

Timber Farms Civic Association General Meeting

November 15, 2023

The Timber Farms Civic Association General Meeting on November 15, 2023 was held at Thurgood Marshall Elementary School. The meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm by TFCA President Bruce Lipphardt. Bruce introduced the other Board Members in attendance: Dave Frampton, Bob Oakes, and Linda Olds.

The minutes from the last T.F.C.A. General Meeting on October 18, 2023 were read by Secretary Linda Olds.

The Treasurer's Report, as of 11/15/2023, was included in the agenda package. Treasurer Bob Oakes said that the only expense since our last meeting in October were those for the Halloween Parade: Mr Softee – ice cream cones \$420.00; Prize money for Costume Contest \$100.00; and a Donation to the Christiana High School Band \$150.00. He summarized by saying:

Total 2023 Expenses, year to date	\$ 3,271.44
Checking Account Balance:	\$ 585.22
Savings Account Balance	\$ 7,100.09

Bruce reported that the Halloween Parade that the Halloween Parade & Costume Contest was well attended and thanked all those residents who came out for this fun event. He also noted that this year Dave Tackett drove Bruce's car in the parade.

Then Bruce announced that the Best Decorated Homes Contest is coming up next and the judging should be sometime around Dec 19th, but said to watch your email for information on the exact date and time.

The next item on the agenda was the elections: the President slot will be for a 1-year term for 2024 (to get it back in sync as the President and Secretary positions are elected in a given year, and the Vice-President and Treasurer are elected in the subsequent year). The Vice-President and Treasurer positions will be for 2-year terms, for 2024 - 2025. Bruce introduced the candidates running for the open positions:

President:	Pruthvish (Pru) Patel
Vice-President:	Elaine Little
Treasurer:	Linda Olds and Deborah Owens

Ballots were passed out; one vote per household.

Bruce next introduced Officer Luis Echevarria of the Community services Unit. He has been with the New Castle Police for 8 years and has worked with Dave Tackett for about 4 years. He reported that for the period of Sept 15th through Nov 15th, there were 10 calls in the neighborhood, but that there is

no real crime going on here. There was a question about what was the incident in Timber Farms at the beginning of September, and he said it was a drowning. A resident asked about cars parking in shopping centers, and he reported that that is considered private property, so there's nothing they can do about it. There was another question about ATVs, and he said the only real way to deal with them is if people can identify what home, and or owner, it belongs to, their unit can investigate it. The issue raised at our last meeting, about people shooting behind a resident's home; he stated that shooting is not allowed within 100 yards of a home / dwelling, so if it is more than a 100 yards from a home, then it is not a criminal issue. Officer Echevarria ended by giving us his phone number, (302)395-8403, and his email address, luis.echevarria@newcastlede.gov.

Bruce next introduced Newcastle County Councilman Dave Tackett who highlighted some of the upcoming events in his newsletter which had been given to attendees. He also told us that with a recently passed law, reassessments will now take place every 5 years.

Bruce then turned the floor over to Don Patton, President of the Christina School District. He spoke about:

- Town Hall Meeting was held on Nov 7th at Glasgow High
- They will have another meeting, a workshop, on Nov 29th from 5:30 – 7:30 pm which will be about security and safety. He mentioned that the schools in the District do not have metal detectors, but that all schools have SROs
- The Superintendent's contract is up next year

Bob Oakes will send out Don Patton's information in an email.

At this point in the meeting, the ballots had been tallied from the 18 households in attendance; the results of the election were announced;

President	Pruthvish (Pru) Patel
Vice-President	Elaine Little
Treasurer	Linda Olds

Bruce then opened the meeting to New Business. One resident asked about children playing in the streets. Bruce mentioned that they can play at the playground or in the open, grassy area near the gazebo.

With no further new business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Olds, Secretary