# Minutes GHI Board of Directors

February 9, 2006

<u>Present</u>: Alexanderwicz, Hess, Hudson, Lauber, Eichhorst, Lewis, Alpers, and Moore

Excused Absence: Abell

Others in Attendance: Gretchen Overdurff, General Manager

Stephen Ruckman, Director of Finance

Eldon Ralph, Director of Physical Plant Operations

Tom Sporney, Staff Engineer

Dianne Wilkerson, Chair, Audit Committee

Mary Crellin, Audit Committee Diana McFadden, Audit Committee CJ Evans, Recording Secretary

**David Morse** 

J Davis, Mayor of Greenbelt

Elizabeth Shepard Lou Vazquez

President Eichhorst called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. She stated there was no need for Executive Session as it was held prior to the meeting.

1. Approval of Agenda

MOTION: MOVE APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.

Moved: Hess Seconded: Lauber Carried

2. <u>Visitors and Members</u>

There were no visitors or members who wished to address the Board at this time.

3. Discussion of Minutes

MOTION: MOVE APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 12, 2006.

Moved: Moore Seconded: Alexanderwicz Carried

Abstain: Hess

MOTION: MOVE APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 26, 2006 AS REVISED.

Moved: Hudson Seconded: Lewis Carried

4. Approval of Membership Applications

<u>MOTION</u>: THAT THE FOLLOWING PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS BE ACCEPTED INTO THE COOPERATIVE AND MEMBERSHIP AFFORDED THEM AT THE TIME OF SETTLEMENT:

• BRIAN VOITH

- AILISH A. ZOMPA
- BRUCE T. COULTER AND DEBORAH A. COULTER

Moved: Lauber Seconded: Hess Carried

Abstain: Hess

# **MOTION:** THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVES THE FOLLOWING MUTUAL OWNERSHIP CONTRACT CHANGES:

- THEODORE ROSS, JR. AND ALTORIA ROSS, TENANTS BY THE ENTIRETY, TO THEODORE ROSS, JR. SOLE OWNER
- DAMIEN DEL RUSSO AND YIN DEL RUSSO, TENANTS BY THE ENTIRETY, TO JON DEL RUSSO, DAMIEN DEL RUSSO AND YIN DEL RUSSO, JOINT TENANTS

Moved: Lauber Seconded: Hess Carried

# 5. <u>Committee Reports</u>

There were no written or oral committee reports.

#### 6a. FDR Living Museum

President Eichhorst stated that a letter was delivered from Mr. Bill Uber regarding support of the FDR Living Museum. This item had been addressed by the City Council who concluded that the City was not in a position to support the museum. Mayor and City Council member J Davis communicated the City's findings, reporting that the curator of the Greenbelt Museum was sent to survey the FDR Living Museum. While the items were interesting, it was believed the FDR Living Museum would compete with GHI's current museum for volunteers, funds, etc., therefore with regret, it was decided that the City could not support the FDR Living Museum.

#### CONSENSUS: TO NOT PURSUE THE FDR LIVING MUSEUM ENDEAVOR.

#### 6b. Board Planning Debriefing

President Eichhorst opined that the Walk-About and Board planning session were very productive and helped to re-affirm focus for the next twelve months. She added that the Board has not provided clear guidance to the committees and she would like to move forward, giving clear guidelines, which will help committees to understand their roles. Treasurer Lewis commented that she felt good about the next twelve months and the addition of the Green Ribbon Task Force. The task force would work on a vision to explore possibilities for the future of GHI.

President Eichhorst mentioned the possibility of screening in the meter pads, commenting that small things can make an improvement in the appearance of the community. Director Hudson remarked that he hoped immediate action would be taken in this regard. President Eichhorst asked that staff look into the cost of screening in the meter pads.

Other items discussed were a) committee reporting guidelines, b) CLEAR project guidelines and c) the Community Beautification Program. These items will appear on the February 23<sup>rd</sup> agenda.

Minor adjustments to the current mission statement will be brought to the March 9<sup>th</sup> meeting. It was also requested that the handling of some yard lines by staff be placed on a future agenda as well.

# 6c. <u>Board Policy on Hazard Insurance Deductible</u>

General Manager Overdurff presented the current policy for member responsibility with regard to deductible of GHI hazard insurance, stating that the deductible had gradually increased from \$500 to \$5,000. The current bylaws say very little about insurance and may need to be re-evaluated. In most housing associations it is required that members either carry homeowner's insurance or pay the deductible. Polkes and Goldberg Insurance offer a homeowner's (H0-6) policy to GHI members at a reduced rate that dovetails with GHI's master policy. Director Hudson commented that GHI has increased co-op fees to cover more expensive insurance and is now requiring members to carry homeowner's insurance to cover the increase in deductible. It seems that GHI is "taking two bites out of the same apple".

General Manager Overdurff clarified that the insurance policy would cover more than just the deductible; it would also cover the contents of the home including improvements in case of a disaster. GHI's insurance policy would replace the unit, but the homeowner's policy would replace the member's personal items. Mayor Davis stated that the condominium associations in the City of Greenbelt have a clear-cut rule that each member is required to carry condo insurance in order to cover their personal items and the deductible, regardless of who is at fault.

Discussion followed with questions about fires causing less than \$5,000 damage, and responsibility for deductible when the damage is due to faulty wiring or conversely bootleg wiring. It was mentioned that if members are made aware of the responsibility for paying the deductible, it might encourage them to get the homeowner's insurance coverage. Director Hess suggested that staff bring back a written motion for Board consideration.

#### 6d. Schedule Manager's Performance Evaluation

General Manager Overdurff announced that the annual performance evaluations had been completed for GHI staff. The Board scheduled the General Manager's performance evaluation for Thursday, March 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

# 7. <u>Items of Information:</u>

No Discussion

#### 8. President

President Eichhorst thanked staff for their work organizing the Walk-about and for the Board planning session Monday. She also announced that both Gretchen and Eldon would attend the WMCCAI Conference February 18<sup>th</sup>. Her new work numbers are (202) 324-6730 for headquarters and (202) 220-1194 for the G Street location.

# 9. Board Members

Director Alexanderwicz opined that the Monday planning session was very productive. Board Secretary Lauber thanked CJ Evans for her work on the minutes. Director Hess announced the Investment Committee meeting next Wednesday. A trip to the Sierra Grill has been planned to hear Director Hess' stories from South Africa.

### 10. <u>General Manager</u>

General Manager Overdurff announced that the GHI offices would be closed for President's Day Monday, February 20<sup>th</sup>. Emergency maintenance service will be available. She also announced that Board packets would be emailed to the Board and Audit Committee in the future, starting with the February 23<sup>rd</sup> packet. Lawn bags will be available for pick up from the warehouse Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup> on a first come, first served basis.

# **MOTION:** TO ADJOURN

Moved: Moore Seconded: Alpers Carried

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Dorothy Lauber Secretary