

BEECHVILLE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION
Community Meeting
May 22, 2018

Attendance:

Carolann Wright	Bev Alferink	Jenee Jarvis
Yvette Jarvis	Marjorie Wright	Deacon Wayne Drummond
Shon Shephard	Alfred Jarvis	Pastor Lloyd Grant
Danielle Jackson	Robert Hill	Tippy Scott
Josh Crawford	Evelyn Drummond	Troy Crawford
Deacon Patsy Crawford	Janelle Sampson	Marlene Crawford
Elsie Sampson	Marsha Peterson	Shawna Wright

MINUTES:

Bob Angus – Home Owners Association

- Having a / being part of a Home Owners Association means that there is one voice for any and all concerns / issues
- There are 8 areas currently included in the Home Owners Association with unelected officials
- Home Owners Association provides the opportunity to prioritize all issues (Provincial, Municipal, Community, etc.)
- Having background information on your Community / representing organization is helpful to show who you are, what you want for your Community, and how you wish to accomplish it
- Elections are held within 9 months after the Home Owners Association has been formed
- It takes about 1 year for a Home Owners Association to be officially recognized
- I am here tonight to listen to what your Community wants
- It's helpful to get all the information and study the ideas before you form an opinion
- There are 5,000 people living in the BLT area
- The minutes you have here tonight show that your Community is organized
- There is a \$10 family membership fee to be a voting member with the Home Owners Association

Questions

- **What are your concerns around being part of the Home Owners Association?**
- **You said that there are regulations and bylaws already established?**
 - Yes, so that all areas of the Home Owners Association are treated the same
 - Ian Rankin's secretary is a pro when it comes to writing proposals for Home Owners Associations
- **What are some of the initiatives that your Home Owners Association has been successful with?**
 - We are creating a Facebook page that will show everything we're involved in
 - We were having a lot of problems in the area so we created a better relationship with the RCMP / HRP
 - The more reports made to the RCMP / HRP the more their presence was made in the Community
 - We (Home Owners Association) believe in neighbors helping neighbors
- **You said Glengarry has its own Home Owners Associations, is Greenwood Heights included in Glengarry's Home Owners Association?**
 - No, we are separate entities.
 - Most people in the Community are uninterested in being part of the Home Owners Association and only show interest when it's election time.
 - Elections are held every 4 years
- **Are you talking about partnership Home Owner Associations?**

- BLT is the Home Owners Association we're looking into
- We're looking to have a BLT Home Owners Association with reps from each Community
- There is a meeting for the Home Owners Association reps on May 30th, 2018

** The meeting tonight is for our Community (Beechville) to weigh in on whether they would like to join the Home Owners Association or not**

- How long have you been working on the Home Owners Association with other areas?

- We have been meeting with other areas over the past 4 months but it's hard to get people to respond
- People don't take notices about the Home Owners Association seriously or make the meetings a priority
- Money obtained from the Home Owners Association would go to priority needs / tasks
- Beechville used to have its own Home Owners Association but I am unsure what happened to it

- When I hear you talk about Beechville you are referencing Beechville Estates but they are a separate entity from the historical Community of Beechville who is here tonight. We know that numbers determine who is in need which means the historical Community of Beechville would lose out because Beechville Estates would outweigh us.

- We could have someone elected from Beechville Estates and your Community of Beechville to keep the needs separate
- We have people on our board right now who think of others and take their responsibilities very seriously
- It would be up to your Community to choose whether you wanted to be part of the Home Owners Association separate from Beechville Estates
- It is very helpful to know that your Community has a concern around being connected to Beechville Estates
- BLT Home Owners Association wants to be recognized as a Community voice

- Would our Community of Beechville have a seat at the Home Owners Association table?

- Yes, all subdivisions would get an elected seat at the table

- Beechville is always the last to know about what is going on whether it's an event, funding, etc.

- Our Facebook page will have all notifications on it so everyone has the same information
- Speaking of funding one thing we are working on is our Treasure Chest fundraiser which supports 7 entities
- All association participation is voluntary

Can we get back to you (Bob Angus) after tonight once we as a Community make a decision?

- Yes, and if there are more questions please don't hesitate to contact me

COMMUNITY MEETING

Is joining the Home Owners Association to our benefit?

Pros

- One benefit would be to have the numbers behind us because our Community only represents a small number of the 5,000 residents that were mentioned – Beechville only gets help when it benefits others – our playground wasn't updated until the put in the daycare

Cons

- No, is there a possibility of an affiliation partnership when applying for funding
- The BLT Home Owners Association isn't established yet
- Historically we haven't had the promised support
- We've been shown no by BLT and the businesses in the Community. We have always supported BLT but they only supported us their first year. BLT turns away funds for their Community event

while Beechville Days struggles. We had companies dropping out from their Beechville Days sponsorship in the 23rd hour last year but they support BLT every year

- We can say we will be an affiliate when needed
- I think that's what needs to be said (we will be an affiliate when needed) because he was coming here to get our buy in for the BLT Home Owners Association and there were no good selling points
- We made it this far on our own, let's continue and see how far we can make it
- We're more beneficial to the Home Owners Association than they are to us

Group Decision – “No” to joining the Home Owners Association

Reasons why we voted “No”

- Unique, Black, Historical Community and we want to stay that way
- Our overall priorities don't match up with the Home Owners Association right now
- We're willing to visit talks about partnering in the future

Updates

The Trustees talked with ARMCO and:

- The Trustees and ARMCO have come to an Agreement for the Baptismal Path and Cemetery will be deeded back to the Church plus \$50,000.00
 - Is the Church going to donate any of that money to Beechville Days?
 - That is something we can discuss in a meeting with the Church
 - The Church is concerned about the Baptismal Path and Cemetery because ARMCO wants to have them as sites on their trail but we (the Church) don't want people walking up and down our property
 - The original Agreement between ARMCO and the Church was for ARMCO to donate \$80,000.00, they have already given the Church \$25,000.00 as good faith
 - The new Agreement is being drafted up in a letter from ARMCO addressed to the Church
- Can the Community have a paragraph in the letter for a donation to the Community?**
- There is a way to get that in the letter but that is another conversation
- Paving is on ARMCO's timeline but not until development starts which leaves the Community with an eye sore; we need to get them on our timeline and have them stop tagging us on the end of their plans**
- Looking at partnerships – the Community always shows up for the Church but the Church doesn't show up for the Community**
- I think if the Community needs help from the Church the Community should write a proposal to the Church
 - We need a partnership between the Community and the Church that builds each other up
 - If we have to have trust in one another then we have to remember that the Community was here first then the Church; the Community has always been responsible for the Church
- In regards to the Centre the Community has to approach the Church Membership to establish guidelines for the Centre's use:**
- The Community had ownership of the Centre until the Community deeded it back to the Church in 1975
 - Churches don't get funding for Centres
 - If you have respectful members who are part of both sides then there shouldn't be a problem during the discussions
 - We need something in our Community, for our Community where the money goes back to the Community
 - Long term plan
 - Multipurpose Centre
 - We need to rebuild the Centre with sustainability

- We don't want to lose sight of Crown land that we can obtain to build a bigger and better Centre
- Because our land has been expropriated over the years we can request Crown land to build on but we have to have a plan
- Take it outside of the Community to rent out because there would be liquor and the Church will not want it
- Get this done as soon as possible
- UCPS interim measure
- We need an Agreement for this right now
- Use old Centre as Heritage Centre

- 5 things for an Agreement between the Church and Community for the Centre's use:

- Responsibility for maintenance
- Type of appropriate functions to have at the Centre
- Fundraisers / Renting the hall – where is the money going from the fundraisers (needy families, Beechville Days, etc.)
- Do we put the money in a trust for the Church, Beechville Days, etc.
- We could say that 20% of all money from the Centre goes back to the Church
- We can always readjust the Agreement in the future if we see that there is an area of the Agreement that is lacking
- Money from the Centre should be allocated to the Centre's maintenance (clean up, repairs, heat, lights, etc.)
- The main focus right now should be getting the Centre up and running and then branch off
- Establish a base for funding
- Up-keep of grounds
- Building
- Community Activities
- Funding Proposal

Heritage Focus

- Where do we want things around our Community?

- Historical markers
- Recreational Centre
- Baptismal Path Markers
- Markers around the Community for tourist but most of all our children who don't know the history of our Community

To Do

- We need volunteers to write proposals
- We need volunteers to get 3 written estimates from contractors on how the cost to get the Centre up and running – this will also help with the proposals
- Shon Shephard will handle this
- Heritage Committee will meet with the Planners around the Heritage piece – all Committee Leads should attend the meeting with the Planners
- June 7th-9th, 2018, at the Black Cultural Centre –Road to Prosper Conference - we will be doing a presentation on all the things we're working on for our Community – African Nova Scotian Communities will be presenting
- Communication Committee should send out a reminder of the upcoming meeting Tuesday, May 29, 2018

Upcoming

- **There will be a walk through for the Community on the archaeological dig site, specifically where is the Burnt?**
 - Carolann will be in charge of arranging

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, MAY 29, 2018 @ 6:00 PM

Meeting adjourned, Pastor Grant closed in prayer