

Seven Lakes West Landowners Association
General Meeting
West Side Park Community Center
Tuesday, February 26, 2008

President Jim Haggard called the last general meeting of the year to order at 7:30 p.m. There were no new members or guests present. Board members Mary Anne Fewkes and Ed Tuton were absent.

Jim recognized and thanked the 24 people who helped spread pines straw on Lakeway Drive. He also announced that staff member Holly Foster had left to accept another position and eleven people had stepped up to help out in the office. Their efforts are very much appreciated.

Jim announced that a hazardous waste pickup will take place on Tuesday, March 18, at Cardinal Chemical on Route 5 from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. This information will be posted on the website and in the mail house. This is a good time to get rid of old paint, pesticides, etc.

Speeding continues to be a problem. This month a resident was struck by a car at the mail house. Fortunately, the person was not injured, but we need to pay attention to this issue. People tend to speed up as they are exiting the area. There will be more on this problem in the Newsletter.

The Database Development Team is close to completing its work and we should have pre-printed forms available when the annual mailing is sent out. Jim is looking for a database administrator.

Community Manager Tony Robertson updated the audience on what's happening in the Community. Tony asked that people not put personal trash in the contractors' dumpsters. This was discussed at the last meeting, but the situation has not improved. When garbage and lawn trash are put in these dumpsters, it must be removed before it can be taken to the landfill. The landfill does not have the necessary liner to accept garbage.

If you are walking or jogging after dark, Tony strongly recommends that you wear reflective clothing for your safety on the road. Tony also thanked the volunteers who are working in the office and doing other important jobs. Since the database is almost ready, and registration time is fast approaching, Tony would appreciate some volunteers to help with that process.

Board Member Jo Nicholas, Chair of the Nominating Committee, gave a rundown on how the voting process is handled. You returned your ballot in the sealed brown envelope which you placed in the white envelope with you name and lot number. Either you or a staff member placed the envelope in the locked ballot box. Charlie Merical is the team member in charge of emptying the ballot box and placing the ballots in a locked file cabinet. Seven people are on the committee to count the ballots. One person reads

the lot number and name. Another member of the team checks the lot number to see that dues are current, and a third person verifies the names. The next person opens the envelope, removes the ballot and hands it to the reader who reads the vote. Two people tally the votes and verify the numbers for accuracy. This method has been used for a long time and works well, with little chance for error.

Board Member Blaine Rowland discussed the traffic count that he and others did at the entrance road. A tube across the road can give gross numbers, but Blaine has been actively involved for several years doing traffic counts in North Carolina that give other information on things such as types of vehicles, directions, etc. He had with him the device used to do this type of work.

Long Range Planning chairs Roger Brooke and Bud Sales requested a count at the intersection at 211, and the traffic was counted during a 13 hour period. The numbers were somewhat surprising. 15,000 vehicles came through the intersection during that time. Volunteers counted vehicles coming to and from Candor, Pinehurst, Seven Lakes Drive and the Seven Lakes West entrance. 3,800 of the vehicles entered or left Seven Lakes West. 16 school buses went through the intersection.

This information is valuable since several railroad crossings may be closed, and we do not want ours to be even remotely considered.

Jim Haggard said the rationale for closing crossings is that Federal funds are available for upgrading, but that will require closing some crossings to offset the cost. That is the reason Bud and Roger asked for the count.

Bud Sales said the last count was done a decade ago, and the traffic in and out of Seven Lakes West at that time was 800 compared to almost 4,000 today. He also mentioned that approximately 45% of the cars turn right, so it might make sense to add a right lane.

Jim Haggard moved to the question and answer part of the meeting. There were no questions, and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Mary L. Price
Acting Secretary