

**Minutes of the
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Held: October 22, 2015**

Approved: November 12, 2015

A meeting of the Columbia Association Board of Directors was held on Thursday, October 22, 2015, at the Columbia Association Building. Present were Chairperson Jeanne Ketley and members Reg Avery, Dick Boulton, Brian Dunn, Janet Evans, Alan Klein, Nancy McCord, Gregg Schwind, Andy Stack, and Chao Wu. Also present were CA President/CEO Milton W. Matthews, Chief Staff Liaisons Susan Krabbe and Norma Heim, and Governance Chief of Staff Jane Dembner.

1. Call to Order: The Board of Directors Meeting was called to order at 7:32 p.m. by the Chairperson, Jeanne Ketley.

2. Announcement of Closed/Special Meetings Held/To Be Held:

The Architectural Resource Committee held a closed meeting on October 12, 2015 at the Columbia Association Building. Members present were Jane Dembner, Craig Garrison, Michael Shaw, Debbie Bach and Gordon MacPhee. Also present were Ingrid Hatz, Eva Lambright, Carole MacPhee, Laura Parrish, Debbie Nix, Maryann Cohea, Pat Loeber, Carl McKinney, Karen Turcan and Dale Wasmus. The vote to close the meeting was 5-0-0.

The closed meeting was authorized under the Maryland Homeowners Act, Md. Code, Real Property §11B-111(4)(iv): Consultation with staff personnel, consultants, attorneys, or other persons in connection with pending or potential litigation. The meeting was closed from 1:30 p.m. until 2:00 p.m.

3. Approval of Agenda:

Action: Mr. Stack moved that the agenda be approved as presented. Ms. McCord seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

4. Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest: none

5. Resident Speakout:

- (a) Leo Bruette, Columbia Tennis Committee, spoke about CA building a new tennis facility and about CATennis being nominated Tennis Organization of the Year for the Mid-Atlantic region of the U.S. Tennis Association.
- (b) Ed Coleman, Long Reach, spoke about CA's communication to the public regarding the progress of large projects such as the one underway at Dannon Garth Pond.
- (c) Karen Hitcho, Long Reach Village Board, spoke about a site in Long Reach for a tennis facility.
- (d) Alan Klein, Harper's Choice, spoke as co-moderator of the Hobbit's Glen Neighborhood Listserv and read messages from the residents.

6. Approval of Minutes of October 8, 2015

Action: Mr. Avery moved that the minutes be approved. Mr. Wu seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

7. Chairperson's Remarks: Ms. Ketley said the winning photo in her Chesapeake Bay Foundation magazine was taken at Wilde Lake.

8. President's Report: In response to questions and comments from Board members, Mr. Matthews and staff said:

- Future President's Reports will include challenges CA is facing, as well as accomplishments.

- The CA Monthly is being scaled back for cost reasons and CA may have more stories in Howard Magazine.
- Revenue from Haven on the Lake is lower than anticipated, but the new general manager should help Haven become more financially successful. CA is working to improve Haven based on feedback from members.
- Anticipated income from \$10 Package Plan upgrades was not originally included in projected revenue.

Mr. Matthews also introduced Dr. Jerome Paige who will meet with Board members during the November 19 retreat.

9. Committee Chairs' Remarks

- (a) Board Operations Committee: none
- (b) External Relations Committee: In response to a question from Mr. Boulton, Ms. Heim said Janet Loughran is following up with elected officials invited to the stakeholders dinner.
- (c) Planning and Strategy Committee: none
- (d) Strategic Implementation Committee: none
- (e) CA Representatives to the Inner Arbor Trust Board of Directors: Mr. Boulton said the IAT met on October 17 and is beginning to schedule more regular meetings. He said Randy Clay of the office of Planning and Zoning employee attended and that the IAT secretary was elected Vice Chair. Mr. Boulton said a sign that IAT has placed near the property announcing contributors includes a CA logo. Ms. Heim said the logo is not CA's current one, so she will contact IAT about it. Mr. Schwind said IAT has credited CA on several occasions for providing funding and land. Board members discussed the decision of the Howard Hospital Foundation to forego Symphony of Lights this year.

10. Recommendations for Board Action

- (a) Consent Agenda – With no objections, the Board approved Debbie Nix and Craig Garrison as new members of the Architectural Review Committee.

Ms. Heim left at 8:50 p.m.

(b) Recommendations for Action

1. Approval of the Major Capital Projects recommended by the Planning and Strategy Committee to include in the Proposed FY 17 and Conditional FY 18 budgets

Action: The Board approved the PSC's recommendation to include proposed major capital projects in the FY 17 budget, with the understanding that five projects are subject to additional information. Vote: 9-1-0.

For: Messrs. Avery, Boulton, Dunn, Schwind, Stack, and Wu, and Meses. Ketley, Evans, and McCord

Against: Mr. Klein

Abstain: none

2. Approval of the New Operating initiatives recommended by the Planning and Strategy Committee to include in the Proposed FY 17 and Conditional FY 18 budgets

Action: The Board PSC's recommendation to include the proposed new operating initiatives in the FY 17 budget, with the understanding that the living wage program is subject to further Board evaluation before approval. Vote: 9-1-0

For: Messrs. Avery, Boulton, Dunn, Schwind, Stack, and Wu, and Meses. Ketley, Evans, and McCord

Against: Mr. Klein

Abstain: none

3. Approval of Revised Columbia Association Sponsorship Policy

Action: The Board approved the ERC's recommendation to accept a revised version of the CA Sponsorship Policy.

11. Special Topics and Presentations

- (a) Update to the Board on Outreach to the Golfers/Patrons at the Hobbit’s Glen Golf Club
Dan Burns, CA Director of Sports & Fitness, gave an update on meetings, surveys, focus groups and other efforts to get feedback from golfers and patrons of Hobbit’s Glen Golf Club regarding the restaurant, pro shop, customer service, etc. He described several changes that have been made as a result of that feedback to improve customers’ experiences.

12. Committee Agendas

- (a) Strategic Implementation Committee
 - 1. Discussion
 - (a) Committee Tracking Form – no updates
- (b) External Relations Committee
 - 1. Discussion
 - (a) Committee Tracking Form
 - Mr. Boulton asked about CA’s efforts to communicate with the public regarding major projects.
 - Mr. Matthews said CA has learned lessons from its handling of communication regarding Dannon Garth Pond.

13. Tracking Forms

- (a) Tracking Form for Board Requests: Mr. Klein asked staff to inform the Board before lobbying the General Assembly on major issues. Ms. Krabbe confirmed that Ms. Fanaroff routinely does that.
- (b) Tracking Form for Resident Requests: no additions.

14. Talking Points: Recording Secretary Valerie Montague read the Talking Points.

15. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie Montague
Recording Secretary

The following pages are from

Resident Speakout

at the October 22, 2015

Columbia Association

Board of Directors meeting

Coho:

We have dined at the new Coho about ten times --and we have been very happy overall. Most of our food has been quite good and several dishes, e.g., scallops, compare favorably with those in some of the best restaurants we have visited. CA/management's addition of sound baffles shows a willingness to respond to suggestions. Our friends were envious that we had such a great place within walking distance.

They have installed some sound-baffles on the ceiling of the large dining room, planning to add more. I don't understand all the discontent. I like the feel of the new place. The food is good, particularly the crab cakes. The lobby area might have a little more pizzazz if a customer hadn't walked into the ceiling-to-floor mirror and cracked it, causing it to be removed and the wall behind it repainted. How does one walk into a mirror, anyway?

I really liked the lunch menu, far less "fufu" than the dinner menu and more affordable. incorporate more of the lunch menu items into the dinner menu, that would work. bring back 1/2 price burger night too!

We ate outside so did not notice noise. Perhaps some rugs and some slight decor changes to make it less "DC-trendy" would help but this is the style these days. More environmentally friendly and no allergan-triggering carpet like the old place. I think it is a matter of taste, and the only permanent thing is change.

Food was very good. Service too. the carpet and other improvements dampened the previous noisiness. New decorations/artwork too. Had a full meal including dessert at a decent price. ALL good. Nice to experience these good changes first hand.

We had a wonderful meal there inside and we had a marvelous brunch outside

I think the food and service has improved, and that noise is being addressed.

Most of us really want Coho to be a success and I plan to keep supporting them as long as they are trying to improve.

Had a group which used to meet there monthly, but won't go back after one try after the renovation. The only positive note for us is the Willow Bottom Ale! The chairs in the bar are very uncomfortable - chairs in dining rooms are upholstered and have a better feel.

Still not what we loved about the warm atmosphere of the Ole Coho. The sterile atmosphere is disconcerting and the menu is crappy in general. I find that it is not an enjoyable place to go anymore. So sad, as this is right in our neighborhood. With enough complaints, there may be changes, but most people are turned off already

I'm not surprised someone walked into that mirror. In fact, I predicted it. Glad it wasn't me. It was located in a place you would think is the entrance to the restaurant and looked like a hallway opening. It's like a maze finding the entrance to the restaurant! And what is the purpose of that wide hallway with the fireplace and sofas?

place is too sterile looking, loud at times, food has deteriorated and hamburger night is missed. Would prefer more of the menu that they had before. There really is not much on the menu that is appealing to me. they had tables with uncomfortable chairs. the place just lacks the coziness that the ole place had. I thought the prices of the food were too high for the lack of quality of the meal.

Golf:

Like many of the members, I remain unsatisfied with their pricing and service levels. Last Thursday our group had our regular mixer. The usual coffee and donuts (which are supposed to be available at 8:00 am) were not available. This is just the latest example of the failure of Coho to serve the golfing community.

The clubhouse is a great disappointment! You have to walk up 20 steps to sign in and/or to use the restrooms. That makes it a failure. The restrooms that are just off the main entrance have code locks on the doors. That is the unfriendliest welcome ever.
PS The course itself is terrific!

It's not a clubhouse, it's a restaurant with a pro shop attached. There is no place for members to meet to sit and talk without being in the restaurant. The turnhouse is an expensive potty.