

# **Amherst Woods Homeowners Association**

## **Minutes of the 2021 Annual Meeting Thursday, October 26, 2021 via Zoom**

### **Welcome**

Sigurd Nilsen called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. After welcoming the homeowners present (about 35 households were represented), Kip Doble explained the features of Zoom. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to waive the reading of the minutes of the 2020 meeting posted on the AWhA website. Georgia Barnhill agreed to take minutes of this meeting.

### **Nominations & Election of New Officers**

Peggy Nilsen provided an overview of duties of board officers and the tasks that she and Sig have identified and opened a discussion of the need for new officers since she, Sig, and Kip wished to step down. Sig would like to end his term immediately; Peggy and Kip are willing to stay on until new officers are selected. They will also facilitate the transition. Major tasks include maintenance and updating of the AWhA directory, email list, and list serve; overseeing landscaping (Spring Valley Landscaping); overseeing ad hoc committees; maintaining the website; scheduling the annual meeting and posting the minutes; filing the annual form with the Commonwealth identifying board members and date of annual meeting. The treasurer oversees the collection of dues, pays bills, and prepares the annual financial report. (Further details in Peggy's letter to AWhA members of October 24, 2021.)

A motion was made and approved to establish an enlarged Board of Trustees, to be responsible for the general management of the AWhA. Their first item of business will be to find a new president, vice president, treasurer, and secretary. Those who volunteered were Betsy Mullins, Doug Gagnon, Ralph Lowen, Jim Barnhill, Peter Berek, Martha Hanner. Martha reported that Jack Mattrey would also like to participate. Peggy is willing to remain in her position for a few months until a transition is accomplished.

### **Treasurer's Report**

AWhA treasurer Kip Doble provided his treasurer's report. Total revenue for the fiscal year ending on September 30, 2021, was \$26,743. Total expenses were \$31,021 reflecting the extra amount of landscaping required by the sewer project that finally came to an end. Looking forward there will be some expense involved in removing dead trees from common land, but less money will be needed for landscape improvements.

Cash on hand was a healthy \$15,497. Kip concluded his report by noting that the Association was in good financial shape. (Report attached to the minutes.)

## **Landscaping Update**

Peggy noted that the entrance sign at the intersection of Old Farm Road and Wildflower Road has been removed and the site is prepared for future landscaping. She thanked the many volunteers who kept the new plantings watered during the summer.

## **Website**

Peggy reported that information about Covid-19 had been sent to her by Mindy Domb and it was posted on the website. She also reported on the usefulness of the list serve in widely reporting matters such as the recent car theft. Those who have not signed up for the list serve should contact Peggy. There are 182 list serve members.

## **Dog Park Update**

AWHA member Ted Diamond is on the Town's Dog Park Task Force. Their meeting, also on October 26, prevented him from reporting to the annual meeting. Peggy relayed his comments. Water and electrical service have been connected and the dog park should open in the spring. Updates are posted on [Amherstdogpark.org](http://Amherstdogpark.org). which also has information on rules for dog owners. Volunteers are needed to plan events, raise funds, and assist with maintenance. Those interested may sign up on the dog park's website.

## **New Business**

Storage for the two steel benches on the island at Wildflower and Trillium is needed. They are not heavy but already show signs of rust.

## **Approval of Minutes**

The Board of Trustees will have the responsibility to review and approve the Minutes of the AWAHA annual meeting, before they are distributed.

## **Expressions of Gratitude**

During the meeting, many people expressed their gratitude to Peggy, Sig, and Kip for their years of service to the organization.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Georgia Barnhill, secretary pro tem