 1 through Dec. 3, there were 142 police calls. This included 11 crimes, 8 domestics and 2 noise complaints. There were 31 vehicle stops, including speeding, seat belt violations, and using cell phones. He suggested that a fund raiser be organized to assist the Hohn children.

Susan Meany, BCI Court Liaison, explained the process of e-filing on those residents who are delinquent in paying BCI assessments. All delinquents owing more than one year's payments are eligible for e-filing. Thus far over 140 cases have been e-filed. The backlog was created since no collections efforts had been made since 2004. A lengthy discussion followed regarding the legal requirements of the process and whether payments can be accepted by BCI once the matter has been turned over to the court. Computer problems in the office have made it difficult to secure current information, since records need updating monthly. It was recommended that additional consultation take place with counsel to determine the correct procedure regarding accepting payment after e-filing has been accomplished.

President Enos requested that volunteers meet at the Community Building on Thursday, Dec. 13, at 7:00 p.m. to assist in wrapping toys to be distributed by Santa.

Handouts were provided for a first-time home buyer program developed by the County.

An objection was raised by a resident regarding leasing the soccer fields off Old Newark Road. There is not adequate parking and residents have suffered abuse to their properties by those attending games, as well as trash dumping. It was pointed out that there is not adequate space on Cameron Lane for parking, and through traffic had been obstructed.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Jean P. Skibinski

Secretary

BROOKSIDE COMMUNITY, INC.

Civic Meeting Minutes – November 7, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 pm by President Beverly Schofield. She pointed out that a committee list was circulating and urged members to volunteer. The September Financial Report was available; however, because of computer problems the report for November is not yet available.

State Representative Ed Osienski was congratulated on his re-election. He indicated he had no additional information on the bridge replacement project; however, sump pumps have been activated as part of the project and may bring noise complaints. The Health Fair at the Community Building was a success. There was no serious damage reported from hurricane Sandy; we were very lucky. The intersection at Mallboro and Marrows will be closed for about two weeks to permit sewer line connections.

State Senator Elect Bryan Townsend was congratulated on his election to the 11th District. New Senators will be inaugurated in December. Constituents may call him with concerns at 709-1516.

Bill Wheatley provided the crime stats from October 1 to November 7. There were 178 calls, 51 of which were self initiated, including a variety of complaints from abandoned vehicles, domestics, and suspicious persons. Police made 37 traffic stops including seat belt violations and speeding. Signs have been erected in Little K parkland and the problem of homeless collecting there has been resolved; however, reports of homeless at the abandoned Exxon station and behind the shopping center continue. He also reported that there have been reports of drug activity at the intersection of Mackay and Martindale that connects to parkland, with other reports at Chaucer and Cameron Lane. These areas are under surveillance by police. The individual who has been turfing BCI property off Old Newark Road has been identified. No problems were reported on Mischief Night or Halloween.

Cheryl Besteder, Chair of the Nomination & Election Committee, reported that 55 ballots were returned for election of the 2012-2014 Board. Two ballots were invalidated. She extended warm thanks to the members of her committee—Grace, Sandy, Kathi and Mr. O'Dell, with special thanks to Janis Brown in the BCI Office for all her help with labels, envelopes and reviews of delinquent lists. Elected were Vic Enos, President; Jean Skibinski, Secretary; and Board Members Richard Glines, Donna Metzger, Beverly Schofield, Barbara Smith and Bill Wheatley.

Beverly Schofield extended thanks to Board members and the volunteers and employees who have assisted her during her term as President.

Richard Glines extended thanks to Beverly Schofield for her dedication and hard work during her tenure.

Vic Enos, President Elect, stated that we need to forget past problems and move forward into the future. It is his desire to work with the residents and listen to all opinions. His first effort will be planning for Santa to visit the children in our community.

Jean Skibinski reported that we need to take action against the most recent Public Service Commission decision to charge all Delmarva Power users for the installation of special equipment for those facilities that have central air conditioning for the next 15 years. She has been in touch with the Public Advocate Office who recommended a petition to PSC opposing this decision.

Mr. O'Dell pointed out problems with sewer lines west of Section C in the parkland, related to drainage from the White Chapel area. Representative Osienski will follow up on this problem with the City of Newark.

The meeting adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

Jean P. Skibinski

Secretary

BROOKSIDE COMMUNITY, INC.

CIVIC MEETING MINUTES – OCTOBER 2, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 pm by President Beverly Schofield.

Minutes of the September 4 meeting were approved as presented.

Rene Bensley reported for County Councilwoman Lisa Diller. Her newsletter and fliers for coming events were distributed. She reported 26 open code cases in the community, mostly high grass and weeds, and 5 unregistered vehicles. A community fair is being planned for April 19, 2013 at the Newark Library. The Summer Camp Brookside sponsored by the County served 40 children, 20% of which came from Brookside. The \$5/day charge may have been a deterrent for some parents (\$20/week, Monday thru Thursday).

Ms. Schofield introduced two candidates present: Tom Gordon and Bryan Townsend.

Mr. Wheatley reported on the crime stats for the period Sept. 11 – October 1. There were 120 calls, 31 of which were self-initiated. 19 crimes were reported in the area, including 4 burglaries, 4 disorderly conduct, 2 offensive touching, 8 thefts, and 1 vehicle theft. There were 17 vehicle stops and the Tack Unit issued 5 tickets for speeding.

A discussion followed regarding homeless squatters in the parkland behind the shopping center and in Little K section. There is currently no signage in these areas, nor do we have any appropriate signs in storage. Police have received calls of complaint, but were unable to act due to lack of signage. Mr. Wheatley agree to check on signage and report back to the board.

The August financial statement was available; however, because of illness Mr. Hamilton did not yet have the September 30 statement available.

Ms. Schofield is checking further into Delaware Labor Law, which is not identified as "Right to Work" but as "At Will", which is essentially the same thing. We need to determine what state and federal labor laws may apply to a non-profit corporation.

The contractor indicated that work on the Marrows Road Bridge Replacement will begin about October 15. He stated the delay was caused by some late revisions to the contract. He inquired about using BCI land for the construction office trailer, but was deterred when learning he would have to provide insurance, pay rent, and be required to return the property to its original condition as conclusion of the project.

The elections committee is still working on the final slate for the BCI election. Petitions were accepted through October 1 and are being checked at the present time.

Currently the Elections Committee has the following candidates: 1 President, 1 Secretary and 5 Directors. Ballots must be mailed to residents in good standing by October 12, and ballots will be due back by October 23.

We have received some inquiries about a flea market. Because of the proposed bridge replacement, scheduling such an event was not possible. Originally work was to have been done through the summer; hence, the inability to schedule.

The November Civic Meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 7, so as not to conflict with Election Day.

The meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Jean P. Skibinski

Secretary

BROOKSIDE COMMUNITY, INC.

Civic Meeting Minutes – September 4, 2012

The meeting was called to order by President Schofield on 7:37 pm.

Minutes of the August 7 meeting were corrected to reflect that Delaware has no right-to-work law as pointed out by Mr. Wheatley in reference to Chapter 19 of the Delaware code. BCI will further investigate the contents of the current law.

Mr. Owens questioned the assignment of the Audit Committee. Members are currently researching qualified CPAs to perform an intermediate audit, as stipulated in motion passed by the BCI Board.

Representative Osienski reported that DelDOT is currently working to clean up the area of Route 4 between Marrows Road and Route 72. Due to drastic reductions of their funding, state representatives prefer to allocate funds to road work, rather than shrubbery enhancement. Asphalt prices have skyrocketed which further limits the amount of work that can be accomplished within the budget. He reported the Rep. Kowalko funded the repairs at Kensington Lane adjacent to route 72. The Fall Community Fair on Sept. 29, sponsored by Westside Family Healthcare, will be held at the Community Building. A meeting had been scheduled by Delmarva at the Brookside Bloom Site on Route 4 on Thursday, Sept. 27 at 10:00 am to bring local representatives and community leaders up to date. Later in the day the site will be open to interested residents.

The Marrows Road bridge replacement was discussed. Latest information from DelDOT is that work may begin between Sept. 15 and Oct. 15. This late start could delay the project over the winter since hot mix plants usually cease operations for the winter about December 15 and do not resume production until early spring. The problem of puddling at Korda and Kensington was noted and needs to be corrected as a result of a recent road repair. Mr. Osienski will request DelDOT to check storm drains at North Kingston and Route 4. It was reported that weeds are growing out of the drain at Mallboro and Montvale. Timing of traffic lights at Brookside Blvd. and Marrows Rd., and Route 4 and Marrows Road need to be checked.

Rene Bensley reported for Councilwoman Lisa Diller. She reported 25 open cases for code enforcement with the county; among these 6 for vehicles and 4 for debris. She urged qualified residents to be sure to submit their applications for senior tax discounts on school and property taxes before the deadlines. A question regarding whether county law limits the number of pets per household needs to be researched; a property of at least two acres is required to allow any farm-type animal, except in cases where such animals are being housed for educational purposes.

Mr. Wheatley reported crime states for three-month period from June 1 – August 31. There were 512 calls, 101 of which were self-initiated by the police. Among these were 44 crimes, 25 home alarms, 3 assaults, 16 criminal conduct, 1 fraud, 3 robberies, 1 sex crime, 21 thefts (mostly from unsecured vehicles), 2 vehicle thefts, and 44 domestics. Megan's law was implemented on Montvale regarding an unregistered sex offender.

Also, there were 65 traffic stops in the community. 34 tickets were issued, 20 warnings for seat belts and ignoring yield signs. In addition the Tack Unit issues 19 tickets for speeding, as well as 5 other traffic violations.

Mr. Wheatley was concerned that the current list of high crime communities lists Brookside as second in the County. We need more residents to become involved with community watch. Every resident should report any suspicious activity observed. Recent drug activity was stymied at Cameron Lane, and other suspicious areas in the community are under greater surveillance. New stronger street lights have been installed at Martell Road, one of the areas in question, and installations will follow in other questionable areas, including the area at the corner of Routes 4 and 72.

Homeless have been squatting in the area behind the Shopping Center. Ms. Bensley reported that non-profits serving the homeless can be contacted through Ms. Diller's office.

President Schofield reported that a damaged area of fence at the Community Bldg. has been repaired. Work continues on collection of community dues that are delinquent. She stressed that the deadline for candidates to register to run in the BCI election is September 15. Petitions with 30 signatures can be accepted until October 1.

Mr. Wheatley stated that BCI should not be charging a rental fee for use of the building by Westside Family Healthcare of Sept. 29. Those present seemed to concur with the statement. President Schofield indicated that the issue would be discussed by Board members at the Executive Meeting to follow the close of the Civic Meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

Jean P. Skibinski, Secretary

BROOKSIDE COMMUNITY, INC.

CIVIC MEETING MINUTES – AUGUST 7, 2012

The meeting was called to order by President Schofield at 7:43 p.m.

Minutes of the June 5 meeting were approved as presented.

Councilwoman Lisa Diller introduced a new booklet of resources for people over 50 and provided copies for distribution. These will also be available at the Senior Center, where she meets with people the first Friday of each month. Since Mr. Wheatley has resigned from the BCI Board, Ms. Diller has agreed to provide the crime stats for our community each month. She reported that the summer program for children held at Brookside School was a success, but felt that the minimal fee may have prevented some from participating.

In response to a question about the bridge replacement schedule, Ms. Schofield reported that a DelDOT representative is on site each day observing the work being done by Verizon. Water getting into their cables is further extending the time anticipated to complete the project. DelDOT originally indicated that the bridge replacement would be scheduled during the summer months. They have received bids and negotiated a contract for the replacement, but it appears that work won't begin before September, and could take from four to six months to complete.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ms. Schofield reported that Mr. Wheatley resigned on July 29 as Vice President. This created a problem involving the requirement for two signatures on BCI checks. An e-mail vote was taken and Jean Skibinski was voted in to serve as Secretary, which will permit a second signature on checks.

Bill Ferringer, BCI Accountant for more than 20 years, has resigned. Four candidates were considered to fill this position, three of whom were interviewed. Mr. Ferringer participated in the interviews and Jim Hamilton was selected as the new accountant. BCI is currently in the process of negotiating and signing a contract for his services. Mr. Ferringer will interface with Mr. Hamilton for orientation.

Ms. Schofield responded to an anonymous letter dated August 2 from "Many Concerned Residents" relative to budget and financial questions. She pointed out that the period in question was under the administration of Barry Adams, and John Dash and Linda Seltzer; therefore, Ms. Schofield could not logically respond to the reasons for certain costs and decisions. She clarified that an annual budget is an estimate of projected operating costs for the coming year and standard procedure allows adjustment of line

items within that budget, as long as the bottom line is not exceeded. She herself took office in August 2011 and was able to provide documentation for all decisions from that date forward. By comparison the 2012 budget was handled more economically than the 2011 budget.

By utilizing the April 30, 2012 financial report, the movement of funds through various accounts was clearly demonstrated.

Questions regarding employee contracts indicated that such contracts are detrimental to the employer and should not be utilized, as they negate the state right-to-work law. Ms. Schofield pointed out that a previous administration had negotiated such a contract with one employee, which has tied the hands of the Board in dealing with this employee.

As a result of questioning, the Board learned that a long-term rental contract was in the secretary's drawer for regular renters of the building. This contract will be reviewed and updated and used in any future long-term agreements.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Jean P. Skibinski

Secretary



August 2, 2012

To: BCI President

From: Many Concern Residents

Request the following questions be answered at the Civic Meeting on August 7, 2012.

1. Explain the reason for the overage of the line items on the 2010-2011 Budget (Accounting, Office Expenses, Miscellaneous, Building & Grounds Salaries, Cleaning Hall Supplies, Building Repairs and Tree Removal)?
2. Where did the money come from to cover these line item overages?
3. How/Where was the \$3000.00 plus interest from the Wilmington Trust CD used?
4. Where did the \$5000.00 come from for the M&T Commerical Checking Account?
5. How was the \$4200.00 plus used from the sale of BCI property to DELDOT for Marrows Road bridge replacement?
6. Why did the Accountant resign? Read his letter of resignation.
7. Why was the Audit Committee recommendation of an Auditor to perform the Audit rejected by the BCI Board and why was a new Audit Committee formed?
8. Where are the contracts for the following:
 - (a) Long Term Church Rental Contract
 - (b) Computer Repair Service Contract
 - (c) BCI Representative for Court Cases of Overdue Tax Assessments Contract
 - (d) New Accountant Contract
 - (e) Maintenance Employee Contracts (2)
 - (1) Building Employee
 - (2) Grounds Employee

Respectfully,

Concern Residents

NO

July

2012

Civic Meeting

Held

BOOKSIDE COMMUNITY, INC.
Civic Meeting Minutes – June 5, 2012

The meeting was called to order by President Schofield at 7:37 pm.

Minutes of the May 1, 2012 meeting were approved as presented.

No Treasurer's Report was available for May due to a backlog of record keeping at the time of dues collections. Pres. Schofield reported that the promised 1.25% interest rate by M&T Bank has not materialized and the issue is currently being negotiated with the bank.

VP Bill Wheatley reported on crime stats from April 1 through May 30. There were 291 calls, of which 72 were self-initiated by the police. Among the issues were 2 each assaults, burglary, criminal mischief, 9 thefts from vehicles (Martindale, Merry & Matthews) and 24 domestics. There were 48 vehicle stops for speeding, seat belts, cell phones and stop signs. The tack unit issued 12 ticket for speeding. He urged residents to always be aware of your surroundings and don't hesitate to call 911.

State Representative Ed Osienski reported that Delaware Solid Waste Authority (DSWA) will accept household hazardous waste on June 16 from 8-2 at Kirk Middle School. He will be arranging an electronics and shredding service at a later date to be announced. A grant proposal will be submitted to cover a drainage study for Cool Run Creek. He will continue to work for revisions in collections for Home Owners Associations (HOA) relating to bankruptcy/foreclosure. He proposes to set a \$5,000 limit for HOA collection, but such legislation will not be acted on until the fall session. DeIDOT will be making the necessary improvements to Old Newark Road. He reported that his graffiti legislation passed the House and is now in the State Senate for action. It includes loss of driving privileges for a second offense. Funds should be available after July to install the speed bumps on Martindale Drive. He will be setting up a meeting with local community group representatives to discuss concerns/dangers related to the newly installed Bloom energy boxes at the Brookside Power Station on Route 4.

Mr. Osienski expressed enthusiasm about having attended the FMC Company's 50th anniversary celebration. They have 105 employees, members of the steel workers union, and are expanding to increase that number with 16 new positions. This industry is a success story. China has tried to duplicate it without success, because of the precision and detail of American workers.

County Councilwoman Lisa Diller reported that there have been several complaints regarding high weeds and grass. A Summer Youth Program will begin next week at Brookside Elementary School. It includes breakfast and lunch weekdays as well as a morning of activities for a very nominal cost. There will be an informational program regarding foreclosures on June 25 at William Penn School.

Rene Tischner introduced herself as a candidate for New Castle County Council President. She discussed the current understaffing at County Police and the need to recruit cadets for training. She feels that the role of the County President is as a consensus builder and is concerned with public safety and quality of life issues. The issue of the Unified Development Code needs to be resolved.

Tom Gordon introduced himself as a candidate for New Castle County President. His background included New Castle County Police Chief and also Council President. He discussed congestion in the County because of the lack of connector roads and the effects of the Unified Development Code Redevelopment which does not require any consideration for the effect on traffic. He also pointed out that in the past few years there has been a 53% property tax increase in New Castle County.

Bryan Townsend introduced himself as the democratic candidate running in the primary for the 11th district senatorial seat. He has started door-to-door visits in the local communities to introduce himself.

President Schofield reported that a meeting was held with a representative of the Department of Forestry regarding our parkland, discussing tree planting and tree care. Grants are available and we can provide matching funds by using volunteers' time records.

The clean-up day was a success. Response to the community yard sale appeared to be light.

We are currently interviewing for a temporary collection agent position to deal with delinquent homeowner accounts.

We need volunteers to serve on the Nominations & Elections Committee, as well as candidates for the BCI election to be held at the end of October.

She reminded there will be no civic meeting in July, due to the July 4th holiday and vacation time.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Jean P. Skibinski

Acting Secretary

BROOKSIDE COMMUNITY, INC.

Civic Meeting Minutes – May 1, 2012

The meeting was called to order by President Schofield at 7:35 p.m.

Minutes of the April 3 Civic Meeting were approved as presented. (Glines/Seltzer)

No financial report was presented for April as the Accountant has not yet had time to prepare a report ending April 30.

Councilwoman Diller was unable to attend, but asked that attendees be reminded of the Community Resource Fair at the Newark Library on May 11, 10:00 – 2:00 , targeting seniors and the unemployed.

State Representative Osienski reported that there will be hazardous waste disposal at Kirk Middle School on June 16, conducted by DSWA (Del. Solid Waste Authority). A meeting was held with the City of Newark regarding Cool Run Creek; an application will be made for a grant to conduct a complete water study. He has introduced in the House a graffiti bill, increasing the first offense to 250 hours of community service and \$1,000 fine. A second offense will include revocation of driver's license currently under negotiation. There will be a Health & Wellness Fair at the Newark Senior Center on May 23, 9:00 – 1:00. He reminded those present of School Board Elections scheduled for May 8. Candidates include Shirley Staffer, Val Harris and Stephen Lee. Freeman Williams is the new Superintendent of the Christina District. Bloom Energy groundbreaking was held on April 30 in Newark. Delmarva Power is currently installing 15 Bloom Cells at the Brookside substation. More information is needed on safety issues and environmental impact. Home Owner Association legislation in negotiation proposes to allow only six-months' dues to be collected in the case of foreclosure. Such legislation would be detrimental to HOAs and it is proposed instead to set a maximum dollar limit. The matter remains to be resolved. A flea market has been operating on DelDOT property at the intersection of Routes 4 and 72 without permission and has been shut down. He will check into several problems reported on the paving and shoulders at Old Newark Road.

In response to a resident's question, Mr. Osienski stated that Delmarva Power will run gas lines into a community if 60% of the residents agree to use gas for heating. Delmarva is working to expand their customer base.

Bryan Townsend thanked residents for their interest and support in his candidacy for the state senate in the 11th district.

Bill Wheatley reported that theft problems in the community are originating in the Brookside Plaza area with 12 calls reported since April 3. The Brookside Shopping Center is attracting undesirable loiterers. Three homeless persons were relocated to Wilmington from the old Exxon station property. Residents on Martindale Drive voted 27 to 8 for installation of speed bumps from Brookside Boulevard intersection to Matthews Road. Six speed bumps will be installed to reduce speeding in this area. The mounted county police will be patrolling the area from May through August. The tack unit will also be patrolling the area. After contacting supervision, Mr. Wheatley was assured that henceforth patrols will cover all streets in the community, rather than just main streets.

President Schofield reported that the 1.25% interest rate on our account at M&T Bank has been extended for another three months, due to the efforts of Ms. Meany, who resigned as Treasurer on April

15 and was appointed to serve on the BCI Board as a director. Mr. Wheatley has been appointed to serve as Vice President.

The most recent issue of "The Brooksider" went out in early April at a cost of \$438.70.

She expressed thanks to the volunteers who worked so hard to get out the bills for the annual assessment on time.

BCI employs two maintenance men—one assigned to the community building, and the other to grounds.

Ms. Schofield thanked Mr. Osienski and Mr. Townsend for their help in the creek clean-up on April 28. No resident volunteers participated. Several bags of trash were collected by the three participants, including one shopping card and one computer monitor.

The following events are on the calendar

May 2, 10:00 am – Review of parkland with New Castle County Conservation District

May 5, 9:00-2:00 – Community Yard Sale

May 12, 7:00-11:00 – Community Clean-up – Volunteers needed

May 16 - Marsha Fox of State Dept. of Forestry - Review of parkland

May 22 , 10:00-6:00 – Rain Barrel Program –NCC Maintenance Yard, 2430 Old County Road - Barrels @ \$66, Divertors under \$20

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Jean P. Skibinski

Acting Secretary

BROOKSIDE COMMUNITY, INC.
CIVIC MEETING MINUTES
April 3, 2012

The meeting was called to order by Bill Wheatley at 7:40 p.m.

It was moved (Skibinski/Strol) to accept the March 6 minutes as presented.

Mr. Wheatley introduced guests, as follows:

REP. ED OSIENSKI:

Creek drainage west of the Marrows Road Bridge: Reps Osienski and Kowalko will be meeting with City of Newark City Council to get a drainage study performed.

There was a meeting with Pres. Harker of the U/D regarding the groundbreaking for the Bloom Energy project. A grant has been applied for a new train station in Newark for passenger service to include commuting between Newark and Aberdeen. In addition to the station, plans include commercial shops.

Road conditions can be reported to DeIDOT on their website at www.deldot.gov.

The Newark Sr. Ctr. Sales event is scheduled for April 26-28. Brookside Lions is conducting a dinner there on Friday, April 27.

He is currently working on legislation to deal with graffiti, which would include up to \$1,000 fine and 1,000 hours of community service. Research indicated that graffiti violators are primarily 17-year-olds, with 19-, 18- and 16-year olds also frequent violators. Also being considered is the loss of driving privileges for 30 days, with repeat violators' suspensions ranging from 90-180 days. The bill will be introduced on April 5.

COUNTY COUNCILWOMAN LISA DILLER:

She reported 31 code violations in the community during this record period. She made available copies of her newsletter. She will be at the Newark Sr. Center to meet with residents on April 13 at 9:00 a.m. There will be a community event at the Newark Library on May 11.

Budget hearings for the County are currently in progress and open to the public.

Questions about empty homes can be referred to the County Land Use Dept.

BILL DUNN:

He is running for County Council President. Bill has worked in community service for many years. He reported that land use is a large issue in New Castle County. Current population is about 580,000. Land development is an important issue since it affects the quality of life for our residents. Public safety is especially important for unincorporated areas of the county. Currently county police rolls and paramedic rolls are down due to retirements, and new staff needs to be hired as quickly as possible to maintain the quality of service required.

BRYAN TOWNSEND:

He is running in the primary elections for the senate seat for this district. He expressed appreciation for the community's support and will be going door-to-door to introduce himself to residents.

Mr. Wheatley reported on the crime statistics in the community for period of March 12 to April 2. There were 104 calls to police, which included 6 crimes—1 burglary, 1 fraud, and 4 thefts.

There were 13 vehicle stops in the community that included stop sign violations, speeding, seat belt and cell phone violations. He expressed thanks to CPAW and block watch people. Mr. Wheatley will look into reporting that rolling police patrols need to cover all streets in the community, not just the main roads.

President Beverly Schofield reported that papers were signed with DelDOT for the sale of property required for the Marrows Road Bridge Replacement. The 2012-13 Budget for BCI has been approved by the Board.

Three Board members met with Sue Barton of the U/D Cooperative Extension Service to seek ideas and recommendations regarding our parkland. Among the suggestions was following the County schedule of 10-day intervals for mowing, with a minimum height of 3-1/2 inches. Ms. Barton recommended considering meadowing at least along Cool Run Creek, as a means of filtering water run-off. Meadowed areas are only cut twice annually. This would save fuel and labor costs for the community. Walking paths can be included in these areas.

Ms. Diller reported that the County's only assistance with the creek is to remove any obstacles that create a damming situation. Clean-up along the banks is the responsibility of the community. Any dumping along the creek should be reported to DNREC at 739-9913.

Ms. Schofield reported that creek clean-up is scheduled for April 28, 7:00 am to 11:00 am and volunteers are needed. There will be a community yard sale on Saturday, May 5 (rain date May 6).

Community clean-up day is Saturday, May 12, with dumpsters located at the Community Bldg. lot and at the corner of Routes 4 and 72, adjacent to Little K Section. The American Cancer Research Center truck will be at the Community Bldg. lot to pick up useable clothing and household goods. Upon checking into this organization, she learned that 85-90% of their income goes to cancer research at a San Antonio TX facility. Rep. Osienski will look into bringing shredding and toxic material disposal services to this area.

Ms. Schofield stressed that we need volunteers to serve on the Nomination & Election Committee.

The meeting adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Jean P. Skibinski
Acting Secretary

BCI CIVIC MEETING

MARCH 6, 2012

Bill Wheatley called the meeting to order at 7:45.

Minutes from Feb. 7th meeting were read and a correction made removing Linda Seltzer's name from a question asked by Kathy. Motion to accept as corrected was made second.

Brian Townsend was introduced he spoke on running for the 11th district senate.

State Rep. Ed Osienski spoke on I-95 & RT. 1 being closed March 9 & 16, and to use the new mall bridge. He spoke on back dues, foreclosures, bankruptcy and liens. Concerning the bridge they felt it will be sufficient size. Ed and John are trying for a storm drainage survey. They will also keep pushing for a grant from Newark since the flooding problem is coming from the retaining pond. There is a free tax filing program for those making \$49,000 or less at the Brookside School call 656-8200.

Chestnut Hill had a Rabid fox, pets were missing, call Denreck at 739-9913 if you have a problem with animals.

Scottsfield is getting new sidewalks due to Delmarva Power adding gas lines. It takes a 51% community vote to connect to natural gas.

Kathy congratulated Rep. Kowalko and Osienski for a speedy cleanup on Rt. 4.

Ms. Dillard was introduced she spoke on County Code she added 5 new cases totaling 29 for the community. Community Day at Glasgow Park on March 24th. She passed out a newsletter of upcoming event in the county. She spoke on the budget hearing, any empty homes near you needing repairs call her and she will get land use to take care of the maintains. She is at the Senior Center the 1st. Fri. of each month.

Treasure report was on the back counter. Call the office if you have questions.

Linda Seltzer had questions on landscaping, purchases not allocated correctly, money not corresponding with purchases, and the reimbursement of \$14.00 back to Brookside for mileage expense.

Bill Wheatley gave the crime stats, total calls 312 from Jan. 3rd to March 5th 16 crimes, 2 burglary, 6 criminal, 1 robbery, & 7 thefts. Vehicle stops, 84 tickets from speeding, running stop signs & red lights to no seat belts etc. Most tickets were from residents. If you call 911 on your cell phone DO NOT hang up, you need to tell them your location.

Bill introduced Norman Spector administer of The New Castle Homeowners Association. He spoke on By-Laws, Budgets and Reimbursements.

Discussion on the base ball parking lot, the materials and the cost. The tape ran out.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40.

Barbara Smith

BROOKSIDE COMMUNITY, INC.
CIVIC MEETING MINUTES
February 7, 2012

The meeting was called to order by Director Bill Wheatley at 7:32 pm.

Minutes of the December Civic Meeting were approved as presented.

State Representative John Kowalko noted that Councilwoman Diller and State Representative Osienski had

commitments at other locations and could not be present. He commended both for their dedication to community service.

Mr. Kowalko will initiate further investigation on the flooding that may be resulting from the retention pond in White Chapel.

He also stated that Rep. Osienski is currently looking into the question of limits on collecting past-due assessments when

there are foreclosures. A resident pointed out that there is still a flooding problem at the Korda/Kensington intersection and he will follow up on this.

The Treasurer's Report for January was available for residents. If there are any questions after review, residents are asked to call in to get answers.

Mr. Wheatley provided the Crime Stats for the period of January 9 – February 7, 2012. Brookside reported 135 calls,

7 of which were in the crime category (5 thefts, some from unsecured vehicles; and 2 criminal mischief, one of which resulted in arrest). He thanked the Block Watch volunteers who are diligent, and noted the significant drop in calls since Block Watch has been activated. Police reported 33 vehicle stops—speeding, ignoring stop signs and passing incorrectly. The mounted police will resume activity in the area by the end of February, and will continue this patrol through September. Three vehicles with expired licenses were tagged and this is now in the hands of the county. December Crime Stats will be

available to anyone having questions—these had not been presented since there was no civic meeting in January. There

was no information on the drive-by shooting on Chaucer Drive, which is currently under police investigation.

Mr. Wheatley reported that he contacted Delmarva Power concerning the upgrading of street lights in the community.

Improvements will begin on Little K section and progress through the community. The only area not covered will be

Fireside Park since residents there originally voted not to have poles or street lights.

President Schofield reported that Santa toured the community in December and candy canes were distributed to the children.

Three members of the BCI Board have attended county E-file workshops providing instruction on going to Magistrate

Court for claims of delinquent assessments. Our legal counsel will attend the first filing to insure that the three

Board members are familiar with the procedure; filings will then continue on a regular basis to collect delinquent assessments.

Funds were moved from TD Bank to M&T Bank to take advantage of the current 1.25% interest rate.

Fireworks warnings were distributed door-to-door in various areas of the community prior to New Years Eve.

Settlement with delDOT is expected to be made within the week on the areas needed for installation of the new Marrows Road Bridge over Cool Run. Whether we can recoup legal fees incurred remains to be resolved.

Bryan Townsend, a local attorney, introduced himself and explained that he is running in the September 11 primary for the local state Senatorial seat. He has lived in this area throughout his life, with grandparents who were original Brookside owners, and is interested in public service to his home area.

Ms. Romsberg spoke of a concern of Linda Seltzer regarding mileage reimbursements to Board Members who must travel outside the community in behalf of BCI business. Ms. Seltzer objected to individuals using their own vehicles instead of the BCI truck. Officers involved noted that they do not feel comfortable driving the truck and had concerns about the possibility of accidents. Mileage reimbursement had been approved at a previous Executive Board Meeting based on the current IRS rate. The BCI by-laws specifically state that, while Board Members receive no compensation, they may be reimbursed for expenses incurred while conducting BCI business.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Jean P. Skibinski
Acting Secretary

CIVIC MEETING WAS NOT HELD ON
JANUARY 2, 2012