

Timber Farms Civic Association General Meeting

October 24, 2016

Thurgood Marshall Elementary School

The Timber Farms Civic Association General Meeting was held in conjunction with the Combined General Meeting on October 24, 2016 at Thurgood Marshall Elementary School.

The meeting was called to order at 7:25 pm by President Bruce Lipphardt. Minutes from the previous Civic Association Meeting on October 21, 2015 were read by Acting Secretary Linda Olds.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Treasurer Bob Oakes.

Income YTD:	\$5,300.00		
Expenses YTD:	\$5,539.84		
Balances, as of 10/24/16:	Checking	\$400.00	
	Savings	\$2,354.83	

Mukesh Mehta gave a report on the annual picnic which was held this year on September 10th. We had close to 300 attendees, with this year's picnic being held for members and their families and guests only. This year we had some additional games for the children. LC Homes continued to provide the funding for the Giant Slide and the Moon Bounce. This year we did have to pay for a DJ (Josh Grant has done it for free in the past but he was not available on Sept 10th). Mukesh thanked Pat and Ed Lyons for purchasing and donating 4 large coolers to Timber Farms Civic Assoc. Mukesh also thanked Mrs. Finnley who brought their cotton candy and popcorn machines and provided cotton candy and popcorn to picnic goers all afternoon. Bruce thanked Mukesh for chairing a great picnic.

Bruce reminded everyone that the Halloween Parade will be held this coming Saturday, October 29th. The Christiana High School Marching Band will again participate, as they have for the last 13 years. The Parade will start about 2:30 – 2:45 pm, and will finish by the Gazebo with the Costume Contest Judging. Mr. Softee will be on hand for free ice cream cones.

Bruce announced that the positions of Secretary and President are open for two year terms (2017 – 2018), and asked for nominations. Kate Oakes nominated Linda Olds for Secretary, with a second by Dave Schneider. Dave Schneider nominated Bruce Lipphardt for President, with a second by Mukesh Mehta. Elections will be held at the next Civic Association Meeting on Wednesday, November 16th at 7:00 pm at Thurgood Marshall Elementary School.

It was suggested that we move the Noise Issue Discussion to the next item on the agenda. State Senator Bryan Townsend noted that the Noise Issues on I-95 started several months ago and we have been collecting comments. The noise seems to fall into 2 categories: "Chronic Noise," which is the truck traffic and heavy nighttime traffic noise, and "Nuisance Noise," which is the loud music and engine noise at the service plaza. Senator Townsend was very disappointed that the DeIDOT representative was not in attendance as DeIDOT had confirmed that they would have representation at the meeting. State Police representative Senior Sergeant Mark Papili was in attendance, from Troop 6, and said that IHM manages the service plaza for DeIDOT and that the State Police are aware of the noise problem from all the calls that they receive. He stated that there are different strategies for the different types of complaints, and that the service area/plaza is part of their strategy, with the State Police going there more often for the last 3 – 4 months. The last 8 months – year they have had a dedicated car for the highway. He said the noise is mainly "tuner" cars and they try to take enforcement action or move them along, with Fri and Sat nights being the busiest. He did say that there are some manpower issues. Drag racing can be considered "reckless driving" on private property. He suggested that if you hear noise from the service plaza, call the non-emergency number, (302) 573-2800, which is answered 24 hours a day. By calling that number, it may help them get more manpower; they have 7 – 11 people/shift, with the average of 8 – 9. Senator Bryan Townsend said he would be happy to look at possible legislation regarding the noise and the situation.

State Representative John Viola talked next about similar road noise, stating that the highest road noises come from 495 and 1. He said that concrete roads create the highest noise. He updated us on the construction going on, including that on I-95 by the mall. John also talked about work on the Chapman Rd Bridge over I-95, the small bridge on Old Walther Rd, and some other projects in the area.

Dave Schneider reported that we put Leland Cypress along Old Baltimore Pike for noise control and that they have looked at planting trees to abate noise from I-95, but that area doesn't get enough sunlight, so the trees would not survive very long in that area.

Senator Bryan Townsend let us know that a DeIDOT representative will be at our next meeting.

Bruce asked if there was any new business, and as there was none, the meeting was adjourned at 8:26 pm. The next Civic Association Meeting will be on Wednesday, November 16th at 7:00 pm at Thurgood Marshall Elementary School.

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda Olds
Acting Secretary