

WILLOWBROOK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER FALL

2023

The Willowbrook Community Association's purpose is to maintain and enforce building restrictions imposed upon the property within the subdivision in which members reside to aid in maintaining the character of the neighborhood to promote the social, educational and general welfare of all members to afford a means for collective action in community projects.

WCA BOARD MEMBERS

CALL OR TEXT WITH ANY QUESTIONS/CONCERNS

PRESIDENT Greg Goodearl 247.861.5283

VICE PRESIDENT Position open

TREASURER Tim Stotler 248.444.9825

SECRETARY Michelle Sankovic 248.842.4929

SUB DIRECTORS Nusha Laleh 214.907.5574

Patricia Winston 248.971.5315

Emails can be sent to: willowbrookhomeowners@gmail.com

2023/2024 WCA DUES

To date 225 out of 438 residents have paid.

If you have not paid your 2023/2024 dues, please do!

This is your responsibility as a homeowner.

Dues due October 1, 2023.

Dues are \$15.00 per year.



HAPPY FALL!



Held our Zoom General Meeting on Thursday, 9/14/2023. Here are a few of the items we discussed:

Elections for the 2023/2024 Board Voted in Greg Goodearl as President and Tim Stotler as Treasurer. Vice President is still open -- Interested??

. Throughout the year things come up between General Meetings that require funds needed. This year a lot of damage to trees on the islands required removal or trimming. The Board can only approve expenditures up to \$200.00. A motion was made that an Emergency Repair Fund, of \$1,000, be added to our annual budget. All residents need to be notified of this motion and will be voted on at the February, 2024 meeting. **Consider this the notification.**

. Welcome Committee is looking for volunteers to help with this effort. We would like to put together a packet of WCA/Novi info for new residents.

Interested? please contact one of the Board members.

. Plaque to be placed on the Hollydale/E. LeBost island in rememberance of our long time resident Tom Marcus.

Minutes from the September General Meeting resulted in a six page document. Can't put all of it in the Newsletter. If you would like to read the minutes and view the treasurer's report they can be found on our website <u>https://willowbrook.gogladly.com/</u>

As of the printing of this newsletter there are still 213 outstanding dues payments. If you have misplaced your invoice, or have just been busy, please take a minute to either send to: WCA, P.O. Box 184, Novi, MI 48376 or drop off at 23560 E. LeBost. Thanking you in advance.

Community Beautification Update

I say it all the time – the Willowbrook Community Association is fortunate to have well-cared for outdoor community spaces. This year, we came together for food trucks, social events, beautification events and a book club meeting. Beyond that, residents utilized the community areas to enjoy the flowers, relax on a bench and/or get a book from our Little Library or Read Box. These openair spaces have a way of making our neighborhood cozier and more special.

The Read Box Storytime (Sub 3) in June brought children and adults together as we read books, did yoga and played in the Brookfarm Park. July's Tot Tunes (Sub 2) had energetic children, parents and grandparents that were singing, dancing, and enjoying live music. And finding a monarch caterpillar munching on swamp milkweed during our August Joys of Nature Event (Sub 1) was a perfect way to teach the importance of native flowers for our butterflies and ecosystem. The events were successful and will continue next year!

Thank you to the adults and children who volunteered during our Fall WCA Beautification Event. The island gardens are looking great. Every fall, you will notice an effort to "Leave the Leaves" in our community gardens. Instead of raking leaves from our islands, we will be throwing them into the native flower gardens like we did last year. This excerpt from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's October 2022 article, "This Fall, Leave the Leaves", provides insight on why this choice is important:

It's the time of year to do your fall garden cleanup. Rather than the tedious task of raking and bagging leaves and taking them to the landfill, the best way to reduce greenhouse gases and benefit your garden is to leave the leaves!

Leaves create a natural mulch that helps to suppress weeds while fertilizing the soil as it breaks down. The leaves also serve as a habitat for wildlife including lizards, birds, turtles, frogs, and insects that overwinter in the fallen leaves. These living creatures help keep pests down and increase pollination in your garden, so having a habitat for them in the fallen leaves can help to keep them around when you need them the most.

Micro-organisms are the life of soil, and they need food and nutrients all the time. The more leaves left on your garden, the more feed for these micro-organisms that make soil healthier and plants grow stronger. As the leaves decay, they add organic matter back into the soil, which lessens the need for fertilizer.

As you care for your yard this fall, consider this natural (and easy) technique to help boost the beauty of your gardens.

Happy Fall Y'all! And remember to check out the gardens, benches and educational sign on the Malott island when you're enjoying your cider and donuts this Halloween!

Monika Priya, Beautification Committee Member



DURING THE SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEETING IT WAS DISCUSSED AND DECIDED THAT THE WCA NEWSLETTERS WOULD BE GOING FROM "FOUR" TO "THREE" A YEAR.

BEGINNING IN JANUARY, 2024, WE WILL SEND NEWSLETTERS IN JANUARY, MAY AND SEPTEMBER.



Food Trucks are popular during the summer. We are hoping to once again continue this bi-weekly event during the summer of 2024. The Food Truck company will be contacting the WCA to set up a schedule in January, 2024.





The WCA year is from October 1 to September 30 of the present year. With that being said we would like to thank a few people for their help this past year.

. Melissa Gallagher - thank you for holding the office of Treasurer for the past two years. Your time and efforts were greatly appreciated.

. Monika Priya - thank you for ALL you do in regards to the Beautification Committee, for organzing the beautification events, Read Box Storytime, Tot Tunes, and The Joys of Nature.

. Diana Stotler - thank you for helping to organize and put signs out for our bi-weekly Food Trucks.

. Nancy Thomas - thank you for organizing the Willowbrook Book Chat.

. Thank You to all the residents that mow our nine islands.

. Thank You to all the residents that help with the Spring and Fall beautification events (laying mulch, cleaning up the flower beds, etc.).

. Thank you to Chris Kallas who donated her time and talent to beautifully decorate our Brookfarm Park Read Box.

. Thank You to all the residents that donated books to our Little Library and Read Box.

WILLOWBROOK COMMUNITY NEIGHBORHOOD FACEBOOK PAGE is not a responsibility of the WCA. It is one of the communication tools we use to update you with happenings between WCA newsletters and general meetings. We are asking you to try and keep your newsletters, so you can refer back to them if you have questions. We are also asking that, if you have a question, concern, comment about something the WCA has done, you contact one of our Board Members before posting on the page. Phone numbers, emails can be found on the front of any Newsletter. Thank You.

Willowbrook Community Association



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