

**Rock Creek Hills Citizens' Association**  
**Minutes of the Meeting on May 15, 2024**

Hill Carter, Acting President, called the meeting to order. He indicated a change in the agenda with the report of the Traffic and Sidewalk Committee being moved forward to accommodate the availability of the Chair of that committee.

*Welcoming Committee*

Kathy Morgan and Mary Beth Taylor informed the meeting that they have set up a Welcoming Committee with the aim of introducing new residents to the community. They asked current residents to let them know when new neighbors move into the community so that the committee could welcome them.

*Minutes of the October 12, 2023 Meeting*

Motion: To approve the minutes of the October 12, 2023 meeting.

Vote: Approved.

*Report from the Traffic and Sidewalk Committees*

Trevor Crowley presented the main elements of the report of the Traffic and Sidewalk Committees, which will be uploaded to the website (<https://www.rchca.org>). He indicated that the committees aimed to present constructive ideas on how to move forward on sidewalks and traffic flow. On the former, the primary focus of this phase of the work has been on Kent Street and the stretch of Wake Drive to its north. The committee has canvassed residents of this area by reaching out to as many of them as could be contacted, and had generally received positive responses to putting in sidewalks as a way of ensuring pedestrian safety on these heavily-trafficked street segments. The committee also examined the two main objections to sidewalks, namely the need to uproot trees on encroach on front yards, and the adverse impacts on property values. Based on experience in other neighborhoods, the committee felt that neither objection was insurmountable, including by considering alternatives to sidewalks that could have similar positive impacts on pedestrian safety. On traffic flows, the committee discussed options for the main intersections in the neighborhood, including raising speed bumps and adding flashing lights to existing stop signs. The discussion that followed the presentation focused mainly on sidewalks and highlighted: (i) skepticism as to whether some of the alternative sidewalks mentioned would be feasible in Rock Creek Hills, given its governance as well as in the particular area of focus (Kent Street), given that it is subject to overlapping jurisdiction with the Town of Kensington; (ii) the need to target specific stretches where pedestrian safety is a concern and to canvas all residents on these street segments; and (iii) questions as to the view of the county regarding installation of sidewalks on the relevant stretches. In conclusion, residents were encouraged to review the Committee's report when it is posted on the website and it was agreed

that the issue would be addressed at the Fall RCHCA meeting to which a representative of the county would also be invited to explore options for moving forward.

### *Covenants Report*

Sudhir Shetty, Secretary, presented the report on behalf of John Robinson, Chair, Buildings and Covenants Committee. During the period Oct. 4, 2023 – May 2, 2024, two fence replacements were approved, both of which involved upgrades to existing fences. Although building activity appears to have slowed in the neighborhood during this period, residents were reminded that they were responsible for informing the Board if they have specific concerns regarding residential constructions in Rock Creek Hill, which the Board could then follow up as needed.

### *Treasurer's Report*

Mike Baker, Treasurer, submitted his report. He reported that on October 1, 2023, RCHCA had a total of \$6725.20. Between October 1, 2023 and May 1, 2024, we received a total of \$6208.84 in dues, contributions, and interest. In the same period, we had expenses of \$3686.43. This leaves us with a total of \$9247.61 on May 1, 2024. The full treasurer's report will be posted to the website (<https://www.rchca.org>).

### *Election to the RCHCA Board*

Hill announced that all positions on the Board were open to RCH residents in Good Standing. There being no floor nominations for any of the positions, a motion was moved and approved unanimously to retain the current Secretary and Treasurer in their positions. The Acting President and Vice-President will remain in their positions until volunteers for those positions are found.

### *Chair of the Committee on Buildings and Covenants*

Hill indicated that following on John Robinson's desire to step down as Chair of this Committee, the Board recommended that Robert Kim be appointed as Chair. A motion was moved and approved unanimously in favor of Robert's appointment to this position.

### *Allowing local politicians access to RCHCA net*

This discussion item was continued from the October 2023 meeting at which it had been agreed that access would be provided on a trial basis and experience evaluated at this meeting. Based on experience since then and the discussion at this meeting, it was agreed that access would continue to be provided as long as the privilege was not abused. In addition, postings by these individuals would continue to be moderated.

### *Other Updates*

- *Intersection of Saul Rd and Elrod Rd:* Hill informed the meeting that according to the county, construction at this intersection to smooth traffic flow would occur in the Summer of 2025.
- *Villages of Kensington:* A representative of the Villages of Kensington (VoK) provided the meeting with information about the organization and its aims to support aging in place. More information about VoK can be found at <https://www.villagesofkensingtonmd.org>

*Adjournment*

Motion: To adjourn

Vote: Approved