

17 Hawberry Court Asheville, 28805

Sovereign Oaks HOA Board Meeting Agenda

board@sovereignoakshoa.com

Sovereign Oaks HOA Board Meeting

Date: June 7, 2022

Location: 17 Hawberry Court

Board Members Attending:

- Kirsten Kern, President
- Mark Jordan, Vice President
- Brad Allen, Secretary
- Javier Samayoa, Treasurer
- Mike Newton, Member

HOA Non-Board member Attending:

- Robin Garrison, 22 Hawberry Court, having previously informed the board she planned to attend to observe the BOD meeting, was in attendance as well.
- I. Call to Order: Kirsten Kern called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm
- II. Open Comments Period: Kirsten invited Robin Garrison to speak to the Board, but she declined stating that she came to observe the meeting and was interested in hearing an update on the pavilion project during the regular order of business. The Open comment period then ended and the Board moved into the Regular Order of Business portion of the meeting.
- III. Regular Order of Business
 - Approval of Previous Minutes May BOD Meeting minutes were approved as submitted.
 - Treasurer's Report: Javier Samayoa
 - (See separate reports)

- Legal Expenses have reached \$9,906.36 through the end of May against a full year budgeted amount of \$10,000, primarily due to unanticipated and on-going issues with two HOA members during the first five months of the year. There was a general discussion about the impact of the continuing legal expenses on the overall budget. Because of the high legal expenses thus far, the BOD may not have the funds available to complete the pavilion project this year. Following this discussion there was general agreement that the HOA membership should be notified of the issue in the next monthly newsletter.
- HOA resident Kristen Eggen (15 Towering Oaks Lane) has taken on the role of HOA Bookkeeper. She is quite familiar with QuickBooks software and making great progress in cleaning up the HOA accounts where some duplicate entries have created confusion. Mark Jordan suggested that Kristen and Javier explore whether other accounting software might be more efficient and cost effective. Javier said he would look into it.
- The HOA Made it's annual \$5,000 donation to Warren Wilson College.
- The new architect for the DRC has conducted three reviews on behalf of the HOA and billed the HOA accordingly. Because he lives in Tennessee, there was a general discussion about the delay in his receiving payment from bank-issued checks and making alternative arrangements to have a check available when he is on site at Sovereign Oaks. Javier will follow up.

Committee Updates

- o Facilities: Mike Newton
 - Pavilion Project Update- The HOA has committed to laying the expanded concrete pad and the contractor will fit the job into his schedule, hopefully next month. The pad will have to cure for several weeks before any construction could conceivably take place.
 - Robin Garrison asked whether it might be better to delay installation of the concrete pad as well. Mike replied that this is unrealistic for several reasons: the bid for concrete installation has already been accepted and to delay would increase the cost, the money for the pad is funded in the current approved budget, the site has already been prepped, and leaving the site incomplete would present a safety hazard.

DRC: Mike Newton

- Cox fence request: the topic will be taken up in Executive Session.
- There has been a request for a fence and tree removal by the new owners at 117 Wandering Oaks Way. Construction at 30 Hickory Top Lane (Lot #91 Bolan/Hastings) is up for final review. Clearing of Lot #93 (Cohen) commenced prior to DRC approval. The DRC is following up with the lot owner and builder. Activity at some other lots have been put on hold for various reasons.

Trails & Landscape; Mark Jordan

The new Landscape contractor, Asheville Lawn and Landscape, will be asked to clear weeds along Old Farm School Road near the front entrance gate and the common right-of-way along the west side of Wandering Oaks Way near the entrance. In addition, they will be asked to mow the common area by the footbridge across Bull Creek.

- An HOA member (Art Mandler, 28 Wandering Oaks Way) requested that all road frontage also be mowed by the landscape contractor since they are already onsite and it would make the maintenance and appearance consistent throughout the neighborhood. After a general discussion, it was decided that the Board recommend that individual homeowners contact the landscape contractor independently and arrange for mowing, which would be provided at lot owners expense at a minimal cost. A note will be included in the upcoming HOA Newsletter to that effect.
- Trail clearing along upper Musterfield Trail was completed. However, tree clearance during construction on Lot #85 temporarily blocked the trail. The contractor was notified. In addition, new steps and repair of existing steps will be needed in the steeper areas of the trail.
- Fencing along the frontage of Sovereign Oaks will need replacement within the next year. The committee will propose a budget item for the next annual meeting.
- Social & Communications: written report submitted by Sally Klippel
 - Kirsten- the following two events are going out in an email this week:
 - Celebrate the beginning of summer on Saturday, June 25, from 5-7:30 pm at the
 intersection of Wandering Oaks Way and Trail Top Drive. Delicious food from
 the Gypsy Queen Food Truck will be available for purchase. Bring your own
 beverages and your chairs. Music will be provided from 5-7 pm by the
 Mojomatic Band with our own neighbor Don Youman. A great way to enjoy a
 summer evening with friends and neighbors.
 - Book Club: Our next book is "South to America: A journey below the Mason-Dixon to understand the soul of a nation" by Imani Perry. We will discuss it on July 13 at 7 pm at the home of Leslie Connolly, 62 Wandering Oaks Way. Please RSVP to sallyklippel@gmail.com.
 - The second Wine & Appetizer group is scheduled for June 11 at Robin Garrison and Bobbi and Brad Allen homes. We have a few new additions so I'm hopeful to have three groups at our next event in August.
 - Also, we want to do a BBQ in July at the new greenhouse but since it isn't completed, we need to find a new location.

Discussion Topics

• At this point, Regular Order of Business being completed, the Board moved to go into Executive Session. HOA member in attendance Robin Garrison interjected that she had a concern she wanted to express to the Board about on-going legal expenses associated with the Cox request for a variance to install a fence. Robin stated that she thinks the Board should acquiesce to their request and not continue to accumulate legal costs in dealing with the Cox request. The Board thanked her for sharing her opinion, then went into Executive Session. Robin Garrison left the meeting.

- Executive Session: At 8:02 p.m. the Board went into Executive Session to discuss several items: the Cox request for a fence that has been submitted to the DRC as a reasonable accommodation under the North Carolina Fair Housing Statute; the current level of legal expenses incurred thus far this year; a request from several HOA members to present proposed changes to the DRC Covenants regarding dispute resolution, and planning for the upcoming Annual Meeting.
- Next Board Meeting: The next board meeting was scheduled for Tuesday July 5th, at
 p.m.
- o Adjournment: the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.