

BROOKSIDE COMMUNITY, INC.
Civic Meeting Minutes – December 6, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 pm, with Bill Wheatley presiding. Minutes of the November 1 Civic Meeting were approved as presented.

The prime subject of this meeting was the bridge replacement by DELDOT on Marrows Road. DELDOT representatives presenting information included: Jason McCluskey, Jerry Bedwell, Ken Gallion, Ann Heidrick, and Glen Lovelace.

Mr. Bedwell began the discussion by explaining the deterioration of the metal underpinnings of the current 57-year-old bridge, and reviewing plans for its replacement. Residents were able to question various aspects of the replacement. Among these issues were flooding, sometimes caused by storm drains plugged with leaves and debris, and also increased drainage coming from White Chapel and the areas north that had not been in existence when drainage was originally installed.

DELDOT work will not interfere with the ballfield on the west side of the road. A walkway around the construction on the east side of Marrows Road will be created for pedestrian traffic. Signage will be installed prior to construction, noting closure and detours, with the main detour via Wyoming Road. Work is expected to begin in mid-June 2012 and run through summer, with construction proceeding from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm daily. DELDOT will arrange to have the timing of the traffic light at Brookside Boulevard and Marrows Road checked and, if necessary, adjusted for better traffic flow.

Representative Ed Osienski reported that the Newark Area Food Drive will continue through December 9, and food packages will be distributed at the Police Academy located in Kimberton (Whispering Pines). He reported that the clean-up on Old Newark Road had been completed, though residents complained that work was only partially done on Route 4. Transponders for Easy-pass will be available until the end of the year. Rep. Osienski and Councilwoman Diller will discuss the flow of Cool Run with the Conservation District.

Mr. Wheatley reported that there were 146 police calls from November 1 to December 5, 10 of which were crimes. There were 24 traffic stops. A new type of fireworks is very dangerous and warnings need to be issued before New Year's Eve. Fireworks are illegal in Delaware, resulting in a misdemeanor charge and a \$25 fine. Cars blocking roads during snowfalls should be reported to the County Police non-emergency number.

There will be no Civic Meeting in January 2012.

The meeting adjourned at 9:17 pm.

Jean P. Skibinski
Acting Secretary

BROOKSIDE COMMUNITY, INC.
Civic Meeting Minutes – November 1, 2011

*THIS MEETING
WAS NOT
RECORDED*

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 pm, with Bill Wheatley presiding. Minutes of the October Civic Meeting were not available due to secretary's illness.

Guests included Senator DeLuca, Representatives Kowalko and Osienski and Ms. Bensley representing Councilwoman Diller.

Senator DeLuca discussed street funds distribution concerns: limited funds for many projects and communities.

Mr. Kowalko stated that the problem storm drain has been unclogged and is now functioning. He pointed out that the University has many free programs available for residents who are over age 60. DELDOT is in the planning stage of major repairs to the bridge on Marrows Road.

Mr. Osienski pointed out upcoming community events: a Community Energy Fair on November 10. Delmarva will provide information and answer questions on billings. Christina School District is making plans for Newark Montessori Program at Brookside Elementary School starting in 2012. Both he and Mr. Kowalko continue to press DELDOT for cleanup along Route 4 between Marrows Road and Route 72.

Ms. Bensley stated that there are 24 open code violation cases in Brookside, 2 of which are new. She reminded the audience that Ms. Diller has an open meeting at Newark Sr. Center at 10:00 am on the first Friday of each month. Due to the storm, Glasgow Community Day has been rescheduled to March 24, 2012. Opposition to the Stopyra Tract development on Possum Park Road was discussed.

Mr. Wheatley announced that classes for the National Weather Service Skywarn Program will be held November 5 at Christiana Hospital. Basic class is scheduled for 9:00 am to noon, and the advanced class from 1:00 pm to 3:15 pm. Call 382-2540 to register.

Crime stats were reported for period October 1 – October 28, 2011. Of 135 calls, only nine were crime reports. Mr. Wheatley cautioned that security system alarms generate a fine with the third false alarm within the year. He reported that there were 45 traffic stops, with 45 tickets issues, and 9 warnings. Unfortunately, most of these were local residents who are aware of the traffic rules within the community. An additional 25 tickets were issued by the tack unit.

NEW BUSINESS:

The bridge repair on Marrows Road was discussed at a meeting with DELDOT. However, a new proposal is being prepared which will require slightly more BCI land

adjacent to the bridge. The Board is consulting with our attorney regarding this transfer of property. Work will commence in the spring of 2012 and run to early fall, a period of 3-6 months. During this period traffic will be detoured over Old Newark Road or Wyoming Road.

A resident brought up a complaint of loud music on Sunday nights at the Community Building, disturbing residents along Martindale Drive. This was reported to the police. Mr. Wheatley will patrol the area to check on excessive noise by building renters.

President Schofield reported on the October 5 meeting with DELDOT regarding bridge repairs. Three parcels will be involved. Costs related to property transfer should be borne by DELDOT. A concern was expressed about children walking to school on Marrows Road during construction.

The October 8 flea market and community sale went well and BCI gained a modest profit which is available for children's activities in the community. We need volunteers to plan and implement such activities.

The Board is working on a snow removal contract, and delinquent dues collections. A "Brookside" newsletter is due for early December. Evergreens were removed adjacent to the entrance of the Community Building to improve security visibility. The position of Vice President is open currently, with the Secretary on leave until January. Volunteers are needed.

Mr. Dash reported that patrols are needed in the area of the soccer fields off Old Newark Road, where it appears drug activity is taking place. Suspicious activity should be reported to the police.

Ms. Schultheis reported that a power pole adjacent to her property needs replacing. She had been informed by Delmarva Power that she would need to pay for it. Mr. Osienski volunteered to look into this, since power poles are the responsibility of the utility.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Jean P. Skibinski
Acting Secretary

BROOKSIDE COMMUNITY, INC.

Civic Meeting Minutes – October 9, 2011

The meeting was called to order by Secretary Tim Robinson at 7:37 pm.

Minutes of the Civic Meeting of 9/6/11 were accepted as presented.

Rep. Ed Osienski reported that effective with the 2012 election, redistricting will make him the representative for all of Brookside. Bloom fuel cells will be installed at the Brookside Power Station located along Route 4, and he will follow the progress of this project. Concern has been voiced that Delmarva rate payers will be assessed about \$1 monthly to cover this cost. Graffiti has increased recently and DelDOT is working to clean up along route 4. If violation are observed by residents, try to document by photographing with cell phone and report same. Mr. Kowalko and Mr. Osienski are working to schedule a community health fair in January at the Newark Senior Center. Handicapped ramps have been installed along Kenmar Drive. The clean-up along route 4 should be completed within the next month.

County Councilwoman Lisa Diller reported that the County is investigating the flooding in Section C with the City of Newark. Problems originated after the extensive building in White Chapel, which is within the city limits. There are currently 33 open violations in Brookside, mainly high grass and weeds. An open house has been scheduled for October 11 to promote the 4-H program for Brookside youth. Ms. Diller also meets with resident the first Friday of each month at the Newark Senior Center. She has been appointed to the county Community Service Committee and is looking forward to participating.

Bill Wheatley announced a number of events scheduled for the near future, including a Child Abuse Class (\$10 fee), the 30th anniversary of the mounted patrol at Carousel Park, prescription drug disposal collection, fund raiser for Iron Hill Park, Glasgow Park Community Day, SPARK in the Park at Scottfield and Whispering Pines.

Among the crimes reported during the last period were graffiti, vehicle thefts, burglaries, domestics and assaults. He again urged people to keep cars and doors locked. He pointed out that it is a violation to block a sidewalk with a parked car, which forces pedestrians into the roadway. It is also a violation to walk in the roadway and obstruct vehicular traffic.

Mr. Robinson pointed out that our flea market will be held on October 8 from 9:00-2:00. Our advertising has also included a community sale so that residents can participate at their homes.

President Schofield discussed problems with mosquitos. The smallest amount of standing water will encourage mosquitos to breed. If the problem gets out of hand we can get assistance from the state with fogging. She is looking into a program for teenagers to volunteer in the community as a means of getting their community service credits for graduation. There will be a free energy audit of the community building on October 5. A land use meeting has been scheduled for October 19 to evaluate uses for our 43 acres of parkland.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

JPS

Brookside Open Civic Meeting Minutes

9-6-11

Meeting brought to order around 7:40 pm with the previous minutes being read, corrected, motioned and second to accept as read by Cathy.

Councilman Kowalko discussed street and pothole repair projects. A request was made for neighbors to document any suspicious activity so law enforcement can have good information to assist to resolve some issues. Councilman Kowalko gave introduction regarding his replacement Ed Osienski and accolades regarding Councilwoman Diller. Open discussion of street sign and road signs was voiced.

Council Woman Diller, Legislative Aide Renee Bensley discussed Spark in the Park Program, to develop children activities in the communities. This is a low cost fun activity for the months on September and October. There are 32 open code complaints, most regarding high grass and vehicles. The sewer back up behind Chancer was due to sewer system inadequacy to handle conditions due to hurricane. A request was made for residents to contact Council Woman Diller office when there are concerns as soon as there are notices, so they can begin to address them as soon as possible.

CPAW Reports: Bill Wheatley did not have the crime stats but advised the Community Service unit was taking out of the office and placed back on the street till October. Graffiti is on the rise, law enforcement is making headway regarding this matter. Concerns with speeding through the community, patrols have been in the area giving out tickets.

Old Business: None

New Business: Beverly Schofield advised Linda Seltzer resigned as president and she was elevated to president. There is currently a vacant position for Vice President. We are currently looking for a better bank account rate to move funds to. There was a successful volunteer meeting to increase support to the community. There were maintenance concerns that had been addressed due to hurricane Irene.

Good of the Neighborhood: None

Meeting Adjourned around 8:51 pm.

August 16, 2011

To: Beverly Schotfield,
From: KATHI Romesberg

A call was made
August 8, 2011 to DelDot,
concerning the street
signs that were missing,
also reported were poles
that held the signs that
were missing, twisted
or down.

A work order was
going to be written up.
I spoke with Carol.

Revised Meeting Copy to be entered 2 record

Brookside Civic Association Meeting

August 2, 2011

Board Members Present: Linda Seltzer, Tim Robinson, Susan Meany, Richard Glines, Barbara Smith, Jean Skibinski, Beverly Schofield, Bill Wheatley, John Dash

Opening: Meeting brought to order at 7:39pm with previous minutes being read. Linda Seltzer made a motion that the minutes be accepted as read and Jean Skibinski seconded the motion.

Official Forum:

Counsel Woman Diller: Addressed a recent shooting, still under investigation. Property Tax bills have been mailed out and home owners should be receiving them shortly. Beverly Scholfield questioned how the community of Brookbend was able to get new sewer lines and sidewalks and why Brookside has not. Counsel woman Diller says she will look into the matter, although the community is not with in her district.

Crime Stats/CPAW: Bill Wheatley reported area is on the top ten list of the most suspected communities in the county, in reference to burglaries and other matters, with a present placement of number three. Solicitation was made for more individuals to participate in block watch. There were previously eighty members on block watch; they are now down to twenty.

Old Business: Resignation of John Dash as BCI President was accepted by the board with Linda Seltzer acting as interim President. Beverly Schofield was nominated in proxy by Jean Skibinski and accepted by a vote of the board members to serve as Vice President. Mr. Dash re-approached the board and was accepted to fill the open vacancy due to the elevation of Ms Scholfield as a ^{VP} Director of the board. Some liens have been filed with JP Court regarding delinquent accounts. Jean Skibinski say during a recent questionnaire in the Brooksider, a suggestion was made to investigate a possibility to have a discounted rate for a collective trash/recycling company.

New Business: August 13th will be the next community Flea Market; contracts are available for possible vendors. A discussion was made on having activities in community center during the flea market. We are still seeking volunteers to assist in the event.

Good of Neighborhood: Nothing was presented. There was a concern about street signs being either missing or in need of repair. Residents were advised to contact Del Dot regarding this matter

Closing: Meeting was adjourned at 8:08pm

Kathy Romborg - volunteered
to look into the street
sign issue.

Beverly motion / Kathy 2nd

No July 2011

Civil Meeting

Held

BROOKSIDE COMMUNITY, INC.

CIVIC MEETING MINUTES – June 7, 2011

The meeting was called to order by Secretary Tim Robinson at 7:36 p.m.

Minutes of May 3, 2011, were approved as corrected: Strike redundant "There will be" on line 3 under 'official forum'; clarify that senior tax discount applies to school taxes.

Mark Veasy (395-5510) from New Castle County Land Use Department responded to questions regarding suggestions that BCI dissolve and turn over responsibility for BCI community property to the county. He indicated that this was not a good idea. Maintenance of parkland and community property could be done by county special services or contracted out. Charges for all work would be billed back to Brookside residents, with no control by the community.

In response to a question about the county handling billing for annual dues, Mr. Veasy pointed out that this is no longer done at no cost. BCI would be charged \$6/unit for such mailings ($\$6 \times 1,339 = \$8,034$). In addition collections would only revert to the community on a quarterly basis.

State Rep. Ed Osienski is checking into the high grass at the closed Exxon station. He reported that DelDOT took care of the drainage ducts in Little K requiring removal of roots and trees and excavation of 700 feet of open ditch. This has become a conservation issue to insure that water flows freely.

State Rep. John Kowalko reported that due to redistricting he will no longer be representing Brookside or Windy Hills; however, residents can feel confident with representation by Mr. Osienski. John thanked the community for supporting him and affirmed that he will always be available to help. He is looking into clean-up of the right-of-way along Route 4 adjacent to Route 72. Both he and Mr. Osienski will look into problems along Old Newark Road adjacent to Whispering Pines.

Mr. Osienski and Mr. Kowalko pointed out that annual allocations to state representatives for street work had gradually been reduced from \$300,000 to the current \$125,000. This seriously restricts the amount of work each representative is able to do in his/her district.

Rene Bensley reported for County Councilwoman Lisa Diller. There are currently 34 open violations in the community, mostly high grass and vehicles. Residents can report complaints either to the County Complaints Office or to Ms. Diller's Office. There was no property tax increase this year in the county; however, there was an increase in the

sewer charge, averaging about \$10/unit. Residents can reduce their sewer bills by conserving water.

Bill Wheatley presented the crime report, which included 6 accidents, 3 assaults, 2 burglaries, 4 criminal mischief, 1 robbery, 3 thefts and 45 traffic violations. He urged residents to keep cars and doors locked.

There is a continuing need for volunteers in the community, and a thank you was extended to all those volunteers who helped with the creek clean-up. The county will only assist if the flow of water is impeded.

It was moved and approved to adjourn the meeting.

BS/JPS 7/6/12

Brookside Civic Association Meeting

May 3, 2011

Board Members:

Present: John Dash, Tim Robinson, Susan Meany, Bev Schofield, Richard Glines, Barbara Smith, Jean Skibinski, Barbara Smith

Residents Present: 6

Special Guest: Ed Osiencki –State Rep 24th District, Renee Bensley-Legislative Aide Councilwoman Dillard

Opening: Meeting brought to order at 7:36pm with previous minutes being read. Minutes accepted as corrected by Ray Owens and seconded by Bob Strohl.

Official Forum: *Ed Osiencki:* The state has started a 1st Responders voluntary online registry. This voluntary registration can be an lifesaver for residents with special needs. Information is available at www.de911assist.delaware.gov . There will be an informational Medicare Meeting will be held in June, exact date forthcoming, at the Newark Senior Center, for more information please call 800-336-9500. *Renee Bensley:* There are 30 open code cases; most concerns are due to high grass and automobiles on grass. Any concerns can be directed to code enforcement 302-395-5555 or www.nccde.org. Council Woman Diller 1st Meet and Greet is scheduled for Friday May 6 at Newark Senior Center. The Community Resource Day has been cancelled. The Senior Tax deadline, county forms due by June 1st and State forms due by September 1st. Community Cleanup Day scheduled for May 14th, exclusions were reviewed.

Crime Stats/CPAW: No One Available, No report was given

Old Business: None Presented

New Business: Community Flea Market volunteers needed, tentative date June 18, 2011, between 9am – 3pm. Renee Pak says they are still seeking volunteers, Ray and Rita Owens volunteered. Brooksider was mailed today. Issue regarding remittance stubs included with assessments was voiced. Concerns about the assessment mail outs and its format. The board is currently looking for a software programmer to address software concerns.

Good of the Neighborhood: None Presented

Closing: Motion made and seconded to adjourn at 8:04 pm

Respectfully Submitted: Tim Robinson, Secretary

Brookside Civic Association Meeting

April 5, 2011

Board Members Present: John Dash, Linda Seltzer, Tim Robinson, Susan Meany, Bev Schofield, Dick Glines, Barbara Smith, Jean Skibinski, Barbara Smith, Susan Decker

Residents Present: 6

Special Guest: Renee Bensley-Legislative Aide Councilwoman Dillard, serving on behalf of Councilman Tackett

Opening: Meeting brought to order at 7:34pm with previous minutes being read. Minutes accepted by Susan Decker, seconded by Bob Strohl.

Official Forum: Renee Bensley, NCCC. Applications are now available for Senior School Tax Credit Due 9/1 and Senior County Tax Credit Due 6/1. Requirement for School Tax Credit in age 65 and older, there are income and property assessment requirements for County Tax Credit. There are 19 Open Code Cases; concerns for code violation can be addressed to Council Office 302-395-8365 or Code Enforcement 302-395-5555. There will be a Community Research Day on Sat. May 7 from 10am – 2 pm at the Newark Library. Those desiring to receive the Council Newsletter were requested to provide their email address. Currently the newsletter is only being produced electronically. The Administration has reached a balanced budget with no property tax increase; however there will be a 3.5% sewer rate increase, which average about \$10 per year, per homeowner. Open forum for questions: Explanation of what constitutes a vacant home and the dumpster restrictions for the community dumpster day were addressed.

Crime Stats/CPAW: Bill Wheatley voiced concerns about residents maintaining their neighborhood and the need for people to join Block Watch to be included in the Brooksider. There were 211 reported police call of which 51 were self-initiated by law enforcement for the month of March. Residents were advised of a scam that has victimized grandparents regarding a phone call about children or grandchildren that are supposed to be in some type of trouble and requesting money being paid to scammer. Anyone that is aware of possible victim of such scam is to call the Attorney General Hotline at 1-800-220-5424 or visit www.attorneygeneral.delaware.gov. Issues regarding Truancies should be forward to Kathy Korvally 302- 429-4175 ext. 333. Questions and Answer: Law enforcement members addressing concerns in their own communities while off duties was voiced and responded to. Request for camera to be put in the areas: This will not be implemented by county.

Old Business: Looking for volunteers for Dumpster Day on May 14th between 7:30 - 11am. Dumpsters will be in community parking lot and at the Basket Ball Court. There will also be curbside Pick Up.

New Business: Newsletter to be mailed out approximately around May 1st

Good of the Neighborhood: Concerns about the Flee Market, volunteers are needed. The Brookside is slated to be produced quarterly. Executive Board Minutes are available for residents to review. Resident voiced a desire to address a possible single Trash Provider for the Community with competitive pricing. Each area will have a community liaison to address community concerns, these areas have already been assigned to the members of the board. It was voiced to have a community bulletin board added to the community. Residents are encouraged to invite others to the monthly meetings.

Closing:

Motion made to adjourn by Larry Connor and seconded by Bill Wheatley at 8:25pm.



Community Resource Fair Cancelled

Bensley, Renee

to:

Bensley, Renee

05/03/2011 11:00 AM

Cc:

"Diller, Elisa"

Hide Details

From: "Bensley, Renee" <RBensley@nccde.org>

To: "Bensley, Renee" <RBensley@nccde.org>

Cc: "Diller, Elisa" <EDiller@nccde.org>

Good morning all!

Unfortunately, due to a lack of vendor signups, the May 7th Community Resource Fair advertised in the last Councilwoman's Corner newsletter has been cancelled. We will be planning another fair for the fall and will send you updated information as we have it. Councilwoman Diller will be at the Newark Senior Center this Friday, May 6th from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. for her monthly First Friday meet and greet with constituents if you would like to come out to talk to her. We look forward to seeing you all at our next event.

Renee

Renee Bensley
Legislative Aide to Councilwoman Lisa Diller
Fifth District, New Castle County Council
Louis L. Redding City/County Building
800 N. French St., 8th Floor
Wilmington, DE 19801
302-395-8365 -- Office
302-395-8386 -- Fax
rbensley@nccde.org

Brookside Civic Association Meeting

March 1, 2011

Opening: Meeting brought to order at 7:47pm with previous minutes being read, corrected then accepted with corrections. Clarification of the UD graduate student project, it is a dissertation not a thesis. The prior meeting minutes were not read due to their length, not a time constraint. Minutes accepted by Ralph Owns, second by Eurette

Official Forum: State Rep Ed Osienski, of the 24th District, introduced himself and made contact info available. DelDot will have leaf removed in Little K section. They are currently seeking funding from the Community Transportation Fund, which is expected to be replenished in July to assist with repairs. Open forum for questions, none where presented

Crime Stats/CPAW: Bill Wheatley reported 257 total police calls received for the month of February. A resident voiced concerns about a specific robbery and response time. Mr. Wheatley will report dissatisfaction to the police department. It was reminded that illuminated light must be on your person while walking through the development after dusk. There has been a heighten number of vehicle thefts reported in the area. Residents are reminded to secure your vehicles at all time. There will be a Public Safety Awareness Event on May 14th at Banning Park in Newport. The Hispanic Parent and Child Safety Academy will meet on April 12 from 6pm to 7:30 pm at the Public Safety Building on Rt 13 and Mapledale. This program is free and will run for 5 weeks. The 2011 Youth Camp will run June 13th through June 17th from 8 am to 4:30 pm in the Kimberton at the Police Academy.

Questions and Answer: discussed the illuminated lighting while walking thru the development.

Old Business: Ferrell Cat capture and release initiative was mentioned. There was a concern on the progress of the audit. It would take about 4-6 weeks for the audit to be completed. There were question on the status of the Executive Board position and agenda. Linda advised that we are still seeking an attorney and the progress regarding the ditch issue in South Kingston. The budget of the snow plowing was brought forward and compliment were given on a job well done.

New Business: Community Clean Up will be on May 14th from 7:30 am to 11 am. Two dumpster will be provided as well as curbside waste removal. Solicitation for volunteers was presented. State Representative Osienski says they have obtained funding for the dumpsters. Progress report was requested on the possibility of a CPAW office in Brookside Shopping Center. Bill Wheatley reported still in Negotiation. Open question presented about possibly having speakers or other events to come and offer programs to the community.

For the Good of the Community: New Section Added

Closing:

Motion made to adjourn by Raymond Owns and seconded by Larry Connor at 8:25pm.

Minutes

1st Tuesday of Month Meeting of BCI, Feb 1, 2011

The regularly scheduled meeting of BCI ~~met~~ was held on Tuesday, February 1, 2011. Board member, Susan Deckert, called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm in the BCI hall.

The meeting began with presentations by four guests. Valerie George, Legislative Aide for NCC Councilman David Tackett, 11th District, spoke on local matters including control plan measures for feral cat colony. Next, John Kowalko, State Representative, ~~3rd~~ General Assembly, District , gave his report. Then, Bill Wheatley, Crime Watch Coordinator, presented current activity. Lastly, Dan , UofD graduate student, reviewed his Brookside Park thesis project.

Minutes of the December 1, 2010 BCI meeting were ^{at hand and} made available for ^{private} reading and/or copying. Given the late hour of 8:30 pm, public reading was suspended.

General discussion followed.

A motion to adjourn was made, seconded and approved. The meeting concluded at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Su Deckert, Director
Secretary Pro Temp

1/4/2011
REFERENCED IN
CIVIC MEETING



JOSEPH R. BIDEN, III
ATTORNEY GENERAL

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
NEW CASTLE COUNTY
820 NORTH FRENCH STREET
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE 19801

CIVIL DIVISION (302) 577-8400
FAX: (302) 577-6630
CRIMINAL DIVISION (302) 577-8500
FAX: (302) 577-2496
FRAUD DIVISION (302) 577-8600
FAX: (302) 577-6499
TTY: (302) 577-5783

August 2, 2010

Recent events in municipal elections have raised concerns over some local election practices. We write to urge that your municipality, in concert with your municipality's solicitor, review its charter and code to confirm that its charter and code are consistent with federal and state law. The legality of provisions of municipal laws turns, in part, upon the specific circumstances to which the law is applied and we cannot opine upon the legality of specific provisions of municipal charters and codes. We are, however, able to generally identify areas that raise concerns.

Provisions relating to eligibility to vote in municipal elections must generally be consistent with the United States Constitution's guarantee of due process and equal protection of the laws, as well as federal and state statutes. For example, municipal laws that require that a voter be over age eighteen or create durational residency or citizenship requirements are suspect. So too are laws that require that a voter be current on taxes and other local assessments. Arrangements under which one person is permitted multiple votes or multiple persons holding title to one parcel of property are each permitted to cast a vote may violate the one-man one-vote principle of the United States Constitution and constitute illegal vote dilution or debasement.

Additionally, provisions relating to the requirements to be a candidate in a municipal election may be constitutionally unsound. Requirements that a candidate be current on taxes and other local assessments or never have been committed to a mental institution may be problematic as well.

We understand that these principles, while facially clear, may be difficult to apply to specific charter and code provisions. Moreover, we are not permitted to render legal advice to any municipality over the legality of its election practices. Your city solicitor will be able to answer your questions and advise on whether your charter and code need to be revised to bring them into compliance with federal and state law.

My 1/10/11 call to
Ann Waalfalk
Dep. Atty for Dep of Elections
confirmed that
letter applies to
municipalities, NOT DEL

1/10/11 telecon
Cinnal Waalfalk
577-8350

Dep. Atty
Dep of Elections
Applicants Municipalities
NOT DEL

Brookside Community, Incorporated
Civic Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 4, 2011

BOARD MEMBERS:

- Present - John Dash, Susan Deckert, Susan Meany, Linda Seltzer, Jean Skibinski, Barbara Smith. Absent - Richard Glines, Tim Robinson, Beverly Scholfield.

SPECIAL GUESTS:

- New Castle County Councilwoman Lisa C. Diller

There were ~~five~~^{EIGHT} residents in attendance.

PROCEEDINGS:

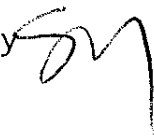
- Meeting called to order at 7:32 p.m. by Jean Skibinski, Director.
- Last month's meeting minutes were not read.
- Due to the upcoming election in January, expect to see some new faces on the political front. As always, Ms. Dillard can be reached by phone with any concerns.
- Mr. Wheatley gave the crime report statistics for December 7th to January 4th. There were a total of 140 calls, twenty-three of which were self-initiated by police. 21 911 disconnects, 10 abandoned vehicles, 5 accident investigations, 10 alarms, 2 animal complaints, 2 assaults, 8 assists from other agencies, 2 burglaries, 2 civil disputes, 3 disorderly conducts, 7 domestic disputes, 3 follow-up investigations, 1 gun violation, 2 misc, 1 missing person, 4 property checks, 17 public relations, 31 stops, twelve of those were self-initiated by police, 1 suspicious person, 1 suspicious vehicle, 5 calls from task unit, three were self-initiated, and 1 traffic violation.
- There has been steady progress in reducing the criminal activity in Brookside thanks to the Block Watch/CPAW Program and the NCC Police. Out of the total number of calls over the holiday period only six were actual crime calls.
- The Burglar Prevention Seminar that was recently given to Academy Hills was well received. Any members interested in attending a presentation can call the BCI office 738-4114.
- The NCC Police department is setting up gardens for other communities and will set up a community garden for any community that is interested.
- Our condolences to everyone touched by the co-founder of CPAW, Rob Blansfield's passing on January 3rd.

- Abandon vehicles have to be parked on the street in order for the police to tag. Those vehicles parked on the grass or in driveways are code violations. The NCC Police department is reviewing the enforcement of code violations.
- A reminder: the hands free cell phone law is now in effect - 1st offense is a \$50.00 fine.
- The NCC Police have a Graffiti Brigade. Call the non-emergency police number 523-2000 to report any graffiti that is on public property and it will forwarded it to the brigade.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Election laws have been amended to allow one vote per name on the deed. Per BCI By-laws, each residential address counts as two votes, therefore an amendment of the by-laws should be voted on by all the dues paid BCI members and forwarded to the recorder of deeds.
- The previous executive board members had Mr. Ferry Esq., forward a certified letter to Mr. Morgan stating that he was no longer authorized to email a Brookside Community newsletter to our members and was notified that he should delete the mailing list of Brookside residents from his hard drive.
- Resolution of the Little "K" South Kingston dead-end drainage problem is underway. An overhaul of the area is being completed and paperwork for a grant is being compiled to defer the cost of the upgrade. Brookside is responsible for 100% of the construction, however this grant will reduce our expense by 30%.
- An audit will be initiated at the next executive board meeting.
- Appreciation was expressed for the swift action taken in handling the first real snowfall of the season.
- The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Minutes developed by Treasurer, Susan Meany



cc: Accountant, William Ferringer
Receptionist, Janis Brown