

Saxony Homeowners Association, Inc.

JUNE 2014 NEWSLETTER

At the June 23rd Board Meeting we accepted Vice President Beryl Vallejo's resignation, and nominated Sean McCurdy to complete the rest of Beryl's term, which ends November 2015. The Board has the authority to appoint replacement Board members; reference the Saxony By-Laws and Declarations. Sean, his wife Erika, and their two children, Zach and Faith have lived in Saxony since December 2012. Sean is an Attorney specializing in Business and Employment Law; he also has an extensive background in community service, including board service. He will be a wonderful addition to the Board and we look forward to working with him.

Also at the June meeting there were a number of homeowners in attendance as guests. Three ARC request applications were presented, plus several homeowners who wanted to voice their concerns covering a variety of topics. Thanks to all of you for taking the time to visit with us about your issues. The Board and Management will be reviewing those conversations.

The Board and Management walk the property often and we are well aware that there are many areas that are less than ideal. Landscaping and decorative rock doesn't stay perfect forever. Concrete is a continual project year after year. The Board addresses all concerns raised, and many bids have been obtained, although some must be placed on hold due to lack of budgeted funds. If there are budgeted landscaping funds still available around the end of summer, the Board will re-evaluate and see what additional work may be accomplished. However, the Board must stay within the approved budget. As an example, the spring snow storm and subsequent tree damage cost \$2,250 to clean up, and that took a rather big bite out of our landscaping plans for this summer (and a big bite out of several of our trees too!). Other landscaping projects that have been completed this year throughout the entire neighborhood include: specific tree trimming and lifting to clear driveways, removal of some dead bushes and trees, additional services for the sod including aeration, fertilizer and Revive for moisture absorption, insect remediation for several varieties of trees, drainage restoration in designated drainage areas east and west, numerous irrigation adjustments and replacements, plants and mulch for community flowerbeds, misc. trimming necessary for specific problems, the winter pruning of all Hawthorn and Crabapple trees (per the five-year rotation plan), plus many other small jobs across the property. We are also still waiting for some of our approved bids to be completed.

Some homeowners have applied through the ARC, and after receiving approval, have made landscaping improvements that were privately funded, with two more currently waiting to be approved. Please don't confuse these projects with HOA projects, as they are privately funded. Thanks to all of you who have stepped forward to help make the property look more attractive!

Keep in mind that any and all changes made to the exterior of your home or the landscaping absolutely must have ARC approval before any work commences. Fines and other actions are a possibility if modifications are made without prior approval. This includes placement of satellite dishes, radon evacuation systems, replacement windows, etc. Management is required to maintain improvement records for each home, and the Board is responsible for keeping a harmonious and pleasant appearance throughout the community.

With the rain we received last Saturday the street drain in the SW section backed up again. This drain was professionally cleaned out in its entirety last summer, for the first time in 18 years. The cause turned out to be pieces of rigid trash that had gone down through the grate and got caught in the outflow extension. Everyone, **please** secure all of your trash, including recycling, so it does not clog our community drains or cause flooding and property damage.

GroundMasters, like most large landscape service companies, has had to release many of their labor force due to recent changes in the immigration laws. As a result, you may have noticed a different mowing service on the property recently. We acknowledge the concerns of those residents who contacted us. And, unrelated to the immigration changes, our favorite account representative is

C/O Peak to Peak Property Management, LLC.
PO Box 1808
Castle Rock, CO. 80104
303-884-4912

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Unfortunately no longer employed by GroundMasters. Both of these occurrences have slightly delayed our current work orders and certain services. Dave is working closely with our new representative to resolve all issues. Your patience is much appreciated during this time of re-organization.

Some have wondered why it takes so long to get something done once you mention your issue to Dave (preferably via email). The previous paragraph notwithstanding, the usual process for completing a landscape project includes: a request received by Dave, the issue is discussed with the Board, Dave (sometimes with a Board member) meets with GroundMasters for further definition and recommendations, a bid is requested, at the next Board meeting the bid is evaluated, and then if approved, the project is placed on GroundMasters' work order schedule. From there, the Board has no control over when the work will be performed. We also try to group work orders to make it more time efficient when they are on the property. So, unless it is an actual landscaping emergency, your request, even after it is approved, will not be resolved overnight. We have also been notified that GroundMasters will no longer contract for work with individual residents. When work is requested by the Association, no notice or permission to the individual homeowner is required.

Update on the Caley Medians: Well, it is going very slowly as governments often do. The good news is that we are in fairly constant contact with Arapahoe County; the bad news is that we still don't have a confirmed plan for median improvements. The County has been in talks with Greenwood Village to possibly take over the future maintenance, since this small section of Caley is located in Unincorporated Arapahoe County and we are otherwise totally surrounded by GWV. The remaining problem apparently is finding the source to connect the water to the irrigation lines in the medians so the trees have a chance of surviving. Stay tuned!

SAVE THE DATE: At this week's meeting we also set the date for a Saxony Summer Social. Mark your calendars for Saturday, August 9th, 2-4PM. Details will follow, but we anticipate it will pretty much be the same plan as last year.

The next Board Meeting will be Wednesday, July 23rd, 5:00 PM at the home of President Craig Holland (9599). Please confirm with a board member or Dave if you plan to attend as meetings are subject to change.

We have rescheduled the Board meetings for the rest of the year. In brief, all the remaining monthly meetings are currently scheduled to be held on Wednesdays at 5:00 PM; August 27, September 24, October 22 (budget planning, not open to homeowners), and December 17. The annual meeting will be held in November, with the date yet to be secured. We cannot apply to use the public meeting room at the library until next month. Watch the newsletters for current information.

<http://www.peaktopeakmgt.com/pages/associations/saxony/index.html>

Your Saxony Board,

Craig, Sean and Maria

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