

College Park Village Association
Meeting Minutes
January 16, 2017

1) **President Ted Stanley called the meeting to order** at 7:00 P.M. Members present were Marti Meerscheidt, Johanne Stanley, Joel Barnes, Jake Miller, Dave Mulberry and Kenneth Morris. Steve LaMotta and Mike Larson were absent. Sitting in for our Village Liaison was MJ. Guests present were Township Board of Directors John Brown and Ann Snyder. **MCSO Officers report:** Deputy Jason Hopper provided statistics showing a reduction of burglaries in our community. We learn that crimes in The Woodlands are often crimes of opportunity. What does that mean? It means you can prevent it. We asked him, what can residents do to be proactive and protect our homes? First he said - always lock your doors. Keep your garage door closed at all times. Lock gates to your back yard. Join your neighborhood Woodlands Watch. Report suspicious activity even if you have nothing more than a hunch about what you see. For non-emergency situations call 936 - 442 - 7797 (*Select option 3*). Put this number in your cell phone so that you always have it ready.

2) **Resident Comments:** Reports of illegal signage. Dave reported litter along the feeder in the area of St. Luke's. These situations will be monitored and we will consider a request for additional maintenance of this area if it is necessary.

3) **Township Report:** Director Snyder highlighted Township news including the upcoming maintenance of Harper's Landing Pool and replacement of playground equipment. Two task force committees have been formed; one to address drainage issues and the other for community issues. Director Rieser facilitates both groups. The Iron man will mostly utilize Hardy Toll Road but also the section of The Woodlands Parkway from Grogan's Mill to Cochran's Crossing. The full Township Board of Directors report is available on the Township web site. Director Brown promised to attend future meetings with us.

4) **Village Liaison Report:** MJ reported on upcoming events and handed out fliers.

5) **Administrative Council Reports: Presentation of the Minutes:** October Minutes were approved by a motion made by Ken and seconded by Joel. Ted Stanley abstained. November Minutes were approved by a motion made by Dave and seconded by Ken. Ted and Johanne Stanley abstained. **Parks & Recreation Advisory:** Marti reported on the plans to initiate textile recycling in The Woodlands. Bids are being accepted and the proposal will be presented to the Township Board for approval. She reported on the success of various programs in the community this winter. **Law Enforcement Council:** Ted reported there was no new information. **Treasurer's Report:** The Township has awarded College Park our 2016 stipend now that we are once again in tax exempt status. We are waiting on Township approval for retroactive receipt of the 2015 Village Association stipend. Marti asked for a vote to approve an overage of \$33.82 for the 2016 Volunteer Appreciation. The motion was made by Ken and seconded by Joel and with unanimous approval.

6) **Village Activities: a) Spring Poolooza:** the date is on hold until we get confirmation of the completion of pool re-plastering. Typically the event is the weekend before Labor Day weekend. **b) Christmas Lighting Contest:** Ted reported a successful event with widespread village participation. **c) Water Wise Challenge:** Marti reported that to date 320 residents have signed up throughout The Woodlands which is an increase over last year. Residents can sign up through April 15, however no points will be awarded since the Village Challenge sign up ended in December. Ted reported that College Park generated enough participation to receive a participation stipend of \$50.00. **d) Spring Flea Market:** is typically in March or early April and this date is yet TBA. **e) Earth Day Green UP:** is March 25. Volunteers are needed to work. Information will be posted on our web site. We need 70 volunteers or 1% of our Village population. Last year we had only 31 College Park Volunteers. _

7) **Other Village Business: a) Appointment of Treasurer:** Dave Mulberry seeks to be reinstated as our Treasurer. After minimal discussion a motion was made by Ken and seconded by Johanne for Dave to fill the position of Treasurer. The motion passed unanimously. We appreciate that Marti Meerscheidt has served

double duties as Treasurer and Secretary for the past 7 months. It was discussed to add Vice President Mike Larson as a third check signer if needed. **b) Discussion of treasury and accounting practices and procedures:** There was healthy discussion about our process. All agreed that project chairmen should make an effort to *NOT* go over budget. If there is a potential to go over budget then the project chair should exercise due diligence to request an overage from the Board prior to the expense being incurred. Ted explained that this can be done, if needed, through an electronic (email) vote. When an activity goes over budget it should be evaluated each year to determine if there should be an increase in the budget for that event. Reimbursements will be done in a timely manner. Treasurer Dave stated that he will always have the check book on hand at events and meetings. We want to be respectful of the fact that from time to time board members incur out of pocket costs. Receipts must be produced and attached to an expense report to turn in to the Treasurer for reimbursement. Where possible, invoices can be presented prior to the expense being paid and a check in exact amount can be cut. There was a request to send out an electronic budget report for review before each meeting somewhat the same way we send out minutes before hand. There was an interest among the board members in having more time to look over monthly expenses and income and have a better understanding of these things. **c) Village Elections:** Ted reported that he filed for President and Marti filed for Secretary. Both stated they would step down if another Board member was interested. Dave is back as Treasurer and Mike is also finishing a two-year term *this year* as V.P. We have 9 at-large positions on our Board but currently only five at-large Board members. There are four at-large board positions unfilled. Please actively recruit interested neighbors. Should our election be uncontested, a vote at the polls will not be necessary. **d) Transition meeting March 20:** save the date which is our regular monthly meeting but when we prepare and plan for the coming year. Meet at 6:30 for a meal and a workshop meeting following.

8) **Other Business:** Discussion of Sam's club vs. a Costco membership. January 25 is the Township volunteer recognition. We received an email invitation so please RSVP. Johanne expressed concern about the timeline for the scholarship committee. The information is on the web site and Ted will follow up with Mike. There was mention of discussing other types of scholarships for next year at the planning meeting next month.

9) **Resident Comments:** none

10) **Board Member Comments:** none

11) **Adjourn at 8:3**