# OAKRIDGE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
## Monthly Board Meeting
## Tuesday, June 3, 2025, 6:00 P.M.

## Board Meeting Minutes

**CALL TO ORDER**: 7:00 pm. Called to order by President, Yvonne Bonavita, at Holford Park meeting room.

**Attendees:** Yvette Bonavita, Vickie Litton, Cecile LaBossiere, Star Toups, Lee Litton, Emma Stevens, Charles Leonard, Oliver Harter, Joetta Harris – We have a forum.

**BOARD UPDATES AND DISCUSSION**

**Minutes for May 6, 2025 -- Approved electronically by a majority of the Board. Minutes sent to Jack Catalano to post on ONA website.**

**Introduction from Yvette Bonavita as the ONA President.**
She is so excited that we have a full board for the first time in two (2) years and looking forward to working with everyone to grow our membership and continue our beautification of the neighborhood.

**Board Member Updates**

**Treasurer:** Sarah Freeman (Ill and not in attendance)

**Secretary:** Vickie Litton
Bank signature cards need to be put in place for the new slate of board members. The president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer should all be signers on the account. Sarah is the only person who can accomplish this as she is the only signer currently on the bank account.

**Membership:** Cecile Labossiere
Cecile furnished a Membership Update Report that reflects 152 current members. We have more members at this time of the year versus the same time in 2024. The Sum of Not Yet Renewed is 130. The Sum of Not Yet Supporting is 884 with the Sum of Number of Households being 1,166. The current percentage supporting is 13%. She will send a list to each of the District Directors that will list the members not renewing and/or not supporting, asking them to follow up with the residents in their district who have not renewed or are not supporting. Cecile will send an email to each individual around mid-June. The matter of how many residents receive ONA notifications via email was discussed as we always reference 1,166 residents; but the total email addresses that we have is around 684. So , MailChimp cannot send emails to residents if they do not have email addresses. The 1,166 reference that is given to advertisers and/or prospective advertisers can be misleading. Discussion about how to get resident emails ensued. We can also do a MailChimp email blast (end of June). Yvette would like to have periodic group chats or meetings with the district directors to get them engaged in approaching residents who are not renewing or supporting ONA. Cecile also wants to change the verbiage on the ONA website to reference "donation" rather than "membership." Jack Catalano can assist with the change to the form. District Directors should plan pop-up events. An ice cream social was discussed. The board approved Sunday, June 29, 2005 and 2410 Lone Oak Trail (District 2) for the location. Vickie will bring homemade banana nut ice cream. Star will bring toppings/sauces. Star will do MailChimp. Cecile will furnish paper/plastic supplies.

**Events:** Jillian Henderson (not in attendance – she has pink eye)
Vickie advised that the neighborhood garage sale event did not happen.

**Communications:** Star Toups
At the pop-up events, Star will have the QR code available to everyone. Star asked if every Board member could talk-up advertising to the vendors that they use to pull them in as advertisers in the ONA newsletter. We need an account representative for MailChimp to set up an in-person meeting with them to discuss our concerns with their service. Star advised that she will be having surgery in August. Discussion about the workload that Star has been doing ensued. The responsibilities of the Communications Director has been split so that Megan Vernon will target Facebook and Social media will be managed by Jillian Henderson and the Newsletter to Jack Catalano so that he can oversee posting the newsletter. We need an official committee for communication. Star asked that we appoint someone to focus on advertisers. She will continue the newsletter assembly and the presentation for the general membership meetings. Yvette has a candidate (Diana) to be responsible for the ONA website. She asked if any board member has other people who might be interested in participating on the Communications Committee.

**Social Media:** Katie Fleming (not in attendance)
Star presented Katie's update advising that the Facebook membership to date is 131. Star relayed Katie's comments for upcoming items to post on Facebook with advertising being one of the most important. There is confusion with prospective advertisers as we do not have a place on the website for advertisers. Star will discuss this matter with Jack Catalano. Vickie asked if we could "spotlight" Jack on our Facebook page.

**Environmental:** Joshua Lamb (not in attendance)
Cecile addressed the matter that the city does a onetime reimbursement for the Vitality Grant costs. Sarah has the Vitality Grant contract to sign. Cecile has reviewed the contract and passed to Sarah for signature. The ONA will be responsibility for paying the $31, 118 ONA, which is our portion of the total cost for the Vitality Grant project. We currently have $19,000 to pay toward the $31,118. The remaining $12,118 will come from sweat equity, ONA fund raisers, etc. Charles asked if we have renditions of the Vitality Grant project in a flyer format for the District Directors to hand out to residents so that they can see the benefits of supporting ONA on this project.

**Crime and Safety**: Lee Litton
Good news - no reportable crime for last month. We have a new member of the COP, Ryan Vernon, who is training with Lee. Vickie will also be training with Lee to become the third member of the COP. We are in District 23 in the City of Garland; but not all the streets in District 23 are Oakridge streets. Lee explained how we captured the statistics for the monthly crime report from the Garland Police Department

**District Directors**
District 1 -- Emma Stevens (plans to win the membership contest)
District 2 – Charles Leonard (saw first lightening bug of the season Sunday evening)
District 3 – Jackie Reynolds (not in attendance)
District 4 – Oliver Harter (has been knocking on doors in his district meeting residents)
District 5 – Kendra Herod (not in attendance)
District 6 – Mike Devanney (not in attendance)
District 7 – Joetta Harris (e-Assist was used to report tall grass and furniture in the yard of one resident and vacant home concerns. The city has addressed.

**Discussions**
Paper & Electronic Newsletters – New printer/Distribution -- Discussion about the issuance of the Newsletter using US mail versus digital distribution as the printing is so expensive. Star plans to print one last newsletter and will announce in that issue that the ONA will no longer "print" and send the newsletter.

Storage Cleanout and status and evaluation of smaller storage unit(s) with a sign out/sign in log. Spoke to Donna at Extra Storage about advertising in the newsletter, but Donna advised that this request would be sent to corporate who probably not approve -- Vickie Litton

Letters to Neighborhood homeowners –Cecile sent 129 letters to homeowners with rental property in ONA and received four (4) first-time members with donations of about $600.

**Upcoming Meetings/Events**
Board Meeting Tuesday, July 1, 2025 at Holford Recreation Center (reminder no meeting in August, 2025)
General Membership Meeting 9/29/2025
National Night Out, Tuesday, October 7, 2025

**Concerns -- none**

**Adjournment:** 8:25 pm. Yvette asked for a motion to adjourn. Cecile motioned and Joetta seconded.

**Electronically approved by Board _____**