**Oakridge Neighborhood Association**

**Monthly Board Meeting**

**Tuesday, May 16, 2023, 7:00 PM**

**In Person & Via Zoom**

**Call to Order**

ONA President Billy Thomas called meeting to order at 7:05pm

**Attendees**

In Person: Billy Ray Thomas, Joan Nichols, Vickie Litton, Sarah Freeman, Jackie Jones, Cheryl Jones, Jackie Reynolds, JC Elliott, Cecile Labossiere, Melanie Busby, Dan Nichols

Via Zoom: Joetta Harris, Veronica Brown-Corbin, Joanna Albright, Debra Pandak

**April 2023 Meeting**

Minutes from April 2023 reviewed.

Joan Nichols motioned to approve, seconded by Jackie Reynolds, motion carried.

**Old Business**

Software programs used under ONA umbrella - free and paid subscriptions. Need to find a replacement for QuickBooks, which is free. Newly nominated treasurer Sarah Freeman has suggestions, which she will share at the next board meeting.

Use of a password depository. Billy Ray Thomas suggests the board finds and utilizes a common platform for all ONA passwords that can be made available to board members based on their roles, e.g., treasurer manages passwords for any financial accounts, other board members can access other software platforms as needed.

Payment platforms for dues. The Board discussed ease of use and security of various payment platforms for more convenient and secure payment of dues and financial transactions. New treasurer nominee Sarah Freeman will investigate other payment platforms, including credit card payment apps and other platforms that do not require additional fees.

**New Business**

New Board position nominees. Billy Ray Thomas presented a slate of candidates for open positions to the Board as follows:

Treasurer – Sarah Freeman

Secretary – JC Elliott

Environmental -Debra Pandak (appointed by the President)

Cheryl Jones motioned to accept the new slate of candidates, seconded by Jackie Reynolds, motion carried.

**District Updates**

District 1, Joanna Albright: Entrance at Jupiter and Ridge Oak is doing well but needs mulch. City of Garland will provide mulch at no charge, but product must be picked up. Billy Ray Thomas will ask the new Environmental lead to follow-up with the Landscaper or organize picking up mulch suggesting that we can solicit volunteers for help on this project.

District 2, Sally and Jack Lang: unavailable for update at the meeting

District 3, Open seat: no updates

District 4, Jackie Jones: Jackie and Oliver Harter are planning to “knock on doors” to recruit members.

District 5, Melanie Busby: Consider volunteers to help with holiday decorations from ONA residents.

District 6, Open seat. Ruba Qewar had to relocate for her job. Mike Devaney expressed interest in taking over this district.

District 7: Joetta Harris; no update.

**Budget**

Joan Nichols presented an updated budget and outlined outstanding invoices. Software licenses will be a new expense for 2023-2024 budget. Discussion was held around ways to decrease larger expenditures in budget, including City of Garland utilities for common areas and landscaping costs. Board will review the option of hardscapes for entrances, which would reduce utility spend. $3,400 balance currently. The last two events left surplus funds in the events budget. Budget will be presented at the May 25th, 2023 General Meeting.

Cecile Labossiere motioned to accept the budget, seconded by Jackie Jones, motion carried.

**Board Committee Updates**

Membership: Cecile Labossiere reported that ONA has a slow start for 2023 with only 67 members so far.

Communications: Cheryl Jones suggested putting together a list from the MLS for recent sales to find homeowner names and pitch memberships to this group.

Crime: Joan Nichols reported only one crime reported in 2023 so far.

Environmental: Deb Pandak – no updates for this meeting

Events: Jackie Reynolds reported the Spring Picnic had 120 plus people attending the event. Billy Ray Thomas reported a corporate contact that wants to provide a bounce house and other items for the next ONA event.

**Open Discussion**

Board discussed the areas where largest amounts of ONA funds are spent to determine where economies can be realized. Billy Ray Thomas proposed a separate committee be formed with volunteers from the ONA who could provide expertise on areas such as landscaping and utilities to ensure ONA is receiving maximum benefits from the expenditures. Cheryl Jones will include an article in the next newsletter to solicit help from those who have a background in landscaping who would like to join this committee.

Cecile Labossiere motioned to create a committee with the help of the Environmental lead, seconded by Jackie Jones, motion carried.

**Next Meeting**

General Meeting, Thursday, May 25th, 2023, via Zoom. Link will be provided.

**Adjourn**

Vickie Litton motioned to adjourn at 8:25pm, seconded by Jackie Reynolds, motion carried.