

Claiborne Community Association

Minutes of meeting 6/21/07 at the Sayre's

Present: Barbara Reisert, Judy and Jack Harrald, Betsy and Jeff Desjardin, Kirke Harper, Dan Higgins, Jim Richardson, Martha Hamlin, Phil and Sarah Sayre

Important note: **Claiborne Picnic set for July 15, 2007 at Maple Hall.** Community meeting will be held separately after the meeting with the Post Office contact. This was decided by a subcommittee of Barbara, Kirke, and Sarah, after Barbara's further contact with Maple Hall.

Assignments:

Jim and Martha	▪ Set up meeting with PO contact
Kirke	▪ Meet with PO contact Jim, and Martha
Judy	• Incorporate changes in by-laws

Meeting opened at 7:35 p.m.

Reports

1. Post Office:

→Kirke reviewed the results of community-wide survey:

- 95% of respondents in favor of keeping the post office in Claiborne
- 80% of respondents would be willing to help raise or to give money
- 14 individuals would be willing to act as volunteers in post office
- 60% of households who get mail in Claiborne responded

→Jim reported a phone conversation in which he learned that

- by PO rules any change in the post office would lead to the post office being closed while new bids are solicited.
- the likelihood of a new contract being granted after a closure was slim
- the post office could not be in a church
- no volunteers could be used (minimum wage requirements)
- PO contact will call to set up a date for a meeting with Jim, Martha, and Kirke

→Kirke has read the applicable sections of the Post Office Strategic Plan and the Congressional Reorganization Act to find that

- economic reasons alone are not an excuse to deny a contract

2. Formation of Community 501c3 organization:

→Judy has drafted by-laws, including a purpose. It was met with acclaim. She will add a section regarding meetings and one regarding the dissolution of a 501c3 corporation (based on models presented by Dan and Kirke)

→Kirke and Jim set up boundaries of the community as area northwest of the intersection of SR 33 and SR 451.

→Dan has a copy of the Bay Hundred 501c3 for reference. He noted the need for a \$500 application fee to IRS. There may also be a state fee.

→Kirke's friend has offered to get pro bono lawyers involved: specialists in non-profits and Maryland issues

3. Church Issues:

→Dan has not heard back from John Moore about results of administrative meeting

→Jeff reported that he spent three + hours inspecting the church and found that the building has good structure, foundation, electricity. He must still check on some roof re-repair issues, requiring getting in under some eaves. He did, indeed, find bats in Claiborne's collective belfry, no real news there.

Next meeting: July 19, 2007, 7:00 p.m., at Jim and Martha's

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah Sayre

Good idea not really relevant to meeting:

Everyone should be encouraged to put martin houses and bat houses in their yards to help with mosquito control.