

10/23/2020

Settlement Conference Update

The attorneys and their clients attended a remote settlement conference on October 21, 2020, presided over by a retired Circuit Court judge. Options for settling were discussed. Plaintiffs' attorney will be preparing additional information about full-time residents for consideration by the County and White Horse Park, and an additional settlement conference may be scheduled.

Ballots

The Board has received messages, from just a few owners, concerning the name, lot number, and signature, on this year's election ballot. This Board believes that all owners' privacy is protected, as our secretary has appointed Baker and Associates to count and certify ballots. Votes will remain confidential. With all due respect to the community, opposers have accused the Board of conducting the election in an unethical fashion. These accusations have inspired the Board to take extra measures to ensure that each ballot can be accounted for, in the event of a challenge. It is also our duty to ensure that votes are cast by property owners. We have consulted with our attorney, and this revised process is in line with our by-laws. We have consulted with the Bakers, and we have learned that other associations do ballots in this fashion. We have consulted with the election committee chair, and after reviewing last year's process, we had agreement that this is an ethical and accountable way to move forward. We have googled HOA Ballot templates to find this information present on various and assorted designs. The goal is to put more controls in place to ensure that the ballot count can be confidently certified and to provide accountability in the event of a challenge. The Board voted 4-1 in favor of the decision to include this information, after consulting with the attorney. Again, confidentiality will be respected. The changes that have been made are efforts to protect the integrity of our election process.