

Brookdale Annual Meeting - 7:30 pm June 14, 2021

The meeting was called to order by Richard Podolske, President. Manuel Ochoa, At-Large Representative, initiated Brookdale's second Annual Meeting conducted via Zoom. Richard Podolske welcomed all new Brookdale residents.

Treasurer's Report:

Heather Paul, Treasurer, reported on the current financial condition of the Brookdale Citizens' Association. As of June 10, we had a balance of \$6,999.69 in our checking account and \$9,798 on our certificate of deposit (CD) for a total of \$16,797.67. Approximately 25% of residents have paid their \$40 dues for fiscal year 2021.¹

Expenses over the period of June 2020 to June 2021) broke down in categories against expenses of \$3,716 in this same time period as follows:

30% - (\$1,114) Events—Porch Fest, Halloween, Mariachi Band and a last, Oakes Singer

27% --(\$1,000) Three (3) Bugle Printings and distribution

23% --(\$850) Website and Listserv (web monthly maintenance and annual IO fee)

14%--(\$515) Signage (new and repaired signs)

6% --(\$237) Sundry materials (\$137 for stationery, stamps, envelopes, new Treasurer's stamp and \$100 for donation to Bethesda Historical Society).

Review of the Year:

Dick Podolske summarized significant Brookdale events and accomplishments during the past year:

- October porch fest organized by Abner Oaks
- Halloween celebration (parade, art contest, and spooky home contest)
- Amy Rispin introduced her book, History of River Road, Black and White
- Deborah Kalb presented her new children's book on Thomas Jefferson in December
- Jim Timbie presented his book, Hinge of History, in January
- Sarah Morse described the numerous activities of the Little Falls Watershed in February
- Jane Lyons described the possible impact of the new Montgomery County Master Plan in March
- Tino Calabria made a presentation on his politically active Filipino family in April
- The Mariachi Aquila DC Band played a well-attended concert in Brookdale Park in May

¹ Our fiscal year runs from January through December.

Beyond Brookdale events, the Association has been active on additional fronts including the following:

- Established a Brookdale Groups IO which is now widely used
- Geico has moved the smoke shack based on requests from the Brookdale Association
- Boundary Park area is being better maintained due to Association requests

Nomination and Election of Brookdale Officers:

The recommendations of the committee for Brookdale officers was as follows:

President, Dick Podolske
Vice President, Brookdale North, Mike Makuch
Vice President, Brookdale South, Jack Morton
Vice President, Wolshire, Tom Husted
Vice President, Orchardale, Amy Rispin
Vice President, Park-Newport, Federicko Glucksmann
Secretary, Darcy King-Leatham
Treasurer, Heather Paul
Representative-at-Large (north of River Road), Adrienne Nassau
Representative-at-Large (north of River Road), Manuel Ochoa
Representative-at-Large (south of River Road), Lisa Clark.

The slate of officers was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Proposed Amendment

The Nominating Committee recommended the following amendment to the Constitution:

Amendment to Article 4, Section 2:

Section 2:- The elected officers of the Association, who constitute the Executive Committee, shall be a President, five Vice-Presidents representing each area identified by Appendix A, a Secretary, and a Treasurer. As an option annually, upon recommendation of the Nominating Committee defined in the By-Laws and approval by majority vote of the members, additional persons may be elected as representatives at large.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the proposed amendment. The motion was approved by voice vote.

Upcoming Events:

- June 19th Music in Dover Court (not an official Brookdale event)
- 4th of July Glen Echo Fire Department, Parade, and Food
- Sept 4th Rising Start in Park for K-5 Kids
- September 18 Block Party with Band
- October 16th Porch Fest
- October 31 Halloween Parade, Food, and Spooky Home contest

Presentation:

Robert Kronenberg, Deputy Director, Montgomery County Planning Department spoke of several initiatives including *Thrive Montgomery 2050*. He emphasized that *Thrive Montgomery 2050* is a general plan that would guide planning for land use, zoning, and housing, etc. for the next twenty to thirty years. The Planning Department has approved the plan and referred it to the County Council.

The Planning Department launched the Attainable Housing Strategies (AHS) initiative in response to the Montgomery County Council's request to review and study housing options in the county for current and future residents.

In December 2020, Council member Will Jawando introduced ZTA-20-07 (a zoning text amendment) to allow changes that would promote "missing middle housing," allowing for a wider variety of housing types within one mile of the Metro. Potentially, this would allow for increased density and allow for townhomes, duplexes and other types of housing in Brookdale. The Council tabled ZTA-20-07 to allow County Council and the Planning Department to consider "missing middle housing" in a larger context (beyond one mile from Metro) with attainable housing strategy.

Mr. Kronenberg noted that the ADU (Accessory Dwelling Units) law, which was passed in December, 2019, eases restrictions on ADUs by streamlining the permitting process. ADUs are now permitted in Brookdale by right. One of the major changes was the elimination of the one acre lot minimum.

A brief question and answer period followed the presentation. Several residents expressed concerns about pedestrian safety and parking waivers should *Thrive Montgomery 2050* be adopted.²

After Mr. Kronenberg left the meeting, President Richard Podolske introduced a proposed resolution to the County Council to express concerns about *Thrive Montgomery 2050* and ZTA 20-07. A lively discussion ensued. Concern about parking and street safety was universal. The proposed resolution was tabled for further revision.

The meeting came to a close at approximately 9 pm.

² The preliminary Affordable Housing Strategies recommendations would reduce parking requirements by half and allow further reduction of parking requirements in the Growth Corridors identified in *Thrive Montgomery 2050*.