

# **Timber Farms Civic Association General Meeting**

**November 16, 2016**

**Thurgood Marshall Elementary School**

The Timber Farms Civic Association General Meeting was held on November 16, 2016 at Thurgood Marshall Elementary School.

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm by President Bruce Lipphardt. Minutes from the previous Civic Association General Meeting on October 24, 2016 were read by Acting Secretary Linda Olds.

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

Income YTD:	\$5,300.00		
Expenses YTD:	\$6,036.84		
Balances, as of 11/16/16:		Checking	\$494.05
		Savings	\$1,755.12

Bob reported that the Expenses will go up to about \$6,500.00 by the end of the year. He also said that if we didn't have some residents giving extra money, above the Civic Association Dues amount, we wouldn't be doing so well.

Bruce Lipphardt, who led the Halloween Parade on October 29th in his corvette, reported that the Christiana High School Band has been part of the Timber Farms Halloween Parade for the last 17 years. Tom Layman, one of the Halloween Costume Contest judges, gave a report on the Halloween Parade / Costume Contest. We had 5 judges and after great difficulty choosing amongst the many wonderful costumes, 10 winning costumes were selected, with each winner receiving a \$10.00 cash prize. Mr. Softee was on hand again to give out free cones to all in attendance. And Mother Nature cooperated and provided great weather for the event.

Bruce reminded residents that the Holidays Home Decorating Contest Judging will be held either on Fri, Dec 16<sup>th</sup> or Sat, Dec 17<sup>th</sup>.

Dave Frampton conducted the elections for the openings on the Timber Farms Civic Association Board for 2017 – 2018, which were the offices of President and Secretary. Bruce Lipphardt was elected as President by a majority vote, followed by Linda Olds being elected as Secretary by a majority vote.

Bruce introduced Evan Park, DeIDOT Representative, who spoke on upcoming road improvements along Old Baltimore Pike. The improvements at Old Baltimore Pike and 72, where Royal Farms is located, will break ground in Spring 2017 and take about a year to complete. The improvements at Old Baltimore Pike and Salem Church Road will break ground in Spring 2018 but will take less time to complete. Residents asked several questions about issues with projects and problems on Salem Church Road. Evan reported that all capital projects are ranked, or rated, against all other capital projects in the state.

Next Evan addressed the Noise issues on I-95 and at the nearby service plaza. With regards to the "chronic noise" issue from I-95, Evan reported that neither concrete walls for noise abatement, which are incredibly expensive, nor ground/dirt burms for noise abatement, which are only done with "new construction", are on the table for consideration at this time. The ground/dirt burms might possibly be considered if/when I-95 is widened. With regards to the "nuisance noise" issue, he reported that the state owns the land that the service plaza is located on, and contracts with/ has a leasing agreement with IHM Host to maintain and operate the service plaza. Therefore, DeIDOT will not do anything about the noise. He also stated that the police currently don't have sound audible decibel reader equipment. Evan also stated that while trees can help some with noise abatement, DeIDOT will not plant trees.

There was discussion about installation of decibel reading equipment to collect sound data. Also discussion that covered cracking down on the service plaza by having more police stationed there to help curb the noise behavior. More discussion centered around the resources of the State Police and whether or not the noise issue is a priority for them.

Senator Bryan Townsend ended the discussion by saying that it is not unreasonable for constituents to expect DeIDOT or IHM Host to control the situation at the service plaza, and that he is all for exploring options to get this under control.

Bruce asked if there was any new business, but as there was none, Bruce adjourned the Timber Farms Civic Association General Meeting at 8:09 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Olds  
Secretary