

Minutes for Elderly Housing Committee

In-person Meeting, May 16, 2023

Brook School Apartments, Weston MA, 02493

Attendees:

EHC Members: Tom Timko-Chair, Carol Ott, Tack Chace, John Hennessey, Karin Ott

Town of Weston: Monyette Vickers – Property Manager, Sarah Sequeira - Housing Certification Specialist

Weston Residents (BSA): Shirley Small-Rougeau, Paul Foley, Diane Griffin, Elaine Anderson, Gary Marcoux, Nancy Orth, Diane Savoie, Lenny Savoie, C. Elise Alegria, Patti Davenport, Judith Harding, Arthur Shores, Kim Sylvester, Deedee Perkins, Sally Raymond, Lanna Yuen, Carole Chase, Teddy Mohn, Geri Barris, Racheal Bau, Paul Bau, Frank Hillary

The meeting was called to order at 11:45 PM.

Residents' Comments:

Resident Nancy Orth commented that Ed did a fantastic job repainting the parking spaces as well as getting the patio grills out. Fellow residents, Monyette, Sarah as well as the EHC members agreed Ed did a great job and are thankful for him.

Resident Elaine Anderson asked when the lawn will be mowed. Monyette answered it's scheduled for tomorrow 5/17/23.

Residents C. Elise Alegria and Patti Davenport commented that when visitors come play Pickleball they park in assigned resident spaces and take up resident visitors spots as well. Other residents also commented that this was a problem. Tom said it will be made clear that the Pickleball players and soccer game players and observers will need to park on the street and that the director of recreation as well as the chief of police will be notified. In the interim, notices being left on the vehicles was discussed.

Resident Geri Barris asked when the yellow flags for the visitor's parking spots would be replaced. Monyette answered they are currently out of stock and she is looking for an alternative solution.

Resident Nancy Orth commented that the cement with the Building A Fire Lane sign need maintenance. Monyette will look into this.

Resident Shirley Small-Rougeau commented that the bench by Bldg. C needs power washing and also needs to be looked at as it is starting to deteriorate. Monyette will look into this.

Resident Judith Harding asked if her broken garden box will be replaced. Monyette answered, "Yes".

Resident Gary Marcoux commented that the fire lane area as well as the outer perimeter of the property has garbage and other waste products on it. Fellow resident Teddy Mohn commented that she has seen things such as tissues and other litter on the property. Residents suggested that trash barrels be placed outside. Monyette replied that more trash barrels can be placed in entryway areas but trash barrels can't be placed outside as they could be used improperly and attract animals causing a hazard. Resident Gary Marcoux suggested that EHC members and staff take a walk around the perimeter of the property to get an idea of the state that it is in.

Minutes: The April 2023 meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

Brook School Apartment Update: Monyette Vickers

There are currently 3 vacancies, 2 market and 1 subsidized. The subsidized unit has a renter lined up and is expected to be filled by June.

The electric car charging stations have been approved for .36 cents per kilowatt. They are not online yet. It is still to be determined if they will be free for residents to use in the future.

The parking lot circle area will be updated. It was noted that the speed bumps in the circle area seem to be too high. This will be looked into.

There is still a dumpster on site. Residents are encouraged to use the dumpster to discard any unwanted items from their apartments. Residents were also encouraged to let staff know if they need help lifting items as this help can be provided.

Updated signage continues to be put in place.

Remote blinds will be installed in the Palmer Room in Building C. Building D will have the drapes replaced in the lounge area.

The resident directory has been updated and after a few changes will be distributed to all units.

Carol Ott asked how the Mass Housing Inspection went. Overall it went very well.

Resident Teddy Mohn asked for an update on the air conditioning units. Mass Save is now saying that Brook School does not qualify to receive new units; however, Monyette said that units will be replaced as needed.

There was a discussion regarding whether the EHC meetings should be the hybrid model with zoom. It was agreed that a hybrid model is a good idea but there would need to be improvement with the technology used. It was suggested that an Owl camera (camera that focuses on who is speaking) be used. Monyette will determine if such a camera can be purchased for these meetings.

Sunrise: Tom Timko

Progress is being made on the Sunrise Project. Currently there is a 20-unit plan. Ultimately any plan will need to go in front of the Select Board and be approved. Resident Paul Foley asked if the plan is approved when construction would be taking place and or finished. Tom said we are possibly looking at the year 2025.

Storage Update: Tom Timko

Currently research is being done on the possibility of incorporating an exercise room into the Forbes area. There will likely be more information next month in terms of development options.

Resident Paul Foley asked about possible upcoming vaccinations regarding COVID vaccines. It was stated that Walgreens as well as CVS and other places are still making vaccination appointments. Karin Ott suggested that residents should contact their physicians with any questions or concerns regarding COVID vaccines.

Affordable Housing Trust: Tom Timko

The Dickson Meadows Housing Development will be undergoing repairs and updates. The Habitat for Humanity project has been officially approved and will start the process of financing. The 751 Boston Post Road project is in Process. The Rt 30 Project is still in the courts. For the 104 Boston Post Road Project the courts ruled in favor of the developer. Silver Hills is beginning construction on affordable units. It will be a 55 plus community. If anyone is interested they should talk to Monyette to get an application.

Resident DeeDee Perkins asked if the meetings can be scheduled for the same day of the month every month going forward. Tom replied that the meetings are scheduled for the second Tuesday of the month but on occasion the meeting date needs to be altered to accommodate schedule conflicts.

Resident Teddy Mohn suggested name tags could be worn at meetings.

The next EHC meeting is scheduled for June 6th at 11AM.

The meeting adjourned at 12:42 PM.