

# **Semi Annual Meeting Minutes Country Club Hills Civic Association**

November 6, 2003  
John C. Wood Center, Room 6  
7:30 – 9:00 p.m.

**President Paul Sullivan** ([p.sullivan29@verizon.net](mailto:p.sullivan29@verizon.net)) called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m. and appointed **Vice-President Civic Affairs Olivier Denier Long** ([CCHCA@EZJustice.com](mailto:CCHCA@EZJustice.com)) as Secretary.

All board members are present except **Vice-President Publications, Steve Lane** ([lane.link@verizon.net](mailto:lane.link@verizon.net))

Quorum is 17 homes, or ten percent of 170 units in the community. Twenty-four people are present.

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**President Sullivan** reviewed noteworthy events of the past year, including Hurricane Isabelle, common area cleanup, Old Lee Highway Traffic Study (\$70,000.00 for one year), police station at the Wood Center, Blenheim restoration, Rebel Run land purchased by the City as open land, CCHCA membership at 53%, money in the bank, and a fully staffed volunteer board for eighteen months.

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CCH received a nomination for its activity in renovating the common area.

Elections will take place in May 2004. **President Sullivan** will establish a nominating committee in April 2004.

**Treasurer, Ryan Abate** ([rabate@checkagain.com](mailto:rabate@checkagain.com)) reported a current balance is approximately \$4,400.00. We are \$250.00 under budget at this time. \$2,500.00 of the account is restricted to common area improvement.

**VP - Block Captains, Hildie Carnie** ([hilcarn31@aol.com](mailto:hilcarn31@aol.com)) says the block captain routes have been re-structured for ease of access.

**VP – Membership, Jill Toth** ([jilltoth@yahoo.com](mailto:jilltoth@yahoo.com)) requires membership directory corrections by November 10. She solicited sign-ups for volunteer committees. Last year was 30% membership.

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**VP - Social Activities, Debbie Lane** ([Debra.lane@fcps.edu](mailto:Debra.lane@fcps.edu)) says the Halloween party was very successful. Christmas Santa visits are December 10-11, without charge. Persons interested in a visit from Santa should contact **Co-Chair, Lisa Whetzel** ([whetzelink@aol.com](mailto:whetzelink@aol.com)). Luminaries are being set out from 7:30 to 9:30 on December 22<sup>nd</sup> or December 23<sup>rd</sup> if weather requires a postponement.

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Neighborhood watch has been rewritten to become community safety liaison, according to **VP – Neighborhood Crime Watch, Katie Baxter-Gagen** ([katiepbg@yahoo.com](mailto:katiepbg@yahoo.com)). **Ms. Baxter-Gagen** read the revised language regarding the broadened public service responsibility of the liaison. This new language was announced in advance by flyer, as required by the Association bylaws.<sup>1</sup> The bylaw amendment passed unanimously.

Brookwood Drive parking has concerned residents, especially on the Old Lee Highway side of Pinehurst. *Two thirds of the people on the street needed to approve restricted parking.* **Ms. Baxter-Gagen** obtained almost unanimous approval for the restriction, Monday – Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on school days. Two residents were concerned about guest parking for luncheons, and about high school parkers moving one street over.

The City said in case of special events it could generate passes or “bag” the signs. We can continue adding “no parking” streets on a street-by-street basis if we choose.

**Ms. Baxter-Gagen** says we have some flexibility about the spacing of the signs. She recommends they be placed the length of Brookwood. Obtaining vehicle permits is the only inconvenience. Each residence also receives two visitor passes.

Fifteen of twenty-four houses sought the restricted parking so one more house is needed. It was suggested that a CCHCA representative talk to Fairfax High School about students avoiding the school lot because of disciplinary action or to get out of paying the \$150.00 fee. **President Sullivan** will contact the principal, and **Ms. Baxter-Gagen** will obtain one more signature, and prepare a certification that she notified everybody.

**Ms. Lane** says Fairfax High School renovation may reduce the size of the forested buffer between CCHCA and Fairfax High School. This generated considerable concern. It was moved and seconded that **President Sullivan** contact the City School Board about preserving the trees. CCHCA has a history of activism to protect the buffer. The motion passed unanimously.

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<sup>1</sup> “The VP for Community Safety shall be responsible for working closely with the Fairfax City Police Department and other public service and law enforcement officials to address issues of concern in the neighborhood. Issues of concern may include, but are not necessarily limited to awareness and prevention of crime, awareness and mediation of hazardous situations, parking violations and zoning violations. In general, the Community Safety Liaison shall be the point of contact between the City’s public services and residents of Country Club Hills.”

Ms. Carnie reported \$2.7M will be spent in 2005 on the Blenheim renovation, including installation of a Visitors' Center. She encouraged CCHCA residents to review the plans available at City Hall. There will be no egress to CCHCA, although the Blenheim Estate is carved out of CCHCA on Lee Highway.

**VP - Social Activities Co-Chair, Lisa Whetzel** ([whetzelink@aol.com](mailto:whetzelink@aol.com)) suggested seventeen possible names for the pocket park at the intersection of Spring Hill and Brookwood.

Motion to vote, with a runoff from the top three. The motion passed. The membership extensively discussed the three finalists -- CCH Commons, The Commons and CCH Terrace. The winner is "The Commons." **Ms. Whetzel** says CCHCA will attempt to obtain a pavilion. Thus, no sidewalk is sought.

If you know of an arrival or departure from the neighborhood, notify Sharon Leasure of the Welcoming Committee ([SharonLL1@att.net](mailto:SharonLL1@att.net)) or Ms. Carnie.

Motion and second to approve officer and committee reports. The motion passed.

Power problem in Area One is ongoing. Hurricane power loss was 56 hours. "**Bob**" filed a complaint with the SCC. This is a different line that rest of CCHCA. Substation is in Idylwood. A three-year history shows only a 32-hour outage from the hurricane, though it was actually 56 hours. The blinking is caused when the power company switches power sources. Tree branches frequently cause outages, especially around Artie's. The power company suggested the City standard for tree trimming was the standard used. Surges cause appliances to fail.

Eleven people at the meeting have had intermittent power problems. People have lost hundreds of dollars in food. CCH Area One (half of CCH) is at the end of a seven or eight mile line.

Motion to write to the City and SCC and complain, with a copy to the power company. **Mr. Long** seconded the motion. We should ask to go to another grid, or other options to resolve the problem. We are asking for a written response. Unanimous.

**Dimitri Climenco** solicits volunteers to help neighbors with yard projects, especially in winter.

**President Sullivan** reports his vehicle windows were apparently shot out while he was in the vehicle, in front of his home.

Annual meeting and elections are in May 2004.

A resident complained about construction signs on Spring Lake Terrace for nine months, which was an excessive period time. **Councilwoman Patrice Winter** agreed to investigate.

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