

# Highland Lakes Assoc. of REALTORS®

## Board of Directors Meeting November 20, 2007

**Call to Order:** 9:00 AM

**Roll Call:** Pat Burton, Dale Riley, Janet Henley, Elaine Roberts, Charley Swift, Sherry Raymer, Terry Tuteur, Caryn Paye, Linda Ferguson, Tommy Ferguson, Iva Weston, Chad Thibodeaux

**Guests:** Rhonda Behrens, Candace Cooke, Kristy Morris, Melinda Gray

**Minutes:**

- Motion Made, Seconded and Approved

**Financial Report:**

- Reviewed
- Motion Made; Seconded and Approved

**AE Report:**

- Linda Ferguson, AE reported that there were currently approximately 717 Board &/or MLS members and 524 full Board Members
- It was reported that the MCE classes on Wed. Oct. 24 there were 22 in attendance and on Thurs. Oct. 25 there were 25 members in attendance.
- The Board was updated on the progress of annual dues collection currently in process

**Unfinished Business:**

- Pat Burton reported on the Task Force Meeting regarding Land and Building Improvements
- It was reported that Jim Carter is drawing up preliminary plans at no charge to the Board to be presented at a later date.

**New Business:**

- **Candace Cooke was introduced to the Board of Directors. Ms. Cooke presented her concerns and views in reference to data that was being entered in the HLAoR MLS**
  - Concerns about new HB 16 relating to mortgage fraud and the concerns that she had of incomplete/inaccurate information being gathered from our MLS. (i.e. concessions not being defined in the MLS.)
  - Ms. Cooke asked the board to consider adding a section in the MLS where concessions could be clearly entered along with the sold data.
  - Discussion among the directors brought forth a motion to pass on this subject until the next scheduled board meeting. Motion was seconded and approved with one opposition.
- **2008 First Quarter MLS dues were discussed.**
  - Motion was made to waive 1<sup>st</sup> quarter MLS dues for all members. Seconded. Approved
- **Name Tags for the Directors were discussed.**
  - It was decided to order new name tags for the officers with new positions and also for any newly elected directors.

- **Dewey Hollingsworth's letter was presented and discussed.**
  - Letter recommended that the Board make a special donation to TREPAC in the names of each HLAoR member.
  - It was discussed that this would not be in the best interest of all members.
  - Motion was made to not make a contribution in the name of all HLAoR members to TREPAC. Seconded. Motion Passed.
  
- **Excused Absences and Cancellations of Board Funded Events**
  - AE asked for guidelines to be set forth for better understanding as to what is actually considered an excused and/or unexcused absence of directors from board meetings and/or board funded events
  - After discussion, no clear decision was made, only that the director must call in to report that he/she will not be in attendance for the upcoming meeting/event in order for it to be excused.
  
- **Staff Christmas Bonus**
  - Decision to give board staff Christmas bonuses was made with the following results: Linda Ferguson - \$1500, Melinda Gray - \$1000, Jameda Stewart - \$750

#### **Committee Reports:**

- **Education:**
  - It was reported that the New Member Orientation had been rescheduled for December 13<sup>th</sup> and Service Title Company will conducting the “mock closing” portion of the class.
  - Scholarship Applications are being accepted at this time. Deadline will be December 7<sup>th</sup>. Committee to review applications on Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>. Face to Face interviews will take place during Christmas break for the students who are selected to advance in the process.
  
- **MLS:**
  - It was reported that the MLS Committee reported that the Buyer's agent commission does not appear on a flyer. It has to be manually changed to reflect the correct amount. Auto default is 3%.
  - It was also reported that there are street name inconsistencies in the MLS that are causing inaccurate property histories. No solution was given at this time.
  - Maps and Grids are also being addressed by the committee.
  - A motion was made to set up a Sub Committee of members to address the issues of straightening out the inconsistencies with the addresses; Seconded; Approved.
  - It was recommended to the Board that beginning at the first of the New Year, agent's will begin listing their own open houses in the MLS and not on the HLAoR website.
  - Discussion; motion was made to no longer list Open House notices on HLAoR website; Seconded; Approved
  
- **Membership:**
  - New members were presented to the Board
  - Motion was made to accept the new members; Seconded; Approved

**Adjourn: 10:30 AM**

**Minutes prepared by: Melinda Gray, HLAoR Executive Assistant**