



2020 Fall/Winter Newsletter

President's Message

Hello to all our residents and homeowners. I am assuming everyone reading this shares my fatigue and frustration with the difficult year we are having. So much in our lives depends on being able to make plans and the look forward to the future with enthusiasm. Much of that has been made trickier in the past several months, with the threat and smoky consequences of the summer wildfires, political and social conflict, and the myriad of health, social, and economic consequences of the coronavirus pandemic.

As we cycle into the winter months, some of that is behind us, but a lot of work still lies ahead. I take comfort knowing that all things considered, there is almost no place in the world I'd rather be. Our little corner of a wonderful small city is a beautiful and peaceful place. Our paths and natural areas, along with a temperate climate, make it easy to spend time outside. I encourage everyone to take advantage of these blessings and be sure to greet others out doing the same. This is a time when community is more special than ever.

In the words of Scott Simon of NPR: "We may not be able to defeat, overwhelm, or kick the coronavirus in the backside — more metaphors that now fall flat. But each day, we can help each other, and rise above fatigue and despair. We can wear masks, stay a social distance apart, avoid big gatherings, look for chances to make each other laugh, and help each other keep going, until that time when the masks we wear today can become souvenirs, instead of survival gear."

I very much take these words to heart, and I wish the safest and most peaceful of Holidays to

Dues for 2021 - \$54.36

Our budget was once again impacted by costly tree work in our common areas. The ongoing drought conditions in the Pacific Northwest have resulted in the die-off of many of our Douglas firs and the need to have them removed. The Board feels the need to increase dues by the allowed 3% to help defray these costs. The dues for 2021 will be \$54.36 and are due January 1st and no later than March 31st. We continue to have about 90% of our homeowners paying their annual dues in a timely manner. Thank you! Some of you have not been including the dues form. It is important as it serves as the "hard copy" record of your payment and can be used to verify payment if needed. **Please fill out the dues form and update your contact information as needed. Use the enclosed envelope to return your payment.**

2020 – The Year of 'Canceled'

The Board's March meeting date was right after quarantine was enacted, meaning we could not meet to plan and produce a Spring/Summer newsletter. Our next annual event, the May neighborhood-wide garage sale, was also canceled due to COVID concerns. Our bank did not open its lobby for in-person banking until mid-June, so deposits of some dues payments were delayed. Our May and July Board meetings were also canceled due to ongoing COVID concerns, though the officers were able to safely meet outdoors to conduct some essential business and decide when or if to bring the entire Board together. In September, the Board was able to mask up and meet socially distanced outside. We caught up on HOA business, planned the newsletter, and discussed how and if we should have the Annual Homeowners Meeting in January. During our November Zoom meeting we concluded that **the Annual Homeowners dinner meeting will be canceled**, and reports and proposed 2021 budget will be posted on our website. Annual Board elections will be held "by mail" and a ballot and instructions are included in this newsletter. Let us hope with the coming vaccines and by looking out for each other, life will soon return to normal and we can 'cancel' the pandemic!

Welcome New Homeowners!

2020 brought a busy housing market to our neighborhood. At least 15 homes have been sold this year with most on the market for only a few weeks (or less!). If you have a new neighbor next door or across the street, please don a mask and go introduce yourself. The Board welcomes newcomers and refers them to our website (www.somerset-hillshoa.org) to learn more about their new neighborhood. The website is currently being renovated, but there is still lots of useful information and our CC&Rs (governing rules). If you have any questions, please contact us through email at www.somerset-hillshoa@gmail.com. Again, welcome!



2020 City Leaf Collection

The first round of leaf collection for our area (Zone 1) occurred in mid-November. The second round will start on January 4th. It is best to have your piles at least six inches from the curb. This makes it easier for the trucks to scoop them up and keeps the leaves from blocking the rain gutters and storm drains, which is important to help prevent our streets from flooding. Street sweepers will follow to ensure that the area is free of debris.

Please follow these guidelines for the safety of pedestrians, bikers and motorists:

- Wait until the weekend before the pickup date to place leaves curbside.
- Keep piles clean with leaves only! Do not mix leaves with branches, rocks, lawn clippings, Christmas trees/holiday greenery or other debris that makes it difficult to reuse leaves for mulch or compost.
- Place leaves in the street without obstructing traffic lanes.
- Keep curbs, gutters and catch basins clear to prevent flooding.
- Leave at least 15 feet between leaf piles and parked cars.
- Remove leaves from sidewalks - wet, slippery leaves are a hazard to pedestrians.
- **Once collection has occurred, do not place more leaves in the street.**

Thank you for your cooperation!

Welcome Aboard!



We are delighted to welcome new members to our HOA Board. Michelle Manoly and Diana Lamboy were elected to the Board at the January 2020 Annual Meeting. Michelle, a relatively new resident to Somerset Hills, is already rolling up her sleeves by contributing to the newsletter. Diana, a longtime resident, has been an ongoing volunteer working to help maintain the Common Areas. Another new resident, Alec Nelson, has volunteered his time and expertise to update the Somerset Hills I & II website. We should have the redesign of the website ready soon. Thank you, Alec, Michelle, and Diana. We are grateful for your services.



Thank You to Jeromy Cilley!

Jeromy Cilley has been an invaluable member of our Board for a number of years, serving as both Member-At-Large and then as Vice-President. Other demands have made it challenging for him to continue his service, and we extend our heartfelt gratitude for his contributions. Thanks so much, Jeromy! (His position on the Board as vice president is now vacant.)

How Do I Contact the HOA Board??

It seems this question has been a frequent concern this year with members, prospective buyers, real estate people, escrow companies, and banks or mortgage companies working on refinances. The very best way is through email at (www.somersethillshoa@gmail.com). This account is usually checked several times a week by a board member who then responds and/or forwards to the appropriate officer(s). The board can also be contacted by using our USPS P.O. Box address. Our website (www.somersethillshoa.org) is a good resource for general information and includes board contact information. Please do communicate with the board with any neighborhood safety concerns, possible CC&R violations, common area maintenance needs, and before undertaking any outdoor construction. We do need to know specific information (including addresses or locations) in order to respond appropriately. The Board does not “patrol” the neighborhood, so we need feedback from our residents. You are the eyes, ears, and voices of our community! Included in this newsletter is a new “contact reference aid” in the form of a refrigerator magnet with all our information on one handy resource. (Think of it as an early Holiday gift!)



LTD Bus Service

Like so much these days, LTD bus services have been impacted by the Coronavirus. Routes are limited and, due to social distancing requirements, buses are limiting the number of passengers allowed on buses. Bus service in our neighborhood is currently suspended. There is no pick up or drop off on Wilshire Lane or at the corner of Brittany and Windsor Circle E. Be sure to check latest updates by going to www.Ltd.org. If you or a family member are over 65, or have a disability, you may qualify for RideSource door to door services. You can call them at 541-682-5566, toll free at 1-877-800-9899, or 7-1-1 (TTY) to request a transportation assessment.



Attention Windsor Circle Residents!

The City of Eugene Public Works Dept. has notified the HOA that Windsor Circle is scheduled to be repaved during the Spring or Summer of 2021. This means **there will be no on street parking allowed during this period.** Vehicle access may also be limited at times. So, watch for further notifications and details in your mail or on our website, and plan accordingly!



2020 Annual Meeting

We started 2020 with an impressive turnout at our annual homeowners meeting. Once again, the dinner meeting was held in a private room at Izzy's Restaurant with pizza, salad and dessert provided by the HOA. The board was pleased to have 21 new and longtime homeowners come together to socialize and share their ideas and concerns. President James Carwile shared the progress made on our Map Your Neighborhood project with a majority of residents returning their survey and opting to participate. These participants were grouped, and James assigned group "leaders" to conduct organizational meetings. Unfortunately, due to COVID restrictions, these meetings have yet to be held. Who knew, that while we try to prepare our community for a natural disaster, we find ourselves amid a worldwide pandemic! For those new to our neighborhood, please contact the board for information about the project and a survey form. The Treasurer's report for 2019 was given and the proposed budget for 2020 was presented. Elections resulted in the re-election of current officers and two new at-large board members, Diana Lamboy and Michelle Manoly, and Alec Nelson volunteered to be our webmaster. Complaints/concerns were discussed and the process for communicating them to the Board.

Please Note These Important Reminders!

The following reminders reference our CC&Rs, City ordinances, State laws, and CDC guidelines:

- Maintain yards – watered, mowed, trimmed, weeded, and kept reasonably neat and tidy.
- Garbage, recycle, and debris bins should be stored out of sight.
- RVs, boats, and trailers cannot be parked in driveways or on the street long term.
- Pay attention for pedestrians, cyclists, pets, and other vehicles while driving (no distractions!) and **keep your speed below 25 mph.**
- Pick up after your pooch when it poops!
- Keep our air clean and healthy by following LRAPA (Lane Regional Air Pollution Agency) guidelines for wood-burning in fireplaces, wood stoves, and outdoor fire pits. For information visit **www.lrapa.org**.
- If growing or using marijuana outdoors, be mindful of your neighbors and knowledgeable of the regulations (www.PotGuide.com), especially regarding visibility and nuisances violations.
- **And please, please, follow all CDC and State COVID guidelines!**

HOA Board Members

James Carwile, President : 541-228-5408
Norm Hartig, Secretary : 458-205-1781
Diane Peterson, Treasurer : 541-343-0861
Melinda Petersen, Member-at-Large : 541-515-4590
Nola Colvin, Member-at-Large: 541-915-1480
Michelle Manoly, Member-at-Large: 805-796-7184
Diana Lamboy, Member-at-Large: 760-224-3351

HOA Financial Report

Account	November 2020 Balance
Money Market	\$9522.83
Savings	\$2448.07
Checking	\$2815.30