

President's Message: March seems far away, but it will be here before you know it and it's an important month for the Briarwood Community.

Our annual meeting is held the last Thursday of each month and it's at this meeting that we elect new Board Members. Joining the Board is a great way to give back to the neighborhood and we would love to have some friendly, energetic, interested individuals participate in this leadership role.

If you'd like to be considered for a Board position, please contact April with Casey Management for more information.

-Jason Miller, President

SEPTEMBER 9th BOARD MEETING RECAP

Invited guest Betsy Benac, our District 7 County Commissioner, came to report on the new development north of us, The Preserve at Walden Lake. Jason read a report from Mr. Meehan, indicating a chain link fence will run along our northern border about 15 feet north of our property line. Commissioner Benac added that a meandering fence through the trees will provide for a 50 foot buffer remaining in a natural state, with a walking path on the north side. The closest building is proposed to be 100 foot from our property line. They will be required to remove exotic species, such as Brazilian Pepper trees, from their property. She also discussed the extension of the existing turning lane to the north of the Preserve entrance and a southbound deceleration right turn lane.

There has been no decision on the agreement to vacate the right of way for the dead end road section in Phase 3.

Thanks for the "See something, Say something": Observant owner, Larry Stewart reported the broken sprinkler pipe on the south entrance. It saved us all potential dollars. We are all responsible for our common property. Even if you don't use it, you are still paying for it. Please keep the Contact List close for future reference.

Financial Report: As of August 31st, 2014, our Checking Account held \$134,850.00, plus

\$50,121.00 in our Money Market Account, and \$56,524.00 in CD's. In addition, we're holding \$48,177.00 in our Reserve Fund, for Total Assets of \$289,672.00. The increase in over \$40,000.00 is due to the collection of Sept. Association Fees. Thanks to all who paid in a timely manner.

Betsy Hawkins, Treasurer/Secretary, reported that Kathy Marcinkiewicz has been added as the new Finance Committee member. She joins Betsy, Carey Miller and Jane Glanz. Betsy announced they will be meeting soon to begin work on the 2015 budget.

Pool Patrol: Doug Dillon reported that we have two new pool patrol volunteers for a total of five now. They have implemented a new system in which each volunteer is able to log in to our Briarwood website to report on their nightly patrol, and an automatic email is sent to Doug if any problems are reported. If you are interested in helping a night each week, Doug would be happy to hear from you.

Several problems at the big pool included the shower left running, the drain in the men's bathroom, and residents moving the trash can to prop the door open. Doug will check into adding a spring load valve to the shower allowing it to shut off automatically and installing a prop-open alarm on the door. The need for a trash can at the small pool was also suggested.

Architectural Review Committee Requests: Three requests were reviewed and approved involving the additions of a flag pole, a lawn pole lantern, and a fence. A fourth request was made for the addition of a playhouse/swing set. It was approved after discussion and with stipulations.

Common Grounds Upkeep: The Board agreed to obtain bids on the trimming of all palm and oak trees on common grounds. Tru-Scapes is only responsible for trees up to 15 feet tall. The Board has consulted with Two Brothers Tree Trimming Service concerning problem

Please see the reverse side for more about your Briarwood community

trees. They have advised that three are dead and need to be removed. The Board agreed to obtain the permit to do so. The Board also agreed to obtain bids to clean the driveway/ parking area at the little pool and pressure wash the front wall along 33rd Street. All contractors must be licensed and insured.

South Boundary Landscaping: So far, only one company from the bordering industrial park has agreed to try and remove their Brazilian Peppers that extend onto our property. The Board discussed the possibility of trimming the branches back to the property line. Betsy would appreciate any volunteers for this project.

Directors' Comments: Board members Debbie Whitaker and Betsy Hawkins have been hard at work cleaning out the shrubs around the big pool and will plant new shrubs and a palm tree. Doug Dillon stressed the need to seal the blacktop surface at the big pool parking lot. He suggested that a new handicap parking space be added when it is re-striped afterward.

Owner Comments: The maintenance of our landscaping along the north border with the Preserve at Walden Lake was discussed, including the County requirements. It will probably be costly to us for new plantings to come to code and the maintenance of it. It was revealed that there are unused sprinkler heads along that boundary. The Board agreed they should be located and inspected for future use.

Breaking News: Betsy Hawkins relays that Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) has given Briarwood approval to remove **some sections** of lily pads from **Lake 10**, along the littoral shelf. Contact Betsy for the specific areas that have been outlined. No other vegetation can be removed. Their suggested plan will provide some open water habitat for bird utilization.

Visit the Briarwood community website which has many resources at www.BriarwoodFL.com
You can also like the Briarwood facebook page at facebook.com/BriarwoodFlorida

Meet and Eat: Join the men of Briarwood on the second Thursdays. Contact Jim Crummy for the time and place at 941-758-0409.

The ladies meet on the first Tuesdays at 11:30 AM. The Oct. 7th luncheon will be held at the Cracker Barrel on Cortez. Contact Jane Glanz for reservations at 941-753-7147.

Small Things: Sometimes it is the small things. A large trash can was added to the small pool by the water fountain to ease the load on the small restroom containers.

Compliance Report: During the month of July, a total of 27 compliance letters were sent out to our residence. Out of those, only four have yet to comply and received notices that fines are being accrued on their accounts.

Only two letters went out in August. One has since complied.

Ten letters have been sent thus far in September and we look forward to those owners helping make our community better.

Next Monthly Meeting: will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 14th, 2014, at 7:30 PM at The Worship Place, 5535 33rd St. E. All residents are encouraged to come.

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