

Ashcombe Farms Dover HOA  
Executive Board Meeting Minutes  
Thursday October 8, 2009 7:00 PM

General session:

1. Call to order at 7:20 PM. Present: Judy Jackson, Mel James, and Kelly Mefford. Guest present: Mike Feldblum.
2. The approval of the secretary's reports was tabled until the next meeting.
3. In the absence of the treasurer, the approval of the treasurer's report was tabled until the next meeting.
4. Old business
  - a. The Board thanks Mel James for installing the solar lights by the HOA signs on Ashcombe Drive and Boxwood Court.
  - b. Please see the attached report from the meeting on August 31, 2009 regarding the stones left over from the repair of the walking trail.
  - c. There has been no response from any potential volunteers for planning a community event next summer such as National Night Out. We will give more time for responses since it was only in the newsletter mailed in early October.
  - d. There has been no response from any potential volunteers for planning a community Neighborhood Watch program. We will give more time for responses since it was only in the newsletter mailed in early October.
5. New business
  - a. Russ LaBarca submitted his resignation from the Executive Board due to time constraints related to his job. Discussion was held regarding a replacement Board member. This concern and need will be reported at the annual meeting. No election was held to replace Russ as president of the Board. None of the current Board members present felt they had time to do this job.
  - b. Larry Rower, chairman of the Community Support Committee, has resigned due to family needs. If a replacement from within the current CSC members cannot be found, then this need will also be addressed at the annual meeting.
  - c. Due to health issues and family needs, Judy Jackson has resigned as secretary for the Executive Board. She will remain a member of the Executive Board. One person will be contacted regarding this job. There was Board agreement to approve this person if the position is accepted. If a replacement cannot be found, then this need will also be addressed at the annual meeting.
  - d. Discussion was held regarding how a management company does the administrative work for a HOA, and how the Board is till the ones that makes any decisions for their HOA. If a management company could be hired for our HOA, there would be very little increase in dues due to the fact that a bookkeeper would not be paid nor would a lawyer be needed in most cases. These savings would come close to the costs required to hire a management company. It is felt that the community does not fully understand these facts. Therefore, it was the Board's general opinion that at the present time, the HOA lot owners would not approve the hiring a management company. The need for volunteer help will be discussed at the annual meeting.
  - e. West Nile virus has been confirmed in the water in, and the ruts around, the retention

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pond near the HOA drop box. Kelly Mefford, as acting vice-president of the Board, has contacted both local and state officials regarding this concern. The appropriate time for spraying for mosquitoes is in March and April. It was learned that any thing that retains water - toys left outside, old tires, and even something as small as a bottle cap can become breeding grounds for mosquitoes. The opinion of the officials is that this retention pond would not be such a problem if there not ruts around the pond left from mowing. These ruts then retain water and become breeding grounds for mosquitoes. The other retention areas do not have this virus and are functioning properly. Judy Jackson moved that someone be hired to spread some of the left over stones in an area of several feet around the edge of the retention pond, and that we also plant some perennial flowers and perhaps a tree or two outside the edge of the stones surrounding the retention pond. This would not only beautify the area but would also help to absorb ground water in that general area. The Board approved, by general consensus, an amount of up to \$1,000 for this cost. Judy and Kelly will talk to the current mower and to the builder regarding this project to see if they have some suggestions for contractors to do this job. Mel James will discuss the planting of the perennial flowers and one or two trees with Karen Hetrick.

- f. There was general discussion regarding the builder's lots, the weeds, and the removal of the high mounds of dirt. Once complete information is gained then a report will be made to the community before the annual meeting.
  - g. There was general discussion regarding the missing and destroyed bush on the island on Ashcombe Drive near Fox Run Road. When repairs were made on Ashcombe Drive the bush was somehow pulled out and was not replanted appropriately. Mel James has been working toward resolving this issue and he is endeavoring to discover who the responsible party is so that the bush can be replaced. Phone calls have been made to several governmental offices.
  - h. Discussion was held regarding the large area of common ground across from the YMCA. This area has been mowed when the other common areas have been mowed all summer long. Discussion was held regarding only bush hogging that area when the vegetation approaches 10 inches in height. Judy Jackson moved that we investigate planting perennial flowers in that area and it could be just be covered with all flowering plants (as in the median areas along major interstate highways) that would require very little maintenance. Kelly Mefford seconded and there was general consensus approval for investigating how much it would cost. It was felt that if we did this, it might be expensive once but we would recoup the money spent through reducing the mowing costs in one or two mowing seasons. Mel James moved that the Board ask Karen Hetrick if this would be feasible and how much did she think it would cost. Kelly Mefford seconded and this was approved by general consensus.
6. The annual meeting will be held on Thursday November 12, 2009 at 7:00. Judy Jackson will help Kelly Mefford prepare an agenda for the annual meeting.
7. The next regularly scheduled Executive Board meeting will be at the home of Judy

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Jackson on **Thursday, December 10 at 7:00 PM.**

8. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Judy Jackson  
Acting Secretary for the Executive Board