**Hickory Hollow HOA**

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Board Open to Community**

**May 10, 2022, 6:30 PM**

Location of Meeting: Zoom

Board members present at Meeting: Jaime Titus, Regina Clayton,

Annette McAllister, Cynthia Brown, Delonte Mouton, Yulonda Jones and

Beverly Pinckney

The regular meeting of the Board of Hickory Hollow HOA was called to order at 6:30 PM on May 12, 2022, by Jaime Titus.

1. **Approval of Agenda**

The agenda for the meeting was distributed and unanimously approved.

1. **Review of Previous Minutes**

The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed and unanimously approved.

1. **The treasurer position was filled by Beverly Pinckney**
2. **Consideration of Open Issues**
3. Board member attendance and opening prayer called by Jaime Titus
4. Thank everyone for attending the monthly meeting please respect the speaker, everyone will have the opportunity to speak. We will be following the agenda that is listed below. The goal of the board is to be transparent. The board members will be able to interject between each topic and area. If we don’t have an answer to any questions asked at this meeting, or if the board must address the question (s) collectively It will be listed as open until an answer is provided
5. The financial Report was screen shared and read by the treasurer Beverly Pinckney: the financial report reflects the following balances as of April 30, 2022: checking account (132,011.82), Reserve account (106,978.37), delinquent accounts (38,545.05)

Jaime Titus presented to the floor:

The agenda for tonight’s meeting

Question from homeowner:

* Have the issues with the BC community's dashboard been corrected to show the updated delinquency amount?

Jaime response:

* I have not called Beverly Harding yet, but I will follow up with the office tomorrow because she is out on vacation

Jaime presented to the floor: We mentioned in February 2022, that if you have any community concerns or ideas that you would like to add to the agenda, please send those concerns via email to me and Regina Clayton by the 25th of each month

* We have started to receive a lot of complaints regarding homeowners who are not cleaning up behind their pets’ dogs are utilizing neighbor’s yard etc. Please let’s show respect for the community
* We are receiving a lot of complaints regarding Shortcuts lawn care. We have another year of the contract, and we will not be renewing their contract
* The board received an anonymous complaint. I will not address any anonymous complaints but if you would like to talk to me in person, please feel free to do so
* Standing water complaints behind the houses on ridgeway and climbing vine. I met with the public work department from the Town of Smyrna a couple of weeks ago. They will conduct some grading to control the water problem. We will continue to follow up on the work
* The pool opening is tentatively scheduled to open on May 28, 2022. I have contacted the Pool company for them to begin maintenance so that the pool will be ready. We have budgeted monies for the pool, and we will use some of it to have our annual pool opening and barbeque festivities

Question put to the floor concerning any of the topics discussed:

Question from Homeowner:

* Who will be going with after the shortcuts contract is ended?

Response from Jaime Titus:

* we have already begun looking for new lawn care contracts. The bids will go through BC communities for the board to vote on

Question from Homeowner:

* When the weather starts getting warm some of the homeowners do not want our grass cut every week. We were told by Beverly Harding to put the cones out. We put the cones out, but they still cut our lawn. Is there a universal sign we can use to let them know do not cut our lawn this week?

Response from Jaime Titus:

* Ms. Annette and I will be addressing those issues

Question from Homeowner:

* Can we prevent the next lawn care company from marketing their business with signs at the front of our community?

Jaime Titus's response:

* That was part of their contract, but we have learned a lesson and that will not be repeated

Jaime Titus queried the pool committee for updates:

Regina Clayton's response:

* We are in the process of getting the pool house ready to open for the summer we are purchasing some pieces of furniture, pictures for the wall, etc.

Jaime Titus queried the pool coordinators:

Cynthia Brown's response:

* No updates at present.

Jaime Titus queried the Pond committee:

Delonte Mouton response:

* The inspectors have been out and informed us of everything that must be corrected. We will be sending out the information and the possible payment increase

Jaime Titus queried the open space committee:

Cynthia Brown's response:

* We have five projects that we would like to get done, a walking trail, a pavilion, a playground, a half basketball court, and possibly a doggie park. We have been in the process of getting estimates from different contractors. We are looking to get a 501c3 and we are trying to set up an appointment with Joann Masten. We want to work with the Kent County court commissioner and state representative William Carson to obtain how to go about the funding

Annette McAllister's response:

* To add to what Cynthia said We have three bids on this project so far and they are Bio recreation, King swing, and American Parks. I called and spoke with Mr. Curtin at the Levy court he’s in charge of the HOA ombudsman and is now waiting for his call back with additional information. Once we decide what projects we are going to go with first then set up a meeting with Joann and William and set up the matching fund. We do have a layout plan. We will be sending out information to the community for feedback on their thoughts. Thanks

Jaime Titus's response:

* At the next town meeting scheduled in June, we hope to have some drawings of some of the things that we have projected

Jaime Titus queried the ARC Committee for updates:

Cynthia Brown's response:

* We have four ARC requests for six-foot fences and one request for a stone wall mailbox all have been approved. That is all I have so far

Jaime Titus presented to the floor:

We are in the process of reviewing and possibly revising the by-laws. Our goal is to be able to review the deed of restrictions as well. On a personal note, I know that there are a lot of animosity and ill feelings. We have three hundred and twenty-five homeowners in the community there is no way we will be able to meet eye to eye on everything or agree with everyone's requests. We are here to do the best that we can and to find solutions that will be best for the total community. That concludes our meeting for tonight. I will go around again for anyone who may have questions

Jaime Titus opens the floor for questions

Question from Homeowner:

* What are the pond issues?

Annette McAllister's response:

* We have some things that we as the board must take care of regarding the Pond area before Kent County will take it over. We will be assessing those issues

Question from Homeowner:

* Who owns ACEs of the heart's vehicle that commercial vehicle is parked in front of my house, and it's not supposed to be parked on the street?

Jaime Titus's response:

* Is that vehicle in front of bluegrass and pebble creek, I will talk to the owner

Question from Homeowner:

* I have a question on the Architectural Review did someone say that the six-foot fence was recently approved and did that pass for being in our deed restrictions. Is it restricted to post and rail?

Jaime Titus's response:

* The lawyer gave us the pass to allow members of the community to submit applications for the six-foot fence. Please submit your applications to the ARC committee for fence requisites and approvals

Question from Homeowner:

* Are those details for the fence requisites posted online anywhere?

Cynthia Brown's response:

* We don’t post the requisite online only on the deed of restriction and that has not been updated yet. When it has been updated that is the guidelines that we follow.

Question from Homeowner:

* What are the requirements for the fence?

Jaime Titus's response:

* I don’t want to get into details with that when you fill out the form for the six-foot fence the ARC committee will address those issues

Response from Homeowner:

* I just want to know what the restrictions are

Jaime Titus's response:

* All you must do is get in touch with the ARC committee when you start that process, and they will walk you through everything that you need to know. I don’t think this is the forum to discuss the fence requirements

Question from Homeowner:

* My question was on the fence as well but since you said we will have to get in touch with the ARC committee then I guess that is what we'll do. But for general questions why they can’t be answered on this forum, why do we have to reach out to separate individuals I'm sure that we are not the only ones that want to know. I mean it's just a general question about the requirements

Jaime Titus's response:

* now that this is part of the deed of restrictions, and we do have a committee that handles those types of questions I am referring all fence questions to them. If I open the forum up to the six-foot fence, we will not be able to answer any other questions

Question from Homeowner:

* Can someone just post the requirements for the six-foot fence in the chat box?

Jaime Titus's response:

* Ok we can not post all the details into the chat just get with the ARC committee

Question from Homeowner:

* Is the open project by the pool going to include any additional parking spaces?

Jaime Titus's response:

* I didn't think of that, but I will bring that up with the open space committee and have them look at that thank you for bringing that question to the table

Question from Homeowner:

* I don’t have any questions but would like to inform all that I will post my telephone number in the chat for all homeowners who have questions concerning the fence. You may reach out to me at any time and if I cannot answer your questions, I will certainly do my research and get back to you with an answer

Question from Homeowner:

* All my questions were covered but as far as the six-foot fence is a concern and not taking a shot at you Jaime, the fence is a big deal, and the committees should be ready to answer and respond to questions next time around. I think those questions were very important just my comments

Jaime Titus's response:

Ok, thanks are there any other concerns. I want to thank you all, I am not trying to dodge the questions about the six-foot fence. The ARC committee is here to guide you in your efforts of getting your fence approved

Question from Homeowner via chat:

How much does the pool cost for a day? What are the issues with the pond that needs to be fixed? Where are the playground and other projects going to be located? Bird Nuisance

Jaime Titus's response:

* The pool does not cost anything each homeowner should have or should receive a key fob that you can use all day every day. We will not be renting out the pool or the community room for any activities during the summer month. When you drive up to the pool the open space adjacent to Brentford road and all-around to the pond area will be mapped out for the upcoming projects

Delonte Mouton response:

* It's the growth around the pond, a few internal issues with the drainage, and some cosmetic things that must be addressed before the County will come in and service it
* I called animal control and they charged one hundred and fifty dollars to place wire around the shutters to keep the birds from building nests

Yulonda Jones presented to the floor:

* Homeowners that have birdfeeders must be cognizant as these birds are flying over the homes and defecating on the homes and when it dries, we breathe it into our systems and birds carry all sorts of diseases. It is bad for persons who suffer from asthma or any other breathing illnesses. For all who have animals, you must clean up after your pets

Annette McAllister presented to the floor:

* On a good note, on Saturday at 7:00 am will be starting our fitness class. This class will run from May 14 thru July 2, 2022. It will be held in front of the community room. You will need to sign a waiver. The class is FREE. We will also be starting game night information will be posted. Community Garage Sale will be held on June 4, 2022. From 8-4 pm. I will be available to answer all community questions Monday –Friday from 9-5 pm.

Meeting concluded by Jaime Titus, Board President at 8:00 pm

**V. Agenda and Time of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held at 6:00 PM on June 28, 2022, in-person and Zoom

Cheswold Fire Station

371 Main Street

Cheswold, Delaware 19936

The agenda for the next meeting is as follows:

Financial report

Progress for Hickory Hollow open space amenities

Community Pond

Pool Updates

ARC Committee

Revised Deed of Restriction (4ft fence -6ft fence)

Shortcut’s contract evaluation