



Meeting Minutes
May 15, 2013
Independent Fire Company
200 West 2nd Avenue, Ranson WV
Jefferson County

Board Members: Pete Appignani, Gap View Village, President
Neal Nilsen, River View Park, Vice-President
Elliot Simon, Blue Ridge Acres Civic Assoc., Treasurer
Phyllis Smock, Stonebridge, Secretary

Other Attendees: Bob Ayrer, Spring Mills; Betty Beckley, Whiting's Neck Farm; Jean Kopper, Ashton Forest; Cheryl McConnell, Ryans Glen HOA; Suzanne, Malesic, Patrick Henry Estates; Sandi Poole, Apple Blossom Meadows HOA; RosaLee Riggins, Ashton Forest; Richard Sussmann, PMP

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Pete Appignani at the Independent Fire Company.

I. Approval of February meeting minutes

Neal Nilsen moved to approve April 17, 2013 meeting minutes as presented. Motion was seconded by Elliot. Motion passed without objection.

II. Executive & Committee Reports:

Treasurer Report –Elliot Simon reported for the period covering April 18, 2013 through May 15, 2013, opening balance of \$5,661.76; deposits of \$375.00 and dispersals of \$715.19 and closing balance of \$5,321.57. Dispersals represented costs for EPOHOA representation in Charleston for Jefferson County Days, and workshop expenses conducted by Braun Hampstead.

Membership Report –Elliot reported invoices for membership renewal were sent out by e-mail. He will mail out second invoices as a reminder to those members who have not renewed their dues.

Ad Hoc Committee on Bylaws—no report

Legislative Review Committee— Richard Sussmann reported that Jennifer Syron is setting up a meeting with Senator Snyder in June.

III. Unfinished Business:

Suzanne Malasic handed out a summary of evaluation survey taken following the workshop held April 20, 2013. Forty-seven people attended. The responses were very positive. She also provided summary of workshop expenses, copies of thank you letters

for the file, and the agenda content provided by Braun Hampstead. Suzanne recommends more press coverage on future workshops.

The Board commended Suzanne for putting together an excellent workshop.

Richard Sussmann reported that Ed Thomas from PMP is ready to offer workshops in the future. Sandi Poole volunteered to work with EPOHOA to get donated items in the future.

Other meeting reports—Phyllis attended a planning meeting on May 6th where the Coalition for Reliable Power, the NAACP of Jefferson County, and the WV Sierra Club, discussed holding a public hearing on May 22 at 7:00 pm at the Wright-Denny Elementary School in Charles Town. The purpose of the public hearing will be to give people an opportunity to ask a question about Potomac Edison's billing cycle and to ask questions regarding the Monongahela Power/Potomac Edison proposal to purchase FirstEnergy's Harrison Power Plant. Phyllis did not volunteer the EPOHOA as an organization that would join their efforts.

Suzanne Malasic reported on the May 9th Jefferson County Commission meeting at which time Delegate Stephen Skinner asked for an investigation into the billing situation with First Energy. The Commission voted unanimously to send a letter to the Public Service Commission in support of Skinner's request.

Suzanne noted for the record that following the presentation at the last EPOHOA meeting regarding the Potomac Edison billing and proposal to purchase a power plant, she talked to the two speakers and signed a local petition, giving her name and e-mail. Within 48 hours she received e-mails from the Sierra Club. She requested in the future the Board will be sure to give complete information regarding speaker's affiliations. Pete will follow up with Patience Wait and Danny Chiotos and notify them of the unauthorized use of e-mail names collected for the purpose of promoting a national organization such as the Sierra Club's agenda.

Policy on advertisement & sponsors sub-committee:

Richard Sussmann announced a meeting of the committee is scheduled for Sunday afternoon, May 19th at Suzanne's home. They will be discussing the difference between advertisement and sponsorships.

Status of Summer Picnic—Nance will have an update next month.

New Business

Advice versus legal advice. Pete recommended EPOHOA develop a policy or guidelines regarding how information is given out. Richard Sussmann submitted a draft outlining some guidelines. Pete would like to send the draft out and get feedback.

First Energy –discussion and proposal for a position paper

Following a lengthy discussion regarding the EPOHOA 501 c (3) status as an educational

organization with a primary purpose of gathering and sharing information, Suzanne moved that the Board direct Nance to post a notice on our website about the public hearing on May 22 regarding Potomac Edison's billing practices and to distribute the information to our contact list to encourage all EPOHOA members to inform their HOA residents about the meeting to ask questions, and also to provide a link to the website announcement. Neal seconded the motion.

Motion passed without objection. Phyllis will send the Public Hearing announcement electronically to the Board Members. Elliot wanted to be sure the announcement to the membership via MailChimp explains that EPOHOA is not a sponsor of the Public Hearing.

EPOHOA's Officers' Organizational Retreat

Suzanne Malesic moved EPOHOA hold a Vision & Organizational Officers Retreat as presented on topics suggested by Suzanne and Jennifer Syron. The retreat will include the Board and Chairmen of all Committees. Elliot seconded the motion. Motion passed. Jennifer volunteered to facilitate the retreat. Date and details to be announced.

Discussion on Education Committee

Elliot moved that the EPOHOA form an Education Committee for the purpose of inviting and vetting speakers, and to plan educational workshops. Neal seconded the motion. Motion passed without objection. Betty Beckley volunteered to serve on the committee. Formation of committee was tabled until next meeting.

Homeowners Insurance—guest speaker

Pete moved to invite a State Farm representative and an Allstate representative to speak at an EPOHOA meeting to discuss homeowners insurance coverage. Suzanne seconded the motion. Motion passed without objection.

Announcements

The Washington Metro Chapter Community Associations Institute (WMCCAI) contacted Pete and offered CAI training opportunities to our members. Some are free and some require a fee. The training sessions are mostly held in Virginia. The sessions will be posted for anyone interested.

Pete has received a copy of the letter sent from the State Tax Department to All County Assessors, which includes guidelines for taxes on Common Property as of July 2012. This is also posted on the EPOHOA website.

Scott's Fertilizer announced that it is removing all phosphorous from their fertilizer product, which has had a negative impact on the Chesapeake Bay.

Pete wanted to be sure everyone is aware of a utility scam that is going around and it involves sending a pre-paid credit card. More information will be posted on the website about the scam.

Division of Highway public hearing is scheduled on June 3, 2013 about Route 340 and this information will be posted with the full schedule.

Suzanne will attend the Jefferson County Commission meeting on May 16, 2013 at 9:30 am

Delegates will be attending with their updates. Item 13 will be a discussion regarding rezoning.

Neal announced that the same delegates update information will be presented at the Chamber of Commerce meeting on Wednesday, May 22, 2013.

Neal moved to adjourn the meeting. Suzanne seconded and motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING
June 15, 2013, Saturday, 9:00 pm
Bedington Ruritan 3947 Williamsport Pike
Martinsburg, WV 25401
Berkeley County
EPOHOA.org info@epohoa.org