

SIGNAL HILL HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION  
P.O. BOX 2457, SPRINGFIELD, VIRGINIA 22152  
MINUTES OF SHHA ANNUAL MEETING NOVEMBER 20, 2002

**BOARD MEMBERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Miriam Longo	-	President	Ed Rahme	-	VP
Linda Wirth	-	Secretary	Karen Orsini	-	At-Large
Pat Hamel	-	ACC	Vince Cannova		Security
Glen Woods	-	Grounds	Tom Kehoe	-	Webmaster

I. CALL TO ORDER – Miriam called the meeting to order at 7:25.

II. INTRODUCTION OF BOARD MEMBERS & Pat Hamel, Chairperson ACC.

III. QUORUM – Number of attendees and proxies not sufficient for quorum. Since no issues were to be voted on, meeting was continued.

**IV. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**A. 2002 Accomplishments**

1. Revision of By-laws – Ed Rahme reported on the necessity for revision: no changes in 26 years, some portions in violation of current state law, corrected some mistakes, and reduced duplication with the Articles of Incorporation. The vote to change was 225 for, 0 against and as this constituted the majority of a quorum the revisions were passed and became official.

2. County Trash Removal – Ed Rahme explained the voting statistics. The County requires 55% of residents sign the petition requesting the creation of a trash collection district. SHHA had 65%. Homeowners that could not be contacted by the neighborhood canvas were sent letters. The trash collection by the County starts Jan. 1, 2003. Everyone will get a letter from the County describing the collection process and the County will also provide containers for trash and recycling. The cost is \$210 for a year. Homeowners can contact the County at (703) 802-3322 or at [www.co.fairfax.va.us](http://www.co.fairfax.va.us) for more information. If residents are unhappy with the County trash collection another petition signed by 55% of the residents can stop it. Mr. Wallace suggested a 6 months evaluation. Another homeowner suggested that residents that want a 2<sup>nd</sup> trash collection could get together as a group and contact one of the local trash collectors.

3. Expanded responsibilities of JCA – Tom Markel, representing JCA, described how JCA is now handling the day-to-day financial matters of SHHA under the supervision of our Treasurer, David Black. JCA's most important function is assisting with Covenant violations. Miriam described the process of dealing with Covenant violations, stressing the Board's desire to work with the homeowners.

**B. Goals and objectives for 2003**

1. Outreach to newcomers – Miriam would like to have 2 or 3 people in each neighborhood who would either greet new residents or notify the Board about new residents.

2. Safety & Security – Vince Cannova reported that SHHA has a passive Neighborhood Watch. Vince described an active Neighborhood Watch, which needs someone with time to run it, possibly a fully retired person. If someone will volunteer Vince will help him or her set up the program. His future plan is for a representative on each block and a schedule for patrols with rotating duty. Vince mentioned that the Burke Connection publishes a list of crimes by neighborhood and that Officer Jane Woolf is the Crime Prevention Officer at the West Springfield station.

**VI. TREASURER'S REPORT**

A. 2003 Budget Report – All attendees had copies of the budget and Ed Rahme explained its details as David Black was working. The increase in Administration is for JCA assuming more duties. 98% of the assessments have been collected. Corey & Associates are doing an audit. The auditor will pay any taxes due. There was a question from the floor about forest management. It was decided and voted upon at a previous annual meeting to leave the forest natural as the expense of forest management is too great.

**VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

A. ACC – Pat Hamel reported that ACC has been very busy. She described the type of requests received by SHHA and which types were approved. These were requests were for the following; 5 vinyl siding/shutters/gutters, 3 for new paint, 1 roof replacement, 1 two level addition/deck, 1 screened in porch, 1 window replacement, 1 two level deck, 2 storage sheds, 1 all weather room, 1 garage/room/deck/addition, 1 wooden trellis, 2 fences, 2 two level additions, 1 room over garage, 1 playhouse, 1 carport to a garage. Pat also mentioned a problem with fences between Woodhirst and SHHA that the Board is trying to resolve.

B. TRAFFIC CALMING – The Board voted against a traffic light at Parliament and Rolling Road. A petition by residents for the light is a future possibility. VDOT advised against a stop sign at Pt. Longstreet and Lake Braddock. The Board needs to contact VDOT to make the stop sign at Parliament and Lake Braddock more visible.

C. NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH – Vince had already outlined his plans earlier in the meeting.

D. GROUNDS – Glen Woods is getting estimates for electrical work on the sign at the Oaks. He is also getting a cost estimate for Christmas decorations. Nothing new from the Boy Scouts about a trash pick-up. Glen is also checking into the stacking of logs when a tree is taken down in the Commons.

E. WEB SITE – Miriam thanked Tom Kehoe for his excellent work on SHHA's web site and newsletters. Tom described the web site. Four newsletters were published in 2002.

F. BRADDOCK DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE - Gene Ackermann described the Braddock District Council of Community Associations. It tries to publicize information of interest to homeowner associations in the Braddock District. It is independent of the Supervisor's Office. It meets 10 times a year on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month. About 20-25 homeowners associations are members and the meetings are open to the public. Gene reported that SHHA is in the last district to get digital cable. A new library is planned on Burke Center Parkway at Fred Oaks Rd. George Mason has expansion plans.

#### VIII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Painting of electrical boxes – Mary Beth Austin has volunteered to paint the electrical boxes. Virginia Power will provide the paint. Karen will email her a list.

B. Directory – Letter asking for directory information has been sent. SHHA hopes to publish one in January.

#### XI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Lights at the Oaks entrance sign. Already discussed by Glen Woods in his Grounds report.

B. Restrictive Parking District – Ed Rahame introduced this topic. It would prohibit parking watercraft, motor homes, and RVs on public streets. SHHA would need to establish limits and exceptions for temporary parking. Passage requires approval of 75% of residents. There was some discussion among homeowners. In a vote, 2 were against it and 48 were for it. Ed will write an article about it in the January newsletter. Homeowner, Ray Antosh, requested permission to write a letter expressing the "against" side of RPD

C. Renters – SHHA would like to keep track of rent in our neighborhoods. JCA should be able to provide a list.

D. Home values – Fred Staudenmayer presented an assessment of home values and market trends. He believes that the market has peaked and sales have leveled off.

X. ADJOURNMENT - Meeting was adjourned at 9:45 P.M.