



CHESTERFIELD MEWS

NEWS

Summer 2011

Homeowners' Questions Are Aired At Annual Meet; 3 Board Slots Filled

At the CMCA annual meeting May 24, homeowners had a chance to bring to the board their concerns about progress and developments in the Mews. The meeting also reviewed board activity over the past year.

The questions centered on parking issues and grounds maintenance. Residents from upper Eakin Park Court brought up a particular issue concerning curb parking that impedes an owner's access to his duly assigned spot. The board promised quick action and subsequently formed a street working group of four board members.

The group made three recommendations at the board's July 26 meeting: 1) identify a small number of no-parking curb areas to be marked by yellow paint, 2) establish a procedure for giving warning notices to violators, and 3) establish last-resort procedures for towing vehicles should the notices go unheeded. The proposals were approved unanimously.

As to grounds, concerns centered on a "rocket tree" heavily damaged in recent storms, and serious drainage problems on lower Eakin. Board president Nancy Minter expressed confidence the Mews's new grounds contractor, working with coordinator Jo Ann Andren, would address these concerns promptly.

Three new board members were elected by acclamation of the 38 homeowners present. They are Bruce Pincus, of Colchester Brook, and Bob Parker and Kevin Noca, both of Readsborough. Ms. Minter expressed thanks for the service of outgoing members John Miller, Michael Epley, and John Whitlock.

New Vendor Begins Grounds Work

Owing to service issues, the board has terminated its contract with TruGreen and

selected Professional Grounds, Inc., from among three contenders, to take up landscaping duties in the Mews.

"We are carefully monitoring their work," says grounds coordinator Jo Ann Andren, "and so far they have been reliable and responsive, and their execution is good. In an older community such as the Mews—mature trees and no irrigation system—there are many challenges to maintaining our grounds."

The most common areas of concern, Andren notes, are tree work, turf remediation, and revitalization of the community's ornamental plantings. "The board has approved the removal of five dead and dying trees and the cutting back of bamboo, she says. "If satisfactory, we will approve Professional's proposal to service 29 trees, removing deadwood, raising canopies, and clearing trees from streetlights."

As for turf remediation, fall is the recommended time to begin work. "Professional Grounds specializes in this area," Andren says, "so we are hopeful next spring will see a big change for the better."

Home Inspection Notices To Go Out by Mid-August

Inspectors from GHA completed their annual architectural review of Mews homes in early July. They are now processing notification letters for homes found to be in violation and will be sending them within the next two weeks. Homeowners will then have 30 days to correct the violations and notify GHA, in writing, that work has been completed.

The inspection is designed to maintain the curb appeal of the community and to identify conditions that may cause injuries or damage.

Specifically, each home is evaluated to see that paint and trim are maintained, front doors are painted with approved colors, and fences have a working gate and are not painted or stained. Courtyards need to be in good repair. Finally, inspectors verify that personal items (e.g., firewood, bicycles) are not stored in common areas.

In Brief . . .

Hobnob, mingle, chat, schmooze, you name it, at this year's Annual Night Out. It takes place at Kelly's Circle Tuesday, August 2, starting, oh, around 7:30-ish. Purpose of the event is to bone up on security precautions; toward this end, an officer from the Fairfax County police will be on hand. But it's also a good time to meet neighbors from across the way. Free goodies will be served.

A bargain at twice the price. Dominion Power (www.dom.com) offers two types of

insurance that can save homeowners big bucks— i.e. thousands of 'em. Water service line insurance costs \$4.50 a month. Heating and cooling insurance goes for \$9.95.

The new tennis keymeister is Kevin Noca. Keys for the season cost \$25. You can reach Kevin at (703) 472-6959 or at noca514@cox.net.

Hold that honk! A neighbor urges drivers to exercise composure at the Covington–Route 50 traffic light. When the light turns green, she reports, "I have been appalled at how quick people are to honk. I'd like to suggest that everyone exercise a modicum of patience."

'Like herding cats.' Or something like that. Residents are reminded that leash laws apply equally to beasts of the *feline*, as well as the canine, persuasion.

Real Estate Activity	Address	Original List Price	Sold Price	Days on Market	Model	Status
	3141 Guysborough	\$338,900		15	B	Contract/KO (short sale)
	3140 Delburne	\$419,000		92	B	Active
	3132 Eakin Park	\$424,958	\$425,000	6	A	Sold
	3172 Colchester Brook	\$424,888	\$425,000	7	B	Sold
	3137 Guysborough	\$419,000	\$411,000	28	B	Sold



BOARD OF DIRECTORS, ETC.

Whom to Call for What

Nancy Minter

PRESIDENT
Architectural Control
3137 Eakin Park
(703) 280-4996

Bruce Pincus

VICE PRESIDENT
Emergency parking
Neighborhood watch
3155 Colchester Brook
(703) 280-2944
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Brian Saal

TREASURER
3135 Guysborough
(703) 609-4994

Margaret Kerr-McKown

SECRETARY
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Special Trash Pickup

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