

## **Bolin Forest Phase II Homeowners' Association**

### ***Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting, Monday, June 14th, 2004; 7:30 pm.***

Board members present- Cliff Haac, John Rintoul, Bob Ross, Cameron Binnie.

Absent- Gary Giles.

Other homeowners present- Hope Wyss, Linda Haac.

### ***Plantings at intersection of Amber Ct & Bolin Creek Drive.***

Some rather large bushes at the intersection block the view coming out of Amber Court and are consequently a hazard for traffic. The bushes were planted by a homeowner no longer living in the neighborhood. It was initially thought that this was a common area but the corner is actually the border of the Wyss and Schmidt/Cordero properties. Neither household knew they owned this property and neither cares for the plantings.

There was discussion about i) cutting down to a smaller level- but Hope is not keen to trim them twice a year. ii) Chain sawing – but they will grow back within a year from the roots and no-one wants to use poison. The Junipers will never overgrow the hollies. iii) Putting in Crepe Myrtles- but they are not evergreens and look like sticks for half the year, and it would be a while before they would grow sufficiently that they were no longer a visual hazard- the problem we were trying to solve.

Bob commented about another corner that was ruined by bad maintenance and now looks terrible. We want to avoid that. Maybe we can come up with another option that would be prettier. John and Cameron both noted that the bushes do require motorists from Amber Court to slow and usually stop at the corner.

Bob- motion to ask the Architectural Review Committee to explore creative options and report by next month. Cliff- seconded. Vote 4-0 in favor.

In the meantime, Hope will also explore variety of species of plant and no other action will be taken with the offending shrubs.

### ***Summer adult wine party***

Hope and Paul Wyss have offered to host a summer party for the adults in the neighborhood- providing appetizers. if the neighbors or HOA would provide beverages.

There is a need to economize this year because we spent more money than usual on the workday for signs and the volleyball court. The suggestion was raised that we make this into the usual early fall, late summer party that is put on by the HOA. Hope clarified that they just don't have room for everyone plus kids.

A solution is that children could have pizzas and a separate party at another house.

### ***Does anyone want to volunteer to host the kids' party? If so, please contact a Board member.***

Cliff made a motion asking Hope (and Paul) to plan on doing this, budget to be clarified at a later time. Vote 4-0 in favor.

### ***Maintenance of the new Signs***

6 signposts have been erected along the common area along Bolin Creek. John had 10 page-size signs printed and laminated, originally. Six were posted. Six have been removed by vandals as of meeting time. These were initially lightly stapled, but recently heavily stapled to the posts. It would take quite a bit of work and time to remove such a sign. On the one hand it has been observed that people are now bringing their kids down to the walkway, so our efforts to highlight safety concerns may be having a good effect by attracting families and kids. On the other hand –on Saturday two bottles half drunk of “mad dog” were found down by the playground. It is not clear how much “unofficial late-night” activity of this kind takes place. Unfortunately enquiries with the Chapel Hill and Carrboro police departments have not been productive as one says it’s the others responsibility.

Linda emphasized that it would be a good time to re-engage the Carrboro police department because of their recent search for a murder suspect in this area, and the Animal control service.

Anecdotal experiences were shared that some people are clearly clueless (despite the signs) while others become defensive when the leash laws are brought to their attention- “There’s nowhere else for people to run with their dogs!” Sometimes they become verbally abusive. Lots of people jog with their dogs. People come to Bolin Creek to run.

It was brought up that the bridge that crosses the creek was provided by the Bolin Forest community. Cameron suggested that the bridge could be removed. But then everyone would lose.

While most dogs are well behaved some are not always under voice control. The human and canine traffic is huge compared to 10 years ago. We now virtually have a city park back there that is the preferred area for many pet owners to run their dogs.

Bob mentioned that we can probably outlast the people that rip down the signs. We just need to keep replacing them.

After further debate John agreed to contact the Carrboro police and arrange a meeting. Board members (esp. John and Cliff who routinely walk down there) will monitor the posts and replace missing signs. Hope who is a daily walker said she would monitor the area as well.

Neighbors are encouraged to report posts that have been defaced or otherwise vandalized to either Cliff or John.

### ***Change to by-laws***

John stated that at the May board meeting there had been insufficient turnout by the officers to change the by-laws. Five days advance stamp-and-mailed written notice of the change to the By-laws must be provided to the homeowners. We will try again for the July meeting, scheduled for July 12th. Watch those mailboxes!

### ***Treasurer’s report***

Bob stated that Lee Graves (President- BFI HOA) has asked for financial help on mowing the right of way on Bolin Forest. Could other phases help out?

Unfortunately, Lee was traveling at the time of the meeting, the expected substitute representing Phase I did not turn, and no communication was otherwise received. This has happened before. It was mentioned that part of the reason their moving costs so much is that

they mow the right of way in addition to Bolin Forest Drive. Even though people mow the front of their yards, they pay to have it mowed again.

It was mentioned that Phase III/IV already contributes to their mowing expenditures, but The Cedars do not- even though they own some of the property.

Bob reported that six households still remain to pay their homeowners dues. Approximately \$1,200 was spent during the workday on the various projects.

### ***Update on traffic calming***

The NC Department of Transportation, in response to our letter of concern, has erected a diamond warning sign indicating “intersection ahead” on North Greensboro Street ~200 ft. south of Bolin Forest drive going north. They have also trimmed the trees to improve visibility.

### ***Sidewalk update.***

The town of Carrboro has arranged a public information meeting on 28th June, 2004. to discuss the sidewalk along Bolin Forest Drive. The meeting notice will be circulated along with this document.

Bob mentioned that this is the second or third time they have been through this process. Gary Giles and Molly Wick will be asked to attend this forum as representatives of the Architectural Review Committee for the Homeowners’ Association.

### ***Downed trees***

Another tree has fallen across the creek- a fairly substantial one- near the Phase III playground. John will craft a letter asking for action from the town of Carrboro.

### ***Approval of the minutes of the last 2 meetings.***

John made a motion to approve the minutes. Cliff seconded. Motion was approved, 4-0.

### ***Other business***

#### ***Speeding on Amber Court.***

Concern about speeding still persists. It is not clear who is to blame and the Board members have not witnessed the problem. The Carrboro police can be asked by any resident to patrol the street however, the Board does not feel that it would be prudent for the Board to make the request of the police at this time as direct “neighbor-to-neighbor” discussions have apparently not taken place, yet.

Cameron made the point that the role of the HOA Board is to apply and execute the by-laws and covenants of the neighborhood. Pulling over speeders is not our job any more than it is catching burglars.

The board wishes once again to emphasize to the neighbors to:

**Make sure that you and your children are driving at an appropriate speed - which may need to be slower than 25 MPH.**

As always, people with concerns about consistent speeders are encouraged to first talk directly to the individuals or the responsible adults of the household about their concerns. Unless the speeders are made aware that there are concerns about their driving they remain unaware of the need to change.

***BFIHOA.org Website***

John hopes that we can get our website to point that we do not have to send out so much info and people can opt in to getting emails. It would be good to get a Web counter to see how many hits are coming. John will talk with Jim Neil about possibilities.

***Adjourn***

Cameron made a motion to adjourn. Cliff seconded and the motion was approved 4-0.

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For news and information about the Bolin Forest II HOA, remember to visit the website at:  
<http://www.bfihoa.org/>