KINGS CONTRIVANCE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 2025

THIS WAS AN IN-PERSON MEETING AT AMHERST HOUSE

APPROVED: March 19, 2025

The regular board meeting was called to order at 7:30pm by Board Chair Barbara Seely. Board members Melissa Hogle, Fred Niziol, Carol Huegel, Vivian Feen and Madeleine Borowski were present, as was KC Columbia Council Rep. Paul Rader. Also present were Village Manager Beverley Meyers, Operations Coordinator Erika Cheney, Howard County Strategic Outreach Coordinator Vikki Garcia, District Aide in Councilwoman Rigby’s office Paige Goldscher, CA Capital Improvements Jason Heath, and Howard County Dept. of Transportation’s Chris Eatough, Howard County Dept. of Public Works Project Manager Kris Singleton, as well as Jason Thompson from Howard County Dept. of Recs and Parks.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND BOARD MINUTES

*Fred made a motion, seconded by Melissa, to approve the agenda for March 5, 2025.* The motion passed unanimously.

*Vivian made a motion, seconded by Fred, to approve the minutes from the board meeting held on February 19, 2025.* Carol abstained, and the motion passed.

RESIDENT SPEAK OUT

No residents were present.

PATUXENT BRANCH TRAIL UPDATES

Staff members from Howard County Department of Public Works (DPW) and Howard County Department of Transportation, gave a presentation featuring the proposed changes to the Patuxent Branch Trail along a 4.6 mile stretch by Vollmerhausen Road. The 1.3 miles of unpaved path will be paved 8-10 feet wide. There will be a focus on preserving trees; in total, 40 trees will be taken down. Another focus is keeping sediment out of the river during and after construction; several methods will be used. Where the trail crosses Vollmerhausen Road many safety precautions will be used including a refuge island and a person activated flashing light to indicate pedestrian/bike crossing to traffic. The construction cost is 2.5 million; a construction grant was received for 2.1 million and a design grant was received for 1.1 million. The project is scheduled to begin this fall and could take a year to complete. View the presentation on our website, VillageofKC.org under Living in KC - Village News.

CA UPDATES – JASON HEATH

Jason Heath, CA Capital Improvements, gave an update on Columbia Association.

* Started the annual inspections and mulch replacement of the tot lots.
* Start renovation of the Wayover Way tot lot.

APPROVAL OF QUARTER 3 FINANCIAL REPORTS

Bev explained the variances, and after discussion, *Fred* *made a motion, seconded by Vivian, to approve the financial reports for Quarter 3 of FY2025. The motion passed unanimously.*

DRAFT BUDGET FY26

Bev reviewed items, including the special events schedule for FY2026*, Fred made a motion, seconded by Melissa, to approve the FY2026 Draft Budget. The motion passed unanimously.*

MANAGEMENT CONTRACT BETWEEN VILLAGES AND CA FOR FY26

There has been no response or update in writing from CA to the management contract suggestions and justifications of requests sent by the villages to CA in November 2024.

CA MANAGEMENT OF VILLAGES BUILDINGS

Bev and six other Village Managers attended the CA Board meeting on February 27 and some of them, as well as other community members, testified against the proposal by CA.

BOARD MEMBER SPEAK OUT

Melisaa expressed her concerns about tree removal and run off due to the Patuxent Branch Trail paving project. Hearing about the cost and environmental impact solidified her stance against building a bridge over the Middle Patuxent River at the end of Eden Brook Drive.

Carol asked about the proposed roundabout at Old Columbia Road and Guilford Road. Vikki Garcia said Howard County Police and the Howard County Department of Transportation will conduct a feasibility study for a roundabout as part of the repaving project for the roads this spring.

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE’S REPORT

Paul reported that at the CA Board meeting on February 27, CA passed their FY26 budget. The CPRA rate was not changed.

Paul expects a response shortly from CA on the Management Contract.

CHAIR’S REPORT

Barb had no report.

MANAGER’S REPORT

See attached.

ADJOURNMENT

*At 9:17p.m., a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.*

Respectfully submitted,

Erika Cheney

Operations Coordinator