

Merifield Acres Landowners' Association

Board Of Directors Meeting Minutes

April 8, 2003

Phil Hart, President, called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. in the Clarksville Library with a Quorum of Board Members present.

Present: Richard Allen, Mike Billings, Jerry Billingsley, Cindy Carter, Martha Day, Matt Dillon, Mike Gupton, Phil Hart, Paul Lautermilch, Jerry Madura, Clarence Neese, Don Sinkiewicz, Don Szalkowski, Garry Wilburn and Billy Wells.

Excused: Ken Vaughn, Mary Fran Lewis

Absent: Gloria Bauer, Jeff Jones

Observers: Margaret White, Sharon Sinkiewicz

The minutes of the February 2003 meeting, having been distributed previously via E-Mail and MALA's web site, were approved as presented.

Skip Norcross was nominated to fill the board position vacated by Laura Thompson. The Board of Directors unanimously approved his nomination.

Old Business:

Treasurer's Report:

Garry Wilburn distributed copies of the Operating Statement through from January 1, 2003 through March 2003. Garry reported that assessment income was up 10 percent over last year but he has not yet analyzed where this increase has come from. MALA's "Security Investments" are down slightly.

President's Report:

Merifield Directories: Phil Hart reported that the new Merifield Directories have been delivered. We do not have many extra directories, but those that we do have are in the possession of Gloria Bauer.

Real Estate Purchase: Phil Hart further reported that the offer made for the purchase of a strip of land adjoining the entrance to Merifield is still pending.

Lot 9B-113 Longmeadow Drive: Phil Hart recapped from last meeting - this lot is owned by Jay and Diane Bayer. A foundation was dug and footings were poured and then

work was discontinued. It was reported by Phil Hart that the Bayers have moved to Texas. A letter was sent to the Bayers requesting that they restore the lot to its original condition but there has been no response.

Phil has since contacted MALA's attorney for advice on how to proceed. Phil has also been in touch with the Mecklenburg County Building Inspector's office, which may be able to provide assistance in this matter.

Fielding Committee: Phil Hart stated that a filing was made with the Mecklenburg County Clerk of Courts office to rescind the original Fielding document.

ATV's: Phil noted that the use of All Terrain Vehicles on MALA roads is illegal, and is considered trespassing if on private property. He will address this issue in the next MALA newsletter.

District Coordinators: New District Coordinators were appointed – Don Szalkowski for Diamonds and Billy Wells for Clubs.

MALA Honor Roll: Phil Hart expressed an interest in resurrecting the MALA Honor Roll, which recognizes MALA members who have contributed to the community. Original members of the Board of Directors were not eligible for nominations and Phil asked if this policy should change.

Income Taxes: Phil Hart reported that filings have been made to appropriate agencies.

Newsletter: Phil stated that a Newsletter would be sent within the next two weeks.

Committee Reports:

Architectural Committee: The committee approved:

Stanley Brown - House at lot 34 (7-B) Eagle Perch

Todd Palilla – House at lot 46 (7-C) Maplewood Ct.

Walter Cummings – Deck enclosure addition at 106 Darcey Drive.

Jeannette Rogers – Smaller detached structure at 37 Long Meadow Dr.

Tree removals for Mike Billings and Phil Hart

A discussion of structures on adjacent lots followed. Paul Lautermilch stated that he and committee chairman Mike Gupton had discussed the issue and Paul would formulate a motion for the Board to consider.

Aviation: Mike Billings reported that there was a case of vandalism to a plane parked in the "hangar" at the Merifield Airstrip. He urged the Board to continue investigating ways to prevent further incidents.

A discussion followed about the removal of the "hangar". Matt Dillon expressed concern over the condition of the supporting structure. As a point of order it was noted that the Board voted two years ago to remove the hangar. It was suggested that a "volunteer effort" could remove the above ground structure at minimum cost. It was suggested that the concrete pad remain in place.

Common Facilities: Repairs to the entrance pillars has still not been made. Jerry Billingsley will follow up.

Deer Control: Billy Wells presented a report. The final tally of deer harvested was 8. In addition, unrelated to the harvesting, three deer were found dead within the confines of Merifield. A Game Commission officer inspected them and two bucks were determined to have killed each other. A doe was inspected and there were no signs of it being shot by bullet or arrow. Felix Anderson, Chairman of the Committee discussed the hunt with Cale Godfrey of Virginia Game and Inland Fisheries. Mr. Godfrey said that he was not surprised by the low harvest; he also felt there should be no problem in obtaining another permit for next fall.

A motion was made by Garry Wilburn to continue the population control for another year. It was seconded and passes unanimously.

Fielding Group: Richard Allen reported on the status of discussions with the Fielding Committee. Disclosure statements are not required for prospective purchasers of land that falls under the Fielding Covenants. In lieu of a Disclosure Statement a letter was submitted to the Board, which could be made available to those within the Fielding Covenants, explaining that they may voluntarily be considered for membership within MALA and also explaining the rules and regulations for the use of MALA facilities.

A motion was made by Richard Allen to adopt the letter to replace the Disclosure Statement for prospective Fielding Owners. It was seconded and passed unanimously.

Finance: No report

Political and Environmental: Margaret White reported that the Mecklenburg County Board of Supervisors has been viewing and studying the purchase of the Burlington Industries Sewage and Water system. The system presently serves Mill Village and Kinderton Country Club.

This system could possibly benefit Merifield in that it could provide an alternative to septic systems and make it feasible to develop all properties within Merifield. This system would not be developed for many years.

Two Counties and one Town in North Carolina have started the procedure to procure water from the Dan River. Margaret suggested that MALA closely observe as removal of water above and below our area could have detrimental effects on our lake levels.

Our County Supervisor, John Massengill, is still on active duty. The Chairman of the Board of Supervisor, Mr. Hudgins, has assured Margaret that if any matter arises pertinent to Merifield he will let her know.

Local assessors with the Mecklenburg County Reassessment office have been working within Merifield to reassess values.

Roads: Matt Dillon reported that MALA's paving contractor has advised that 2002 paving be postponed until spring. It is hoped that 2003 paving tasks can be performed at the same time.

2003 paving plans included replacing the culvert at the "Y", completion of Cedar Lane (700 feet) and paving of Lakepoint to Hazelnut (3000 feet).

Replacement of speed signs in complete. He will continue investigating ways to upgrade other signs. More speed signs are needed.

Reflective paint for road signs is still being considered.

The inventory of screenings (used for snow and ice) will be replenished since the snow and ice to present has exhausted about three fourths of the current inventory.

Trees have been noted which encroach on roadways. This causes problems not only for residents but also for emergency vehicles. These problems will be addressed on a case-by-case basis.

Security: Phil Hart reported various incidents within the past few months. Gunshots were reported on Oak Run. Upon investigation it was determined that a homeowner was shooting squirrels. The discharge of firearms within Merifield is ILLEGAL.

Various other incidents were discussed.

Youth and Schools: Cindy Carter reported that The Easter Easter_Egg Hunt has been scheduled for April 19, 2003. Cindy has also described a successful event hosted by new resident Francis Hale. Mr. Hale made two flights as part of the "Young Eagles" program, which introduces aviation to children.

Welcoming Committee: No report

New Business:

Dogs: It was noted that the McClellan's dogs are still running loose. A motion was made to require the President of the Board to seek to enforce the Court Order presently in effect against Edgar and Tina McClellan of 373 Highpoint Blvd.

It was seconded by and passed.

Cindy Carter asked that it be noted that she abstained from voting.

Memorial Day Picnic: A volunteer is needed to head up this annual event

Trespassing: A homeowner has asked that MALA assist them in keeping trespassers, including "4 wheelers" off their property, and to replant trees damaged by the trespassers. It is the opinion of the Board that it will ATTEMPT to provide a level of security to the community as a whole but the matter of trespass on and damage to individual property is the responsibility of the homeowner.