



CAHH to Vote on New Operating System for HH Pool

Last summer, I wrote a newsletter article about the Civic Association's decision to establish a committee for the purpose of determining what type of entity was best suited for operating the pool. A committee consisting of **Peter Kinzler, Frank McKenna, Alan Warshawer** and me was formed to assess whether the community's interests were best served by the present corporate entity—a non-stock Virginia corporation—or, whether the Civic Association should form a subcommittee to operate the pool.

We spent a number of months reviewing the pool's finances and meeting with present and past pool board members. After much consideration, we concluded that the pool would operate more effectively and efficiently if the corporate entity were dissolved, and in its place a non-corporate entity, operating as a subcommittee of the Civic Association, operated the pool. We reached this conclusion because the dual requirements of the pool's bylaws and Virginia's statutory

requirements have proven to be overly bureaucratic and impracticable for a volunteer association. The most important fact to know about operating the pool is that it takes the work of volunteers—a lot of volunteers—all of whom also have jobs, children, and homes. Statutory and bylaw requirements that require, among other things, twenty day notice periods, six different types of financial statements, and voluminous record-keeping requirements do not attract or help to keep volunteer workers. Simply put, too much of the volunteer effort was being expended trying to meet statutory and bylaw requirements, rather than trying to insure the future of the pool.

This conclusion has been considered by the pool board and it was also discussed at the Pool's December General Membership Meeting. All agree that the pool will best operate if the volunteers focus primarily on managing the pool, improving the facility, attracting new pool members and increasing communication between the pool and the community.

I want to emphasize two points. First, this change will not impose any new

financial liability upon the Civic Association. The pool committee will still have, as a primary mandate, the obligation to insure that the pool generates sufficient income to pay its expenses, including those expenses associated with repayment of the capital improvement debt. Second, the pool will continue to operate in an open and transparent manner. Budgets will be submitted to the membership; candidates to serve on the pool committee will be sought from the whole of the pool membership; and membership meetings will be regularly held. Financial and facility reports will be regularly provided to the Civic Association and made available to the membership of the Civic Association and the pool.

The pool board has requested that the Civic Association place this proposal before the community for a vote at the April General Meeting. If anyone has any questions or concerns, please feel free to give me or anyone on the pool board a call.

—Barbara Ward, CAHH Board
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