# Minutes Greenbelt Homes Inc. Annual Membership Meeting - May 15, 2014

- 1. Issuance of Voting Cards: Voting cards were issued to members.
- 2. <u>Proof of Due Notice of Meeting</u>: Secretary Ed James presented a receipt from the Greenbelt Post office certifying that on May 1, 1,600 pieces of prepaid first class mail with postage totaling \$1,104 was delivered by Greenbelt Homes, Inc. to the facility. This documentation constitutes due notice of meeting in accordance with Article IV, Section 4 of the GHI Bylaws.
- 3. <u>Certification of Presence of a Quorum:</u> Secretary James announced that at 7:30 p.m. 76 persons had registered signifying that a quorum was present to conduct business. After waiting 15 minutes for sign language interpreters to arrive, President Sue Ready called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m.
- 4. <u>Approval of Agenda:</u>

# **MOTION: MOVE APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.**

Moved: Chuck Hess Seconded: Molly Lester Carried

42D Ridge Road 6M Hillside Road

5. Action on Minutes of May 16, 2013

# <u>MOTION</u>: MOVE APPROVAL OF THE ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 16, 2013, AS REVISED.

Moved: Chuck Hess Seconded: Sylvia Lewis Carried

42D Ridge Road 2C Gardenway

6. Reports of Officers, Directors, and Elected Committee

Members did not pose any questions concerning the Annual Report. Before turning the microphone over to Henry Haslinger to present candidates for GHI elected positions, presiding officer Sue Ready acknowledged the presence of State Delegate Ann Healey who is running for reelection and who significantly helped GHI with co-op legislation this year, and Todd Turner who is candidate for County Council.

## 7. Presentation of Candidates

Henry Haslinger, chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee, recognized the members of the Nominations and Elections Committee: Mara Hemminger, Carol Griffith, Theresa R. Henderson, and Kandis Boyd Wyatt. He thanked the Member Services staff, Joan Krob, Christine Gyemfi, and Monica Johnson for their help throughout the process. Haslinger explained the Audit Committee's role and introduced the candidates for the three open one-year terms: Anna Bedford, Ben Fischler and Jonathan Gordy. Haslinger next introduced candidates for the four open two-year terms for Board of Directors: Frank DeBernardo, Ed James, Diana McFadden, and Sue Ready. Each candidate gave a brief presentation.

#### 8. Nominations and Elections of the Nominations and Elections Committee

Ready announced that five open positions existed on the Nominations & Elections Committee (N&E) and she would conduct the election since N&E cannot conduct its own election. Ready said two members have agreed to run for N&E - Theresa R. Henderson and Kandis Wyatt. Ready opened the floor to nominations for additional candidates. Nominated were Stefan Brodd and Tom Jones. Hearing no further nominations, N&E election ballots were collected and counted by

tellers appointed by Ready. The four candidates were elected to serve the one-year term May 2014-May 2015.

### 9. Old business

a. Pilot Program.

Jim Cohen, Buildings Committee chairperson, updated the membership about the Pilot Program and the Homes Improvement Program.

#### 10. New Business

a. Proposed Changes to the Bylaws.

Ready said four proposals to change the Bylaws are before the membership for consideration. The first proposal is an amendment to Article IV, Section 8 – Nominations and Elections, subsection b. She said that the change, if approved, would allow for the election of the Nominations and Elections Committee to be accomplished by acclamation when there is no contest for the election. Ready read the proposal, placing it on the floor for consideration.

MOTION: Article IV, Section 8: Nominations and Elections, subsection b. - The Nominations and Elections Committee, in addition, shall prepare a list of those nominated by members for election to the Nominations and Election Committee. The list shall be presented to the secretary at least fourteen days before the election. The secretary shall immediately see that the list is properly published and publicly displayed in Greenbelt. In the event that a sufficient number of candidates are not available prior to the meeting, nomination(s) may be made from the floor by a member. The name of each member whose nomination has been presented prior to the meeting shall appear on the election ballot separate from the ballot listing the names of candidates for the Board of Directors and Audit Committee provided said member shall have signified to the secretary his or her willingness to accept the office if elected and provided the nomination and acceptance are in the hands of the secretary or filed at the local office of the Corporation at or before 5:00 p.m. on the ninth day preceding the annual meeting of the Corporation. If the number of candidates for the Nominations and Elections Committee is greater than the number of open positions, then the votes in the election of members to the Nominations and Elections Committee shall be counted by tellers appointed by the Chair. A teller cannot be a candidate or relative of any candidate or housemate of a candidate for the Nominations and Elections Committee. If the number of candidates is equal to or fewer than the number of open positions, then the election may be by acclamation.

Moved: Ready Seconded: Chuck Hess Carried 136-0
42D Ridge Road

Ready opened the floor to discussion. Hearing none, Ready called for a vote and the motion carried unanimously.

Ready said the second proposal would modify Article VIII, Section 11 – Expenditure of Funds and Contracts, subsection c. She explained the current language is unclear and poorly written. To make the language clear, she said it has been split into two parts; the first part remains unchanged and the second part addresses multi-year contracts and would become a new subsection "d". Ready read the first part, placing it on the floor for discussion as a motion.

<u>MOTION</u>: <u>Article VIII, Section 11: Expenditure of Funds and Contracts, subsection c</u> - All expenditures for supplies, materials, equipment, or contractual services (other than as

employees of the Corporation) involving more than \$5,000 shall be pursuant to written contract. It shall be the policy of the Corporation, insofar as is practicable, to award contracts on the basis of sealed competitive bids on approved standards and specifications. and to the bidder who offers the lowest or best bid, the quality of goods, materials, workmanship, time of delivery or performance, and responsibility of the bidder being considered, provided that all bids may be rejected if rejection thereof would be in the best interest of the Corporation and its members. Awarded contracts may be inspected by members and unsuccessful bidders during the regular office hours of the Corporation. Moved: Ready

Seconded: Chuck Hess Carried 136-0

42D Ridge Road

Ready asked for comments or questions of the audience and hearing none, she called for a vote. The motion carried unanimously.

In presenting the second part change to Article VIII, Section 11, subsection d., Ready noted the change doubles the amount currently shown for multi-year contracts. Ready read the amendment placing it on the floor for consideration.

MOTION: Article VIII, Section 11: Expenditure of Funds and Contracts, subsection d. The total outstanding amount required for multiyear contracts greater than \$20,000 per year and/or of a duration in excess of five years shall not exceed \$200,000, subject, however, to the following exceptions:

- **(1)** Contracts for which the purpose and amount shall be approved at a membership meeting by a two-thirds vote;
- Contracts with respect to borrowing money, mortgages, and **(2)** mortgage notes;
- Contracts for insurance with a one-year cancellation clause: **(3)**
- Contracts relating to assignments now or hereafter made by members **(4)** of their Mutual Ownership Contracts; or
- Contracts relating to matters connected with loans to members. **(5)**

Moved: Ready Seconded: Chuck Hess Carried 136-0 42D Ridge Road

Ready asked for questions and comments. Hearing none, she called for a vote and the motion carried unanimously.

Ready presented an amendment to Article VIII, Section 11d, noting the article speaks to employees' compensation and, if passed, would be re-numbered as subsection 11e. Ready stated the proposal reflects language that is more consistent with current terminology and practice in the Human Relations field. Ready read the proposal placing it on the floor for action.

MOTION: Article VIII, Section 11 – Expenditure of Funds and Contracts, subsection e: The Board of Directors shall establish the compensation of the general manager and the compensation scale for all the employees of the Corporation. Subject to such scale, the general manager shall fix the compensation of each employee on the basis of job proficiency and performance measurements.

Moved: Ready Seconded: Chuck Hess Carried 42D Ridge Road

Ready asked if anyone in the audience wanted to discuss the proposal or had questions. Hearing no remarks, Ready called for the vote. The motion carried by more than a 2/3rds vote.

# 11. Good and Welfare.

#### 11a. Announcements

Lore Rosenthal reminded members they have one week left to switch to 100 percent Wind Energy through Washington Gas Energy Services.

#### 11b. Door Prizes:

- i. Three \$100 gift certificates toward GHI co-op fee: Lore Rosenthal, 2R Gardenway; Susan Harris, 5J Ridge Road and Henry Haslinger, 4A Ridge Road.
- Four \$25 gift certificates to Co-op Supermarket: Jan Morrow, 73T Ridge Road; Bonnie Shields, 8C Plateau Place; Rachel Glick, 31D Ridge Road and Sean Allen, 8J Laurel Hill Road.
- iii. Five \$20 gift certificates to the New Deal Café: John Henry Jones, 14A Ridge Road; Tom Jones, 1C Woodland Way; Anna Socrates, 14J Ridge Road; Deborah Hartwick, 3F Research Road and Barbara Jacobs, 2A Woodland Way

#### 12. Recess.

**MOTION: TO RECESS.** 

Moved: Chuck Hess Seconded: Unidentified Carried

42D Ridge Road

The meeting recessed at 8:50 p.m.

Ed James Secretary