

KINGS CONTRIVANCE BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6, 2024  
THIS WAS AN IN-PERSON MEETING AT AMHERST HOUSE

APPROVED: March 20, 2024

The regular board meeting was called to order at 7:30pm by Barbara Seely, Board Chair. Board members Melissa Hogle, Carol Huegel, Vivian Feen, Madeleine Borowski and KC Columbia Council Rep, Keith O'Neil were present. Also present were Village Manager Beverley Meyers, operations Coordinator Erika Cheney, CA Capital Improvements Jason Heath, District Aide in Councilwoman Rigby's office Paige Goldscher, and Southern District Deputy Commander Mark Reid. Residents Jeff Richmond and Richard Pen attended as well.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND BOARD MINUTES

*Melissa made a motion, seconded by Madeleine, to approve the agenda for March 6, 2024. The motion passed unanimously.*

*Vivian made a motion, seconded by Melissa, to approve the minutes from the board meeting held on February 21, 2024. Carol abstained and the motion passed unanimously.*

RESIDENT SPEAK OUT

There were no residents for resident Speak Out

CA UPDATE

Jason Heath, CA Capital Improvements, gave an update on some of Columbia Association's current projects.

The Blue Sea Tot Lot renovation should be completed by the end of this week.

CA is currently mulching the Tot Lots.

CA now owns three electric vans and one electric truck.

Jason will check on additional lighting in the Athletic Club parking lot, per Carol's request.

POLICE UPDATE – SOUTHERN DISTRICT DEPUTY COMMANDER, MARK REID

Mark Reid, Southern District Deputy Commander, reported on crime statistics in our village center. Crime in the village center is down overall when comparing incidents occurring during September 2022-February 2023 with incidents occurring during September 2023-February 2024. (see attached) The Board noted that the CVS closure may have attributed to the reduction in crime. HCPD has a Crime dashboard that allows you to look up crime in a specific area. The dashboard can be found at [HowardCountyMD.gov/police](https://www.howardcountymd.gov/police).

Harris Teeter has its own security which is often found at Harris Teeter stores. The police cannot control how Harris Teeter enforces security at their stores.

He noted that more Community Resource Officers are being hired, which will lead to more patrols in our village.

HCPD is working on improving the way non-emergency calls are answered. To contact the Southern District directly, call 410-313-3700.

After discussion with residents and the board about the difficulty to find information about incidents in our village, Deputy commander Reid suggested the following:

- For general community outreach questions, call 410-313-2207 or email [HCPDOutreach@HowardCountyMD.gov](mailto:HCPDOutreach@HowardCountyMD.gov).

The Board discussed activities for teens that would engage them at the Village Center/Amherst House. Paige mentioned community engagement grants from the county to non-profits.

### DRAFT BUDGET FY25

Bev presented the suggested rental rate increases for weekend events at Amherst House to begin May 1, 2024. (see attached) After discussion, *Carol made a motion, seconded by Madeleine, to approve the rental rate increases as presented. The motion passed unanimously.*

Bev presented the FY2025 Draft Budget. After discussion, *Melissa made a motion, seconded by Madeleine, to approve the FY2025 Draft Budget. The motion passed unanimously.*

### CAPITAL EXPENSE - PC

After discussion, *Melissa made a motion, seconded by Carol, to approve the capital expense of \$2416.04 for a new PC, which includes a 5-year service warranty. The motion passed unanimously.*

### BOARD MEMBER SPEAK OUT

Carol asked if feedback was received from the County Executive's office regarding the priorities that the Village Board sent to his office. Bev has received no response. Paige will check the status.

### COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

Keith gave a CA Board update, including:

- CEO search is moving forward. The Board expects to name a finalist by the end of March with a start date of May 1 for the new CEO.
- CA Budget was approved.

### CHAIR'S REPORT

None

### MANAGER'S REPORT

See attached.

Bev reported that CA approved a modified amendment to the Management Contract in relation to the Excess Cash Calculation of Cash Reserves for the Villages. The amendment will exclude the unspent balance of CARES Act grants and tax credits. This will apply retroactively to FY21-22. As stated by CA, the grant funding benefit falls outside of the CA budget process and should remain with the village that secured the funding. Bev will work with the Village's accountant to calculate the unspent amounts for year-end financial reports.

### ADJOURNMENT

*At 9:15p.m., a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.*

Respectfully submitted,

Erika Cheney  
Operations Coordinator