

Monument Hill Property Owners Association Newsletter

Fall 2020

Notes from the President

The fourth quarter of 2020 has arrived! Wow, what a year! It's been a roller coaster ride, from January through September, and I'm certain we can all agree that this year cannot end soon enough. I look forward to ushering in a stronger, healthier and more prosperous 2021. Please help me by crossing all your fingers and toes!!

The Board is pleased to welcome John Etue who was elected to the MHPOA Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting in July. John will be serving as the new Restrictions Director, replacing Darlene Gilmore, whose 2-year term concluded in July. In August, Theresa Avera, was appointed to the Board to fill the remaining one-year term left by Brenda Benes' resignation due to her and husband James relocating to Gonzales, Texas. Theresa will be serving as the new Treasurer. The Board thanks both Brenda and Darlene for the time they've devoted to serving their community over the many years they've lived within the Association. Their knowledge of the past history of the POA was second to none and they will be missed on the board.

If you haven't driven around the neighborhood lately, I urge you to check out the newly re-furnished Bluff Haven entrances on Park Drive at Molly Drive and at Chris Court. Also, on the corner of Country Club Drive at Richard Road, a new brick entrance was installed on the west corner. The original brick structure located on that corner was removed several years ago after a tree had damaged one of the brick columns, rendering it irreparable. New "Bluff Haven" signs, including a backlit sign next to the office, and entry lighting adorn the recently resurfaced brick columns and have really spruced up the area. We have been trying hard to update the entrances and bring it back to a state that we can all be proud of as we drive in and out of our community. Colter Zoch, who maintains the esplanades for the Association, has also worked to keep the flower beds and the areas around the entrances eye appealing and inviting. We will be finishing this project in the spring with new plants to fill the vacant spots in the beds.

I am excited to announce that there is finally progress on the homes that were affected by the flooding as a result of Hurricane Harvey. I want to make it clear to several that have expressed frustration on this that the POA Board has been continuously pursuing this for the past two years when it was noticed that the plans were at a standstill. Although it looked as if there was nothing happening, questions and pressure to act was being sent to the county from the POA. In this process, there was only so ➡

MHPOA Annual Meeting

Attendance at our Annual Meeting in July was dramatically down from 2019, with (6) MHPOA members present.

Mark Hermes reported three directors would need to be elected. Both he and Cleo Schneider had volunteered to serve another term, leaving one vacancy to fill. The Association received two write-in candidates of John Etue and Charles Mazac. Mark Hermes and Cleo Schneider each received 18 votes and 19.5 proxy votes, for a total of 37.5 votes and were unanimously re-elected for a two year term. Mr. John Etue received 9 votes and 19.5 proxy votes for a total of 28.5 votes. Mr. Mazac received 1 vote. John Etue was elected to the MHPOA Board of Directors for a two year term.

Brenda Benes reported that the Association's total

Cash Assets were \$43,439.19, a change of <\$11,031.17 > from July 2019. Delinquent accounts totaled approximately \$1,000.

Cleo Schneider reported that the Deer Committee would be conducting two deer counts during the month of August. Those counts would be reported to TPWD and would determine how many doe permits the Association will receive.

Your Board

President ~ Mark Hermes: (361) 772-4619

Vice President ~ Cleo Schneider: (512) 924-2733

Treasurer ~ Theresa Avera (979) 743-1087

Secretary ~ Dawn Cowen: (979) 204-6104

Restrictions ~ John Etue (214) 797-4780

Office Manager ~ Lori Steffek (979) 968-5514

President's letter (Continued from page 1)

much that we could do, but what we could do, we did, which included mowing the lots until the spring of this year when we were advised to let it play out with the county. Recently, on September 10th, Grant Works, the company in charge of the buyouts, presented at the Commissioner's Court meeting and a plan is in place. This plan, if it continues on schedule, could be completed by the end of the year and we could see demolition taking place in early to mid 2021. This is welcomed news to everyone, especially the families that have lost so much. We should continue to keep them in our prayers as they close a chapter in their own books. Let us remember that they are the ones that have endured so much, and we hope for the best as they move on with their lives.

To help keep everyone informed, the Alert system is a great way! Make sure to sign up for Alerts on the MHPOA shared website with the Water District (www.monumenthillwater.com) so you'll be sure to receive the latest information on whatever it may be that affects our community. If you have any problems signing up, please call Lori at the office and she'll be happy to assist you.

We are in need of three volunteers to serve on the Architectural Control Committee and a minimum of two people to serve on the Yard of the Month Committee. At this time, both of these committees have been dissolved due to a lack of volunteers stepping forward to serve our community. We are a small community, made up of about only 210 homes, which means that everyone needs to step up, get involved, and play an important, positive role in keeping our community and our Association engaged. As a board, we are always interested in any suggestions, feedback, or constructive criticism. It takes all of us working together to make things happen. If you want your voice heard, please consider serving on these two very vital committees. If interested, please contact any of the Directors or Lori at the office. Also, please be mindful when reporting to the board. We have had several callers that have been very rude. Disrespect, and foul language will not get your matter resolved, rather it will fall on deaf ears. The board works hard for what has, and will be, accomplished. This was explained at the annual meeting in July. If you have concerns, please attend this meeting yearly to be informed. Remember that the POA Board is made up of volunteers. Every one of our Board members puts in 100% to ensure decisions are made to the best interest of the Association. Lori works very hard as well to keep all of us in line so please be nice! We'd all be up the dry creek without all that she does to keep everything flowing smoothly in the POA.

As I close this letter and another year comes to an historic end, please be courteous and safe as the holiday season approaches. October through January is busy on our streets and the kids are very excited this time of year. Keep your eyes open for the little ones running about and not always paying attention. Another reminder to be on the lookout for any suspicious behavior. We all can do our part to keep our neighbors safe!!

Mark Hermes, President

The Association's National Night Out, scheduled for Tuesday, October 2nd, has been cancelled due to COVID-19. We look forward to meeting again next year in 2021!

Treasurer's Report

Our checking account balance as of 08/27/2020 was \$38,577.47. Our account balance this same time last year was \$54,564.95. Our total past due accounts receivable balance on 9/10/2020 was \$1,001.82 compared to \$1,102.42 the same time last year. Please pay your quarterly dues in a timely manner.

Welcome to the Neighborhood

*Please take a moment
to introduce your-
selves to the new kids
on the block.....*

Stephen Estes & wife
217 Richard Road
Sam & Kala Gunn
213 Richard Road
Sarah Oviedo
225 Park Drive

Little Free Library

Dear Neighbors,

Fall is almost here. Your LFL's have a nice selection of books in both Library boxes. Come visit your libraries!

Whenever we're on a driving vacation, we try and find a few LFL's and drop a book or two in each of them. We've found LFL's in every state we've visited, plus a few countries world wide.

I'm going to challenge you to do the same! There is a website you can go to that will allow you to find LFL's on your route. Go to Littlefreelibrary.org and use the map search feature.

Perhaps you can donate a book or so to the LFL. Maybe even slip a little note in the book to tell readers that the book is from LG.

Take a picture and post it on the LFL Facebook page. In fact, if you're not a member of the Valley View Little Free Library FB page, please join. I try to post updates there periodically. You'll find it at:

www.facebook.com/valleyviewlittlefreelibrary

Hope to see you at Valley View Little Free Library boxes. In case you're not sure where it is, they are in the esplanade across from 310 Valley View Drive.

The picture of the LFL is in Washington DC. We were there last summer (2019) when we took our grandson there for vacation.

Mary Lou McNair
310 Valley View Drive
713-805-3609 cell

