

OHECA Board Meeting-December 14, 2022

Attendees: Gary Koblitz, President  
Stacy Cheshire, Vice President  
Debbie Milford, Treasurer  
Patti Alf, Directory Advertising and Distribution  
Les Terry, Membership  
Jody Terry, Membership  
Pawel Kusmierек, Membership Records (outgoing)  
Tom Malejko, Membership Records (incoming)  
Laura Senich, Sign Board  
Patrick Hussan, resident

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. The primary focus of this meeting was the 2023 budget.

Gary Koblitz:

\*There were a few modifications to the minutes submitted to board members. The major change was that our tax exempt status was revoked due to not filing taxes (rather than not paying taxes). The revised minutes will be posted to our website in a few days.

\*The deadline for nominations for the holiday lights contest is December 15.

\*The final directory advertising income is \$3,075.

\*Gary Jensen has contacted the county regarding big item pickup. The county will not be offering the service this year. A gardening clinic is planned for May 2023.

\*Per Pawel Kusmierек, membership is approximately 383 households. This is about the same number as this time last year. In early January, e-mails will be sent to people who have not rejoined. Tom Malejko will take over Membership Records after the membership drive closes.

\*January newsletter articles are due to Gary Koblitz by January 10.

Deb Milford:

\*Explained the budget that was sent out prior to this meeting. Gary Koblitz and Deb Milford worked together to formulate it in accordance with the November 16, 2022 board meeting discussions. The budget may be adjusted before the upcoming general membership meeting.

\*A discussion was held regarding signs and storage. The current signs and potential new signs will not fit in the current storage locker. The proposed budget allows for purchase of two larger signs and a larger storage space. Christine Swirlbliss (Huntsman Blvd. resident) has offered storage in her garage for the sign that is posted on the median across from her home. Options for sign sizes were discussed and will be investigated. A sign was placed at Cherry Run Park, and it appears that it can stay for longer periods than the ones placed on medians.

\*The cap for capital projects is \$20,000 (\$10,000 median trees, \$4,000 curb address painting, \$5,000 Cherry Run Park).

\* Gary Koblitz and Adair Petty have investigated options for new trees on Huntsman Blvd. (near Sydenstricker intersection). There is sufficient space for 3-5 new trees to be planted between the previously removed trees and other ones that need to be removed. It was noted that Bradford Pear trees are not the first choice, and VDOT will be consulted for acceptable replacements. Plans need to be made regarding where other tree replacements will be made and which species will be planted.

\*Stacy Cheshire has contacted the Park Authority and is waiting to hear from the person who makes final decisions. The plan is to dress up the area with benches and landscaping. Suggestions were offered: Contact Adair Petty about possible Eagle Scout projects, contact Supervisor Herrity, make a graphic plan and have it available for county approval.

\*The tax-exempt status situation was discussed. We do not have non-profit status at this point. An attorney who specializes in dealing with non-profit organizations was consulted. One of his suggestions was to disband our current organization, start a new one, and hope the IRS does not catch up with the problem. This was met with a resounding no by the board members present. Another suggestion was to go to an accountant to complete tax returns for the missing years. A suggestion mentioned during this board meeting was that we go to the IRS with an attorney to pursue options. Deb Milford will continue to research records. Board decision was to contact an attorney to go forward with getting our tax-exempt status reinstated. Gary Koblitz noted that this was a problem inherited by Deb Milford and that she has put an extensive amount of time trying to figure out what happened and how to remedy the situation.

Tom Malejko:

Orange Hunt Elementary will be hosting a Dance-a-thon in February 2023 and is seeking sponsorship for tee-shirts which would include our name or the OHECA logo. The students would buy the tee-shirts and the profits support the school. The approximate cost would be \$1,500 for 300 shirts (entire cost not being solicited). Discussion included equity with Sangster Elementary, possible requests for support from other organizations, consideration of this expense being allocated to membership advertising, and history of past support to schools. Tom Malejko will arrange to have a formal proposal sent to Gary Koblitz. The matter will be resolved at a later date.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Patti Alf for Julie Chesser, Secretary