

ORANGEWOOD HOMES ASSOCIATION, INC

PO BOX 22845

BEACHWOOD, OH 44122

Annual Community Meeting, June 16, 2025 Minutes

Attendees: Casey, Seth, Lois, Russ, Ira, Gerry, Jim

Not in Attendance: all board members present

29 residents in attendance

- **Mayor Kline report**

- Projects going on in the village

- Omni living well collection is beginning construction on Harvard.
 - Canyons development beginning construction (55 and older). Aiming to have roads by July. People moving in by early 2026.
 - Lakes of Orange phase 3 is starting clearing & grading.
 - Bahama Breeze site is going to be demolished and coming to the planning commission shortly. Going to be mixed use development - commercial & office above.
 - Walnut Hills residential (pinecrest residential) - planning commission in August and into ground next year.
 - Orangewood Drive paving. Concrete repairs over the course of the summer. Some in the next few weeks - repairs, leveling & smaller projects. But an entirely new surfacing and repavement overlay next year.

- Community programs

- Started 7 committees at the beginning of the year.

- Arts & Culture - concert coming up. June 24th at the amphitheater. "Rubber Soul" to perform. Two more concerts after that in Aug & Sept.
 - Juneteenth celebration happening 6/19 in Village Hall. Paintings & gallery talk from local artist.
 - Saturday 21st - children's book author Darlene Johnson at Village hall Gazebo at 2pm.
- Orange Cares committee - held a bicycle tune up program. Ended up donating 9 bikes.
- Centennial committee looking for a chairperson. Working on "Orangebook" - legacy project to identify century homes in the community. And a local arts team to create paintings of the homes to become a book for 2027 when we hit 100 yrs.
- Veterans committee - decorated Memorial Weekend around village hall. Working on a scheme to develop a veterans plaza next to the village hall.
- Parks & Rec - looking at redeveloping the dog park. Going to get together with the city to talk about plans and beginning execution. Hope this year we'll have improved use for the park.
- Economic Committee - how do we make Orange more successful as a community. Miles & Brainard - how do we make the intersection a better welcome to Orange Village.
- Sustainability Committee - have had guest speakers over the spring. Going to work on a project in fall on a Green Architecture grant.
- Upcoming events
 - Farmers market kicked off this past weekend at the service dept. Holding events every month over the summer. Next is July 10th.
 - Party in the park on July 26th! Mini version of farmers market. Drone show. Fun to be had!

- Active Orange - events monthly. Walks & runs through the community. Saturday 21st @ 2pm - departing from village hall.
- Vision & areas we're working on
 - Still pursuing community center development in partnership with the old church on Emery road. Working with them if we could build the community center out of the old facility. Quite a lot of construction remediation to be done.
 - Continuing to work on the "First Calls" program. Currently, 5 cities are involved in an existing setup where a- team of mental health workers affiliated with the dispatch center. So if a call comes in, they can assign a mental health advocate to join in the call. We're working on developing our own version of this for Orange.
 - Community Survey from last year showed a willingness to consider investing in new facilities for the village. We're looking at building a new fire station entirely. The existing fire station would become the police station. Potentially Harvard & Brainard could become the new site of the fire station.
 - The old facility was a volunteer dept 30yrs ago. We had to scramble things around this past year to make room for dorms for overnights.
 - We don't have sufficient training or locker room for the 50 firefighters who are working shifts.
 - Don't have room/facilities for cleaning the turnout gear when they come back from a call.
 - They've done a cost/benefit analysis for the new location as the population of the city has shifted north and west.
 - Ambulance runs through Ahuja, and the timing to reload and come back means the turnover time is longer with current location vs proposed new location.
 - Orange Village Incubator for Life Sciences and Technology - chagrin valley south property. Science & academic institutions can come together with the Jacobs group who controls the property.

- Discussions about adding to our street lighting program. In the orangewood development, there are a number of dark corners we could light up. Work with FirstEnergy for in-ground lights. Could also do solar systems like Beachwood is working on.
- Several HOA associations in Orange village - can we create a working group and collaboration between all of them. The HOA presidents will meet to discuss common issues.
- Cuyahoga Valley grants to do signage from 271 to the metroparks. Idea is to connect through Orange to metroparks connection.

- Questions

- Recreational trail from Pepper Pike to Orangewood? If Pepper Pike created their section of it (south of the circle), then we would extend ours up. So extend the trail from Orangewood up to Lander circle.
 - Solon is developing trails to connect from the south.
- Any news about the church across from Village Hall? There are interested parties (3) - one is a religious org interested in the space. Two developers interested in developing the site to a lesser extent from the 2024 ballot, but within the confines of the zoning.

- **Financial report**

- Review last year

- We've had two incidents in the last 2 years of vandalism in the playground that cost \$5-6k. It's quite expensive to try to run electricity back there, which makes security cameras infeasible.
- We had flooding this past spring, partly caused by kids leaving sticks and debris in the drainage ditch.
- Our major expense is landscaping, which we do bid out in 2yr contracts.

- Planned expenditures for 2025

- Asphalt: White Oak to East Ash. In long term maintenance the pavement will pay for itself by not requiring us to re-gravel every few years. The path is getting wider and run down.
 - Drainage system for field and ditch in park - putting in 6 drains in the field to make it usable. Plus longer pipes in ditch to fix the drainage site.
- **Landscaping report - Russ**
 - Current contractor has been renewed for another 2 yrs.
 - What kind of weed spray is put onto the field - Russ will look into that to confirm what we're using.
 - Garbage cans can sometimes get full, especially in the winter - email in when that's happening and we'll reach out to get them to come over.
 - Adding a few more lights at the Lander entrance on the trees, with brighter bulbs for visibility.
- **Architectural Review committee report - Seth**
 - Our current architectural review board is fantastic at coming together when community members have proposals!
 - We've had many more people applying to make changes through the years (15 to this year). We're going to work on updating our design review manual this year to be more clear about what we can and cannot do. A clearer cut picture off the bat so community members can see past decisions. (Our document hasn't been updated in ~8 years.)
- **Standards of Home Maintenance committee report - Seth**
 - We've gotten more use of the website for this committee. Committee is 3 members of the HOA board who go to look out for complaints on the street. They determine if it's a violation of the SHM, and if so, a letter goes out to the homeowner.
 - 1st letter is a head's up. 14 days to get back to us. And if we can't find a resolution, an official letter goes out.

- We try to be fair, especially for cost prohibitive issues. As long as there's some communication between the homeowners and HOA, we're flexible.
- What is the responsibility of the homeowners with regards to the maintenance of the recreational trail. Rec trail is owned by orange village. People aren't necessarily edging their section of the trail causing grass to grow further in. Lawn maintenance is also Orange Village business.

- **Amendments of Code of Regulations**

- Over the last few years, the bylaws were updated for the first time since 1975. There are things that we would like to rework and alter to more appropriately fit how this board operates. We're going to have another series of meetings to approve language so the board can make changes in the future.
 - Can vote by proxy as needed.
- Meeting dates - all at 7pm at the Orangewood pavilion
 - July 16th (Wed)
 - Aug 15th (Fri)
 - Sept 15th (Mon)
 - Oct 15th (Wed)
 - Nov XX TBD

- **Suggested new committees**

- Social – arrange picnic, other social events
 - Our summer picnic is always volunteer organized, with stipend from the HOA.
- Path & landscaping planning and development (Association property committee)
 - A couple years ago we had a group meeting to discuss the old tennis court, and the discussions were tabled by the committee in favor of adding new trails.
- Parks - Tennis and playground maintenance/development
- Rules - Bylaw and documentation

- **New Business**

- Seeking a new executive director this upcoming year! Lois is stepping down after 9 successful years and staying on as Treasurer. We also welcome any other new members- we meet every few months in person or via zoom.
- New this year we have the ability on our website to submit questions & concerns. We're happy to see those coming in!
- Thanks to Seth for setting up the scheduling system for tennis and pickleball courts!
- Proposal to add more lighting especially in the middle of paths and where the paths come to a T. Solar lighting especially.
- Can we change the minutes in the future to no longer reflect specific addresses? – We've been putting numbers in the minutes to show to the community that we're taking action on complaints, and to show to others looking if an issue has been reported. We can discuss it as a board later.