

## **Whiskey Creek Civic Association Board Meeting**

April 12, 2017

President Kate Gooderham opened the meeting at 7PM and welcomed the residents. Board members present were: Bernie Lamach, Karen Tice, Ron Frazer, Paul Matter, Lee Chasse, Jim McCabe and Jeanne McCafferty. Absent and excused was Dennis Rodgers.

### **President's Remarks**

Kate told everyone that the May meeting is solely a Board Planning Meeting starting at 6 PM, a workshop with no speaker or participation from the residents unless you want to get involved in planning activities for the fall and winter. Kate then introduced David Collins, Treasurer of the Board of Directors for Lee memorial Health System.

David thanked Board for inviting him. He has been on the Board for 41/2 yrs and served as Treasurer for 31/2 yrs. He explained that Lee Health was a nonprofit, community based, government phased health care system committed to the wellbeing of every individual member or visitor to our community. We are a safety net hospital so anyone that comes to the hospital, regardless of their ability to pay will receive care. Their mission is to be the best patient and family centered health care system by working together efficiently to deliver excellence in quality, safety and compassion. The hospital, which celebrated their 100 anniversary last year, was founded in 1916. They have more than 11,800 employees, which makes them as well as Lee County School Board, one of the largest employers of Lee County. They have more than 4,500 volunteers, some for a few hours a week or a few days a week to deliver that personal care to the patients. Lee Health has 1,100 physicians that are on the medical staff at their acute-care hospitals, one specialty hospital, a regional cancer center and outpatient services through Lee Physician Groups. They are all interconnected so that visiting any center can make your medical information available much quicker. Technology is a big drive on how the health care is delivered in this County. They are paid for keeping patients well and not for being sick.

David also talked about the Golisano Children's Hospital, the Wellness Center, the expansion of the cancer center and the Gulf Coast Medical Center. A question and answer session followed.

Kate thanked David for his informative update on Lee Health. She asked the Board's permission to start the business meeting with Old business.

### **Citizen's Comments**

Kate asked that the citizen's comment be made at time when the issue is at hand.

### **Old Business**

## **Update on legislation**

As Dennis was not available, Kate asked Bernie to report on our legislative efforts. Bernie stated from Dennis's memo that HB 735 has been referred to the Civil Justice & Claims Subcommittee, the Local Federal & Veterans Affairs Subcommittee & the Judiciary Committee. It was reported out favorably by the first two and is now waiting action in the Judiciary Committee.

SB 1045 has been referred to the Community Affairs, Judiciary, and Rules Committees. It is on the agenda for an April 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Community Affairs Committee but has not been placed on the agenda in the other two committees. Senator Benacquisto is the Vice-chairman of the Judiciary committee and is Chairman of the Rules Committee. Dennis suggested that someone could contact her to encourage favorable action in those two committees. Dennis has also been communicating with Trenton Muntz in Senator Passidomo's office and with Edward Metzger in Representative Fitzenhagen's office.

## **Water hyacinths on Lake Champagne**

Ron stated that he dealt with the Water Hyacinth District and the Lake Doctors. Both agreed that the hyacinth was abundant but not an overabundance. It is a very invasive plant. We had a mild winter and the plants did not die off which it normally does with colder weather. Ron feels that we need to do something before the summer rains cause a more severe problem resulting in a more expensive resolution. The plant could take over the entire surface of the waterway if not stopped.

The Water Hyacinth District cannot get their boat into the water. They initiated a test on 3-28<sup>th</sup> with the biologists from the Department of Agriculture, with permit, who then released bugs (plant hoppers) to combat the invasive hyacinths. It is a long term effect, and will not get rid of all the hyacinths before the summer season. They will come back to evaluate it.

Ron spoke with Lakemasters who offer a one-time application for \$500.00. They were not interested in doing it quarterly. Ron says that he feels that the offer from the Lake Doctors of \$1800.00 for one year, \$450.00 per quarter is better. They would provide WCCA with a quarterly report on the condition of the Lake and any other findings other than the hyacinth. Ron questioned the feasibility of opting out of contract for any reason without any penalty. That would not be a problem. They would begin within 15 days of the signed contract. Under citizen's comment, Robert Loflin also feels we need to take the one year contract as more than ½ of our subdivision drains into our Lake. Fertilizers that aren't taken up by your grass go down the drain then end up in the Lake. The reason for this outbreak is the nutrients. It is a storm water lake and this is what it was designed for. Robert wants to point out how fast these plants can grow. Ron stated that the first treatment would take care of the majority of it. Many questions were asked by the Board. Water District's airboat cannot get to the Lake. It is too large. There is no

way to get the boat to the Lake Comments and other questions were asked of Ron. Kate said that she had contacted Hans Wilson of HWA .She is concern of how much obligation the Association has and how to approach it .We should not take 100% of the responsibility for the Lake Ron made a motion to go with Lake Doctors at \$1800.00 a year, \$450.00 a quarter to take care of the hyacinth and also send a quarterly quality service report .to the Board. Bernie seconded the move. Kate closed further discussion. It was a tie vote and the motion failed. It was suggested that we write /email our Commissioner Cecil Pendergrass for help at Tel #533-2227 or dist2leegov.com .Kate asked the Board to look over the information that she sent us re HWA for our next meeting.

Ron stated that he is willing to pay the \$1800.00 in order to resolve this issue for those people around the Lake who have been calling and are very concern of the quality of the Lake. If we do get a resolution or some help, then he would like to be reimbursed. If we don't get any action, or if they don't take action, Ron will absorb it. Secondly, if the Board allows him to do that , he would like to tell the people around the Lake that he would like some help with that endeavor and any payments be processed through the Civic Assn and earmarked for Ron's Lake expense. He would like to resolve this tonight.

After much discussion and back and forth on the hyacinth problem and ways to possibly solve this problem, Ron made a motion that the Board would grant him permission to enter into the contract with The Lake Doctors, Inc. for one year at the expense of \$1,800.00/ \$450.00 a quarter where we would still get their Reports. Ron also stated that he would be glad to take pictures showing the progress. Kate asked if there were any objections. Having none, the move was seconded by Karen. The motion passed with (8) eight members in favor and (1) one dissension.

#### **4<sup>th</sup> of July & Pumpkin Decorating**

Kate stated that last year our Association joined with Tanglewood in two activities: the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Bike Parade and the October Halloween decorating contest. Melissa Easton and Christine have agreed to be the coordinators for these two events. The primary efforts for the Bike Parade will be Tanglewood and WCCA will be the primary for the Pumpkin Decorating contest. The two events will be joined by both Associations.

#### **Airplanes –Noise complaints**

At our last meeting, there were several complaints about the airplanes noise. Calls need to be made to the airport .The noise complaint telephone number is 590-4460. During the peak of "Season" there is an average of 10,000 planes a month. After "Season" it will drop to 7,000 planes a month. You will see a difference.

## **New Business**

### **Bylaws situation**

Kate said that in the process of transferring information and getting acclimated to the duties of the President, she became aware that we have historically paid the membership chairman a monthly fee because that job has so much to it. When Ted Gault resigned from that position, Karen agreed to take over the Membership Chair and she was also paid the \$200.00 per month. Upon reviewing our Bylaws, Kate found that we were in violation. It states that "No compensation shall be paid to directors for services performed by them for the Corporation." Kate then contacted Dennis Rodger since he is both an attorney and the Vice-President. Dennis agreed with Kate's findings and they met with Karen to explain the problem. They offered two solutions: 1<sup>st</sup> Continue as a Board member/ Treasurer and resign as membership chair, 2<sup>nd</sup> Continue as membership chair and resign as a Board member. Karen requested to address the Board at the April meeting. At the meeting, Karen said that she felt that the bylaws should be changed to say that you can't be compensated for doing something for the Board instead of for the Corporation. She feels that what was meant when it was written. Membership is outside of the Board's duties.

It was discussed that the fee was reported monthly on the Treasurer's Report and nothing was said at that time. There was no mention when Karen took over the position last April. We should make it a separate contract and should it be a member or should we change the bylaws? Kate explained the lengthy process for amending the bylaws

Kate said that we cannot knowingly violate the bylaws. That is something for which we could be taken to court. At this point, Gordon Lytle offered to take the position. No other comments were made. Kate then asked for a motion. As no one made one, Kate stepped down from the chair and passed the duty to Jeanne. Kate moved that Karen is given the choice to choose to be the membership chair or to be Board member/ Treasurer. It was seconded by Paul. The move passed 4-3 Karen chose membership. We will not have the election of new Treasurer tonight.

Ron reintroduced the fact that there was some confusion when Gordon offered to chair the membership committee as no other discussion was made. If Gordon is willing to do this, can't we assign that tonight? After more discussion, Lee moved to rescind the motion as presented to the Board. It was seconded by Jim. All were in favor and motion passed. Karen resigned as Membership chair and remained as Board member/Treasurer. Kate then appointed Gordon to Membership Chair.

### **Board members issues & comments**

None

### **Officers' Report**

## **Secretary**

The minutes of the March meeting had been emailed to the Board by Jeanne. Lee moved to accept the minutes as received. It was seconded by Karen. All were in favor and the motion passed.

## **Treasurer's Report**

Jeanne made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. It was seconded by Ron. All were in favor and motion passed. They are on file with the minutes of the monthly meetings.

## **Committee Reports—Updates**

### **Membership**

Karen said that 495 families had joined or renewed their membership with 27 families enrolled for the 1<sup>st</sup> time. A total of \$12,385.00 has been received, which includes \$10.00 for a WC license plate.

### **Deed Restriction**

Dennis's message stated that he had nothing to report at this time.

### **News Distribution**

Abby said that they worked through the past month's drop off problem Things should be better next month.

### **Yard Committee**

May's Yard of the Month was picked. Look for it in the May issue of the WCNews.

Kate reminded the Board of May 10<sup>th</sup> planning meeting starting at 6PM. She will call the committee chairs to see if they would like to attend. As there was no further business, Kate adjourned the meeting at 8:40PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jeanne McCafferty,  
Secretary

