

Springdale Estates Association

President's Letter

Dec 1, 2020

Greetings and salutations!

I trust everyone had a safe and happy Thanksgiving!

We had a most successful Annual Meeting on November 17th. I am taking this opportunity to update all members of the results of that meeting.

First, I would like to thank all who participated via ZOOM. It is a new world. We also had a great number of neighbors who sent in their proxy votes.

MINUTES:

The minutes for the 2019 annual meeting were unanimously approved – Thanks Trish!

TREASURER'S REPORT:

John Goodman has done an excellent job of guarding our funds over the past few years. We are in a sound fiscal position (approx. \$75K in reserve). John has also cautioned us about future expenditures and the need for an increase in dues. John has been an outstanding steward of the SEA cash flow!

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

The vote for new members had no objections! The new members are:

Vice President	Kelly Scofield
Treasurer	Frank Segal
Area 1	Joe Pearce
Area 3	Van Cotter
Area 4	Maddie Segal

So here is the board for 2021:

President	Steve Collins	Area 1	Joe Pearce
Vice President	Kelly Scofield	Area 2	Gene Addresso
Secretary	Trish Collins	Area 3	Van Cotter
Treasurer	Frank Segal	Area 4	Maddie Segal
		Area 5	Jeff Moran

SPECIAL THANKS TO JIM BRENNAN, PAUL MACDOUGAL, JON EHRET AND JOHN GOODMAN FOR THEIR SERVICE THESE PAST YEARS!

REZONING

Gene Adesso gave a thorough update of the rezoning battle (the property behind Woody Hill). At the end of the day, the attorneys are evaluating the case and the odds of winning it. The City will not take any action unless directed by the courts! The SEA made a modest initial donation to the cause with the understanding that future contributions would be unlikely. More to follow from the attorneys...

LAKE UPDATE

Van Cotter and Mark Connolly have done an enormous amount of work relative to the analysis of the water quality of the lake. The process is ongoing, but we have identified some slight chemical imbalances of which we are addressing (Mostly high phosphorus levels from fertilizer runoff). An analysis of the fish population is also underway.

As I have mentioned previously, our dam is rated as high-impact mostly because of the road on the Dam – If a breach were to occur and someone was on the road, loss of life would be possible. Consequently, the State has made some recommendations for improving the stability of the Dam and is requiring us to develop an emergency action plan. The template for this document is only 78 pages. I should have it completed before I have to enter assisted-living!

The best news around the lake is that the Garden Club and other neighbors have volunteered to improve the lakeside bank of the dam. The state has pointed out that the bare spots need to be improved. The Garden club will be installing impervious walkways, wheelchair access and new vegetation. These improvements do not come without a price! The Board has approved a budget increase of \$10,000 in next year's budget to pay for the materials.

Again, thanks to Van and Mark for their time and effort.

DIRECTORIES

As stated in my last letter, the universal feeling is that 2020 is not the year to complete the new directory. Everyone is ready for 2020 to be history! I will be working on this project throughout December to be completed in the first part of January 2021!

Please... if you have updates to your profile or neighborhood pictures we might include, please forward info to me. Thanks so much! The board wants to make this as accurate as possible.

GOLF CARTS / ATVs

We have recently had a couple of very serious infractions involving golf carts/ATVs. These vehicles with teenage drivers have destroyed private property, threatened neighbors, and even thrown objects at their houses. These senior neighbors are very much afraid. **This will not be tolerated in Springdale Estates! This is a plea to the parents of these drivers. The SEA would prefer to handle this internally before we get the Sheriff's Department involved.**

There are no areas in this neighborhood where vehicles should be off-roading. The areas under the power lines are privately owned! No one should be in this area without the owner's permission. In real estate, these are defined as "gross easements". The owner has a right to use the property as they see fit. The catch is that the utility company also has a right-of-way on this property. The owner may plant a garden there, but at the risk of it being destroyed by power company vehicles! That is why most owners keep this part of their property cleared.

Even property by our creeks is individually owned.

We are currently investigating these incidents.

Please note, no one has complained about golf carts on the streets in compliance with speed limits, safe driving, etc.

NEW BUSINESS

DUES – The board voted to increase annual membership dues by \$25 to \$150. We have not had an increase since 2013. We have checked other neighborhoods and found that the lowest dues are \$125 per quarter! We still, by far, charge the lowest Association dues in the area.

Why the increase?

1. 30% of our neighbors do not pay their dues – it is up to the paying members to supplement the shortfall.
2. As mentioned earlier, we have some significant expenses next year involving the improvements at the lake
3. We have had increased costs over the years relative to maintenance of the common areas. We have been absorbing these costs because we have been in a sound financial position.

Luminaries – Yes, the show will go on this Christmas Eve. The Board strongly encourages everyone to participate. Most folks will probably be home this year, but even if you are traveling, please purchase your bags and we will have volunteers to put them out for you! Stay tuned for particulars on ordering.

From COVID to confusion, from quarantine to quandary, from Cooper to Cohen, Springdale Estates has positively plodded along. We have had a crazy, yet productive year. In spite of it all, we all live in the most wonderful neighborhood. Your board will continue to strive to keep it that way!

We wish you the very happiest and healthiest Holidays!

Steve and your board