KINGS CONTRIVANCE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20, 2025

THIS WAS AN IN-PERSON MEETING AT AMHERST HOUSE

APPROVED:

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 Fred Niziol were present. KC Columbia Council Rep, Wes Fuhrman was absent. Also present were Village Manager Beverley Meyers, Operations Coordinator Erika Cheney, Covenant Advisor Aileen McNamara, District Aide from Councilwoman Rigby’s office, Paige Goldscher, Eric Walker and Jason Heath from Columbia Association, several members of KC Cares, as well as several residents.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND BOARD MINUTES

*Fred made a motion, seconded by Vivian, to approve the agenda for August 20, 2025, with the removal of Council Rep’s Report. The motion passed unanimously. Fred made a motion, seconded by Vivian, to approve the minutes from the board meeting held on June 18, 2025. Madeleine abstained and the motion passed.*

RESIDENT SPEAK OUT

Resident Alan Pflugrad spoke about the treatment of immigrants in the country. He provided the village board with several signs in support of immigrants.

Mr. Pflugrad also spoke about the progress that CA and Howard County have made in the health of local streams and rivers, particularly the Middle Patuxent River in Dickinson, where ratings have gone from very poor to good in ten years.

Shari Zaret asked why CA is paying for sidewalk repairs in Macgill’s Common and not the county. Jason Heath responded that since CA owns the adjoining property, CA is responsible for maintaining the sidewalks.

ARCHITECTURAL ISSUE – CLOSE ARC CASE FOR 8969 SKYROCK COURT

Aileen presented information regarding the current ARC case for 8969 Skyrock Court. New owners are now in the property, and the condition of the property has improved to the point where this case can be closed. *A motion was made by Fred, seconded by Vivian, to close the ARC case for 8969 Skyrock Drive and remove the flag on the property. The motion passed unanimously.*

BAMBOO REMOVAL PROJECT - MACGILL’S COMMON

Eric Walker, CA Natural Resource Specialist, gave a presentation on the bamboo removal that will take place in Macgill’s Common beginning August 25 as it is invasive and damaging the pathway and bridge. Several residents spoke out against the removal of the bamboo with concerns for flooding, privacy, and wildlife. Eric Walker explained that the removal should help control flooding. CA will leave existing trees growing within the bamboo stand, in addition, a forest buffer with 20-30 trees will be planted once the bamboo and its roots are removed in October and November. Bamboo is attractive to mosquitoes; removal will help keep the mosquito population down. This will be a 5-10 year project, but 80-90% of the bamboo will be eliminated in the first two years.

Carol asked CA to keep the neighbors informed as the project continues.

CA UPDATE – JASON HEATH

Jason gave an update on Columbia Association’s recent and upcoming projects and events, including:

* Sewer repair near Cape Ann Drive will begin September 8.
* Tot Lot renovations near Fair Beauty and Deer Chase will begin next week.

BOARD MEMBER SPEAK OUT

Carol asked for the criteria for canceling a Board Meeting. She is concerned that residents may have issues that they would like to address to the board and won’t be able to do so in a timely fashion. Bev noted that the meetings are canceled when there is a lack of agenda items. Residents can always call Amherst house with any concerns; they do not have to wait for a board meeting.

CHAIR’S REPORT

None.

MANAGER’S REPORT

See attached.

*Fred made a motion to discuss hiring Katie Weber as Head Facility Assistant. Vivian seconded, Carol opposed, and the motion passed.*

ADJOURNMENT

*At 8:11p.m., a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.*

Respectfully submitted,

Erika Cheney

Operations Coordinator