

DODD MARSH HIGHLANDER NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2024

Board of Directors

President Buddy Sapp
Vice-President Pete Nelson
Treasurer Marshall Wilson
Secretary Becky Brown
Director Diane Kellogg
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Architectural Committee

Bruce Brown, Dennis Busch and Al Richardson
Marshall Wilson – Liaison

Landscape Committee

Nancy Klein, Sue Downs and Cady Burdick
Ed Burek – Liaison

Web Site: Gary Heinen

Newsletter – Becky Brown

Homeowner Parking Lot Potluck

We want to get together again before cold weather sets in! So, we decided to have a potluck. Please join us in the north parking lot on Tuesday, September 10 at 4:00 p.m. We will be grilling hamburgers and brats. Cost is \$5/per person payable that night. Please bring a dish to share, your own chair and beverage. In case of rain, we will try the next evening. Please RSVP by Thursday, September 5 to Lisa Richardson at ljrichardson@gmail.com or 612-242-0350.

Christmas Party

Save the date for the Christmas party for Friday, December 6. Details to follow. Please contact Roxanne Busch to RSVP at 612-716-4401.

Dodd Marsh Homeowners' Coffee

The Dodd Marsh monthly homeowners' coffee socials meet the first Monday of each month at Perkins in Lakeville at 9:00 a.m.

Ladies' Coffee

The ladies meet on Wednesdays at 2:00 p.m. at Caribou by Culver's in Lakeville in the cold weather and at Diane Kellogg's home in warm weather. They have also been going to lunch the third Wednesday of the month. If you have any questions, email Kathy Wilson at: kathywilson1007@gmail.com to be added to the email list so you can be informed where they will meet if you have a question.

Men's Coffee

The men meet on Thursdays at 2:00 p.m. at Caribou by Culver's in Lakeville.

Ladies' Book Club

The book club meets the second Thursday at 1:00 p.m. at the Heritage Library in Lakeville.

To get a list of the chosen book titles, email Kathy Wilson at kathywilson1007@gmail.com.

Annual Homeowners' Meeting

As was discussed at the last annual homeowners' meeting, the Board decided to meet in January of each year which would allow for an accurate year-end Treasurer's report. We will notify homeowners when a date has been secured at the Lakeville Heritage Library.

Master Insurance

The Board wants to reiterate how fortunate we were that our master insurance policy only went up 8.4% in July, from \$38,282.29 to \$41,846.77. Insurance has doubled for many HOA's in the past year and some companies are no longer insuring HOA's. We want to be prepared for future master insurance costs so will be needing to raise the monthly dues in January. The Board contacted our state legislators in July to ask for their support in protecting HOA's from high costs of insurance. Senator Duckworth and Representative Koznick positively responded. More information will follow on an increase in dues.

Emerald Ash Borer

As was discussed in the July minutes and the fact sheet that has been emailed to homeowners, Dodd Marsh will continue to have the ash trees injected every other year. This was the year for the injections. The Lakeville Forestry Department is maintaining the city's and upon inspection of our ash trees, have stated ours are also doing well, except for one that accidentally missed an injection in 2022. The Board will be making a decision on the tree that missed a treatment.

Needle Cast

The Board has been informed that the pine trees are now subject to a disease called "needle cast." What happens is that the needles fall off on the inner part of the branches leaving new needle growth on the outer branch. It is important for air flow all around the tree to keep it healthy. Trimming the branches off on the bottom and having space around the tree will allow for air flow. We had the pine trees sprayed this summer.

Bushes

In order to cut back on association maintenance expenses, the Board decided last summer that the HOA will pay for dead bush removal but it is the homeowner's responsibility to purchase and replace a bush. It costs a minimum of \$35 to have a bush removed, even if it is very small. The HOA will pay to have bushes trimmed in the spring and fall. If a homeowner does not want a bush trimmed, they need to somehow indicate on the bush to not trim it. Ed will notify homeowners before bush trimming. A list of approved bushes was sent out as an addendum, behind the July minutes, in August. This list is now on the web site.

Tree Trimming and Removal

We will need to have trees trimmed this fall. Some trees are scraping against houses and/or garages. We all are aware that we still have too many trees but we don't have enough money in the budget to remove all at this time. There are about three trees on the boulevard that are diseased and will need to be removed at some point.

Board Meeting Date Change

The Board will meet on September 24 this month.

Decks

The Board had maintenance-free decking installed four years ago. In order to keep it looking good, it is important to sweep it occasionally to keep from dirt and dust buildup. The railings are the responsibility of the homeowner. It is helpful to wash any mildew off the railing to keep it from deteriorating. If any paint is flaking off, homeowners can lightly sand the area and spray it with white paint.

Driveway Sealing

We had the driveway asphalt repaired, sealed and cracks filled in between the asphalt and the cement apron. The Board has the sealant brushed on every two years. If this is not done and there is no sealant, the moisture gets into the asphalt and will cause cracks and break it up.

Successful Night Out

We had a homeowner attendance of 30+ at the annual Night Out on August 6 at the home of Diane Kellogg. Special thanks to all who helped to make the night a success. We donated 125 lbs. of food to our local food shelter.

E-Mailing Board Minutes

The Board has received many positive comments about receiving the minutes and addendums in an email so this delivery method will continue, along with being posted on the web site.

Meeting Months

The Board meets the third Tuesday of the month at 3:00 p.m. Currently, the meetings are at Diane Kellogg's home at 19099 Inca Avenue. Meeting months are subject to change. The annual meeting will now be held in January to close out end of year financials. If you want to attend for homeowner input, check with Ed Burek to confirm meeting details.

Thank You

The Board would like to extend a big "thank you" to Al Richardson for all the work he has done in the monument areas. The paint was fading on THE HIGHLANDS so he repainted the lettering. He also donated his time to clean out the daylily area by putting down new mesh and mulch. Thanks, Al, for all the hard work and helping maintain the monument area!

Dodd Marsh HOA held a BITES AND SIPS social on June. Appetizers were enjoyed at Bruce and Becky Browns' and at Cady Burdick's homes. Dessert was at Barb Moerl's home. About 36 homeowners participated. Thank you to those who planned and hosted.



To access our website, go to:
www.doddmarshhighlands.com

User name: **doddmarsh**

Password: **highland01**

The Board minutes and newsletters are posted to the website along with the Architectural Change Request form.

