

# Covered Bridge BOD Meeting

## October 17, 2023

The meeting was called to order by President Cindy Hubbel at 10:12 am.

A pledge of allegiance was said, and a moment of silence followed.

The BOD members that are present are: Cindy Hubbel, Patty Hynes, Tom Taylor, Tom Wacker, and Connie Charles. Absent BOD members are Gavin Walls and Sue Lilly

Phyllis Klase is recording the meeting minutes for Sue Lilly

The minutes were read by Patty Hynes.

Patty asked for corrections in the minutes and Tom Wacker asked for clarification, on the date for nominations. Cindy clarified: Nominations must be in by November 1<sup>st</sup>. Each nominee will speak at the November BOD meeting and nominees' names and information will be published in the December Echo. The actual election will be on Tuesday January 2, 2024. A handout with time and dates are on each table. Also, a copy of the bylaws is available to pick up in this meeting.

Tom Taylor made a motion to approve the minutes and Tom Wacker seconded the motion carried.

### **Treasurer Report: Tom Taylor**

Our operations account has a balance of 75,688.00 and you will notice that the balance fluctuates according to where we are in the quarter. Just for your information Covered Bridge spends about 30,000.00 on our expenses some examples would be cable, lawn care and utilities.

Our petty cash account has 2182.00 we fund that through 50/50 and other miscellaneous monies. Wauchula has changed its name to Crews Bank, this caused a minor problem with on-line banking and passwords

but has now been worked out. We currently have a certificate of deposit with them that is paying 2.5% when it matures, we will be investing with Edward Jones at 5.5%. Our current balance with Edward Jones is 394,723.00. We have no plans for expenditure for the rest of the year. We will be working on the 2024 budget.

Patty Hynes made a motion to approve Cindy Hubble seconded motion carried.

Patty made a motion to accept the deadline for nominations for the Board of Directors as November 1<sup>st</sup>. Cindy seconded the motion carried.

### **President's Comments: Cindy Hubble**

**Old Business:** The new printer is here and is working great, the handouts were printed using it. Thank you, Jeff Stinson.

We have two new volunteers to publish the Echo. Thank you, Nancy Gains and Kym Sharp. Both have a lot of innovative ideas, please contact them for more information.

Tom Taylor had a request from Gaterco please do not run your sprinkler system on Friday morning, this interferes with the lawn mowing.

### **Comcast contract: Connie Charles**

Tom, Jeff, and Connie met with the Comcast representative and a new contract was negotiated in summary: the current fee of 44.00 per house was decreased to 39.75 a house a savings of 4.59 monthly this will save us 1652.00 and yearly an overall savings of 19,828.80. The new contract would include 2 converter boxes and the residents will receive a letter from Comcast with more information once the contract is signed. Covered Bridge will also receive a check for 36,000.00 for

signing an early contract. Connie Charles made the motion to accept the new contract Patty Hynes seconded the motion carried.

### **New Business: Cindy Hubble**

As a reminder if you use the pool area please put the chairs, noodles etc. back in their original position. Also, if you use the clubhouse, please clean up your area of trash and food. We have the clubhouse exterminated for bugs. Please be a little bit more helpful and clean up the areas you use.

The Election rules are on the table we have already discussed those.

We will have 2 days of early voting, the first is Tuesday December 19<sup>th</sup> from 8 to 10am and again on Friday December 22<sup>nd</sup> from 1 to 3pm. If you vote early your ballot will be placed in a sealed box with a recorded tag on it and the only way to remove the tag is to cut it so your vote will be safe. If you would like a ballot form, we can send it via e-mail, or you can send a self-addressed envelope and we will mail you the form, but it must be received before the deadline.

The Election is Tuesday January 2, 2024, beginning at 8:00 am till 1:00 pm.

The results will be announced at the Homeowners meeting January 2, 2024, beginning at 2:00pm.

Nancy Gaines explained how they were formatting the Echo. If you need to contact them place a message on Facebook or drop a note in the office.

We would like to thank Joanne Novelli for all her hard work as she has done a wonderful job over the past few years.

Patty Hynes reminded everyone that the new phone books will be printed shortly and if your current number has changed, please drop your new number in the office. Also, if we do not have your new updated current number, it will be printed incorrectly in the new phone book and will remain wrong until a new phone book is printed.

We are going to make part of our agenda a section called **Suggestion box, questions, and rumors:** Barb B asked about new lighting fixtures for the clubhouse. Tom Wacker will evaluate her request based on cost.

Connie Charles brought a list of questions she had been asked at the pool and while playing cards. She presented Cindy with a page and a half of questions, none of the questions or comments had a name on it. Normally unless it has a name it is not addressed in the meeting, and this will be the last time I do so.

Patty will address the first question. The board meeting is for information you elect us to take care of our community people feel they do not have any input into as to what is happening in our community, they feel that things should be brought and discussed by the general population, and Patty suggested that if you have a suggestion or better way of doing something please place a written comment in the office.

The second item on the list is the Echo, which has already been discussed.

The third item on the list is why the paint has not been fixed on the pool and hot tub. Cindy addressed this question; I have been in contact with the pool company, and she is awaiting a return call from them. What some residents think is that the pool water can be lowered a few inches and the paint be applied. However, the reality is that the paint is sprayed on and must be heated to over 500 degrees.

The fourth item on the list is that Patty and Cindy handle everything and make all the decisions, again not true we had a problem with the pool pump going out the only board members physically in the park were Cindy and Patty and either had the expertise to fix or replace the pump. Both Cindy and Patty stayed in Covered Bridge all summer except for Cindy visiting family for 2 weeks and Patty leaving for four days. We had the choice to contact the other board members via phone to get approval to call the pool company or leave it until everyone returns.

The fifth item on the list is regarding the new storage shed. Tom Wacker will address this. We had things stored everywhere including the library, rec room, bathrooms stuff was stored everywhere and spent a great deal of time gathering what we needed to do the job whether it be workday or a simple Maintenance issue. Claire had the medical equipment stored in her garage that has now been moved to the storage shed freeing space for her to use at her home. The storage shed was placed where it was for several reasons, with the most prevalent being leaving hard space for future expansions etc.

The sixth item is why is Gavin still working on the dog park? Every person has the right to pursue their passion and make a presentation to the board for consideration.

The last item on the list is the TV we purchased. Cindy obtained a credit card in her personal name. Using her personal credit, she was able to get a 200.00 credit for obtaining the credit card and gave the discount to us to use off the purchase price. The television and all payments have been made using monies from monthly movie night by the people who attend. Again, the rumor

mill has it we used money from Bingo. Think about it, we have not had a Bingo since we started movie night and are indeed moving to Thursday night to accommodate Bingo who has Tuesday night.

Patty commented about the rumor mill, ask them for more information and then go to the source for clarification. Point being if you stop repeating the rumors the rumors will stop.

Tom Taylor made a comment that he did a cultural assessment of large groups of people and the takeaway was if we hear something we get a snippet of the story and its human nature to fill it in with negative information.

## **Committee Reports:**

### **Architecture Report- Ron Colbert:**

Nine requests were made, and all were approved. A request for a shed has been disapproved.

### **Building and Grounds-Tom W.**

On workday, we had a small group that spread the shell rock in Memorial Park, and we also cleaned up some brush to haul to the dump this week.

We are working on the floors in the Recreation Hall. We are stripping the floors and cleaning them, it will take about 3 or 4 days to complete we will be starting on Wednesday.

Tom will be working on the most efficient placement of shelving for the storage shed this week.

### **Pool- Cindy**

Heartland Pool continues to do a fantastic job with maintaining the pool.

## **Neighbor Hood Watch-Bob Evans**

Bob received a call that someone was walking around with just his robe on, and Bob could not find the person.

Another call was regarding visiting kids going into and removing items from the model homes. Bob was able to contact the children and resolve the issue.

Another call from a concerned son of one of our residents and that he was unable to contact her, she was fine and spoke to her son via telephone.

## **Activities-Cindy**

We need a volunteer to do the decorating in the Clubhouse. Elaine has stepped down and we would like to thank her, she has done a fantastic job for many years.

There is a signup sheet for Thanksgiving dinner, Alan and Gayle will be taking over the dinner preparation and if you would like to help them there is a spot for your phone number on the signup sheet.

There is a signup sheet for the ladies Christmas luncheon if you would like to attend.

We do not have the final purchase price for the ladies Christmas luncheon. Last year it was 17.50, that would include everything, and it will be at the Jacaranda again this year.

Movie night will be November 2<sup>nd</sup> and the movie will be On a Wing and a Prayer.

Saturday 11-4 a private party.

Thursday 11-9 New residents meeting at 2:00.

Friday 11-10 Potluck 5:30.

Saturday 11-11 Workday 8:00am

Tuesday 11-14 Social Meeting 10:00

Thursday 11-16 Deliver boxes to Clubhouse for the Christmas sale

Friday 11-17 Coffee Hour 8:00 am

Friday 11-17 set up for Christmas sale.

Saturday 11-18 Christmas sale 8:00am-1:00pm.

Tuesday 11-21 BOD meeting 10:00

Wednesday 11-22 Prep for Thanksgiving Dinner

Thursday 11-23 Thanksgiving Dinner 3:00

Saturday 11-25 Pool Party 11:30.

### **Residents Remarks**

Tom Taylor said the if you want to replace your old flag Tom Lilly would make sure that your old flag is taken to the American Legion for proper disposal.

Mike Kratt-Pool light coming on at 6:00am and staying on till 10:00pm

Kay Wheeler-We will have pancake breakfast again this year if we get volunteers we will start in December.

John Colwell-Expecting approval on a shed he wants to build. It cannot be visible from the street. Tom asked John to give us a month to speak to our attorney. John agreed. It was not approved by a person on our Architectual committee.

Donna-Christmas sale reminder November 18 we need baked goods.



Please no refrigerated items and if you have nuts in your baked goods, please make note because of allergies. Signup sheet for anyone who wants to help.

Elaine Orr-We are having a variety show this year we need acts there is a signup sheet on the bulletin board. The show is February 14.

Kathy Gray-Question counting of ballets. If someone wants to watch the count you can but you cannot speak or touch anything.

Bobbie Snow- Are we having a dance on February 14? We are having a variety show instead.

Tom made a motion to adjourn the meeting Patty Hynes seconded motion carried.

The minutes are respectively submitted by Phyllis Klase