

SunLand

BULLETIN

Published by SunLand Owners Association, Sequim Washington

February, 2014

Vol. 41 No. 1

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By the time of this mailing the SunLand community will have been through the worst part of our winter. Luckily we had very little real bad weather to deal with. The roads stayed clear of snow and ice for the most part. A few concerns of icy conditions at the entrance to Taylor Boulevard. off of Sequim Dungeness Way were noted.

During the early winter I had the privilege of meeting with Jim McEntire, the current County Commissioner for our district. We discussed a paved pathway on Taylor Boulevard and other road safety concerns in our area. Jim discussed with me that there is movement with the County Road Department to install a left turn lane south bound and a right turn lane north bound into SunLand onto Taylor Blvd from Sequim Dungeness Way. This would be good for our community, as well as a major safety improvement, and I will be working with the County on this change to our entrance. I do not expect this to be done for a year or two; however it is on the Commissioner's docket and hopefully it is approved for safety concerns.

Another discussion has been with cell phone companies to see what it will take to get bet-

ter cell phone reception in SunLand. The Board of Directors will be discussing this in the near future. There is discussion of adding a cell tower to our area. This will be drawn out for aesthetic reasons; however, I do believe we can get it done. If you have any questions or ideas on the above projects please let me know. I will be happy to discuss these items with anyone.

Thanks for everyone's help in keeping SunLand beautiful. Remember we are always in need of volunteers to help with vegetation maintenance in SunLand. Please let Celeste in our office know if you have some time to volunteer. The community will appreciate any help afforded to it.

Sincerely,
Jeff Edwards, President

TREASURER'S REPORT

Preliminary figures for 2013 show a net of \$21,005. This occurred, in the first instance, because of additional income from document processing of sixty-five house sales which netted \$6,850 or \$4,530 over budget. In addition, we spent only 90.5 % of our budgeted \$187,000; that is, \$169,146 or a budgeted savings of \$17,854. Not reflected in these

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amounts is \$19,000 taken from our contingency fund, a fund available for one-time and special projects. Most of these costs came from new street lights, pool furniture and a pool cover.

As previously mentioned, I began attending monthly board meetings in February of this past year. In May I accepted the position of interim treasurer when Linda De Ivernois moved back east. At its annual meeting in September the membership voted to have me serve as its treasurer for a three-year term. Besides keeping track of the Board's finances in line with the 2013 budget, this has also meant preparing the 2014 budget, presenting it to the Board, and gaining its approval by the membership.

I have no formal training in financial management, though I have had much experience leading agencies. I would find it helpful if I knew of any of our membership who have such training, and on whom I might call in specific circumstances. Should you, the reader, be of such a mind and with requisite experience, I would appreciate you informing Celeste Lilley, our office manager, of your willingness, and phone number. Thank you.

In order for SLOA to have a professional and stable Board, one that can fill Board vacancies with able and willing homeowners, it is prudent for us all to develop a pool of potential board members, especially of those residents with special qualifications, like, for example, financial management, landscape architecture, and security management. I would encourage any SunLand homeowner who would be willing to be considered for a position on the Board when such opens up, to inform the office of your interest, availability, and areas of expertise. We would all be grateful.

Bob Willis, Treasurer

SECURITY & ROADS

First, I wish you the very best for a healthy, joyous and prosperous New Year!

We continue to make good progress in maintaining security lights at the front of our homes. Remember, they should be on from DUSK TO DAWN. Please be aware that those of you with solar lights may not be able to meet this standard for safety and convenience of those walking in your neighborhood. This is especially the case during the five months of shortened sunlight hours and heavy clouds.

We had two reports of stolen Christmas lights. It was reported to Security Services, our nightly patrol security firm. They altered



the coverage for several nights in hopes of spotting the individuals doing the crime. No further incidences were sent to us. It is important that anytime there is material damage or theft of property you contact the Sheriff's Office

and report the crime. Then let us know so we can alert the Security patrol.

The office has received several reports that mail has been removed from the boxes and strewn in the street. Some pieces have been opened and their contents removed. Please keep a watchful eye out for your mail delivery and promptly bring in your mail. All mail fraud should be reported to the Sheriff and to the Post Office.

I need your input as to setting up a Neighborhood Watch program for all of SunLand. This is a major assignment with the several hundred of homes we have in SunLand. Be-

fore I proceed with Clallam County I am asking you to let me know of the following:

- Are you in favor of establishing a Neighborhood Watch program?
- We will need a substantial number of folks to volunteer to support the program. Would you be willing to volunteer your time to set up and run the program?

Please send us your response to the two questions. You can drop off your reply at the SLOA office or mail it to my address at: Randy Skoglund, 163 Horizon View Dr.

We have identified several locations where we need reflector posts. The County Road Department has been contacted and all posts should be installed by the time you receive this newsletter.

Randy Skoglund, Chairman
Roads and Security

LOCKING MAILBOXES

Over the holiday season we have experienced a problem of private mail being taken from open mail boxes. In most cases, the mail was sorted through and only those items that give the thief a chance to cash a check, use a gift card or benefit from other valuable mail were taken. We have reports of other mail being thrown away in the streets or on the golf course.

These are crimes of opportunity. For instance, most of the thievery has taken place in areas that are the easiest to access and escape from. Most of these crimes take place at night.

One solution I would like to suggest is to invest in a locking mailbox. I have talked to

the folks at Home Depot and they have two mailboxes that you may want to consider. These mailboxes allow the mail person to deposit the mail in a slot, and the home owner can access the mail by unlocking the front, giving you access to the mail. Magazines, large envelopes and legal size envelopes will fit into the box. However, please note that the slot **will not** allow the mail person to deposit medicines. The mail drop slot is too small. The two boxes to consider are:

- OASIS JR. MAILBOX AMERICAN MAIL BOX ITEM NUMBER 372-670. COST \$99.00. This is a semi-commercial mailbox. You can see one installed at the south end of the Golf Club office along Fairway Dr.
- GIBRALTAR "WYNGATE MAIL BOX PM-T2. ITEM NUMBER 938-915. COST \$78.72. This is a residential type box and comes in Black and White.

These prices are for the mail box only. They may or may not fit into or on your existing post mount boxes. However, Home Depot offers a good selection of posts and mounting brackets. We are talking to individuals that may be able to offer an installation service. That cost would depend on the type of installation and if the box will fit into the current "houses" that are common in Sunland.

We are sorry to hear about the stolen mail issues. We hope that using a locked mail box, we will eliminate the opportunity of this crime. If you would like to see these boxes, go to Home Depot and ask the Greeter to direct you to the Mail Box section.. Also, please tend to your mail as soon as you can. Try to never leave the mail in the mail box over night.

Randy Skoglund, Chairman
Roads & Security

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Keeping the SunLand community a positive force in the Sequim area should involve all of our homeowners. One of the ways SunLand homeowners can accomplish this is by volunteering in the Sequim community at large and also by volunteering here in SunLand. The SLOA Board of Directors encourages your involvement in all areas of our community.

Come and spend an afternoon with us at a Board meeting. Your input is appreciated and valued. You will learn what the various committees do and how that affects you and your neighbors. After attending a meeting or two, the idea of being on the Board might make sense to you.

Every year three positions become open. We encourage anyone with any interest to come and get to know the members of the Board and let us know how you would like to help. The whole SunLand community will thank you. Board meetings are held at 12:30 pm, on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, in the Gathering Place. We look forward to seeing you!

Eleanor Guion & Jim Wells

LANDSCAPING

SunLand looked especially festive during the Holidays this year. Many thanks to all of the residents who decorated their homes and landscapes providing cheer during the dark days of December. The entrance to SunLand was wonderful and an enticing way to bring the joys of the season to the community.

Right now we are in our winter hiatus as far as landscapes are concerned. A tour of Sun-

Land shows yards that look great and well cared for. Our newest residents have been doing a stellar job of bringing their sometimes neglected gardens into assets to the neighborhood.

The Landscaping committee is responsible for evaluating the upkeep of properties here in SunLand. From time to time we find some residents are having trouble taking care of their property. It could be a temporary illness or age or in some cases homes have been foreclosed and are not being properly cared for by the Bank that owns the property. The committee often has to hire a landscaping maintenance company to clean up the property which costs money that could, otherwise, be used for more worthwhile projects.

We are asking for volunteers who like healthy exercise in the great outdoors and want to help keep our community looking great. Please signup and give the committee a helping hand with these properties. Please call the SunLand office to signup and we will be in touch. 683-7473 AND THANKS FOR YOUR HELP!

Eleanor Guion & Jim Wells



ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE

What a fantastic Super Bowl and a great victory for our Seattle Seahawks! (The deadline for this article was January 21st so I'm going out on a bit of a limb here.)

The days are getting longer and the weather is starting to improve. Planning for the spring time projects is well underway. As a friendly reminder, please submit an architectural application prior to beginning work on the exterior of your home. The process is simple and requires that you submit a simple application to the SLOA office. Application forms are available from Celeste at the office or they can be printed from our website at sun-



landhomeowners.com/forms.

Include a sketch or plans of what your project intentions are and a member of the architectural committee will be in touch to talk about your project. The entire process is designed to assist everyone in maintaining a beautiful community – not to become an obstacle. The time from submission to approval for most projects is only a few days – we had a couple projects submitted around the holidays that we couldn't get approved nearly as fast as we had intended, but that is certainly the exception.

Thank you to each of you for making this the best neighborhood in Sequim and a wonder-

GREENBELTS, PARKS, AND PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

Good news – we seem to have survived the recent windstorm with little damage to trees or property in SunLand. The bad news is that some damage did in fact occur, to a home next to a vacant lot from which a tree branch was blown down. This lot has not been maintained to the standard that we try to keep up, and the Board is taking steps to address this particular case. I want to compliment those owners of vacant lots here in SunLand who maintain their properties well – indeed, some of them look like park land! At the same time, there are some vacant lots that really need some work. I will be contacting the owners of these (few) properties in an effort to get them (the properties, not the owners) maintained to an acceptable level. Such maintenance will keep SunLand looking the way we wish it to and, at the same time, will help to preserve the value of all the homes here.

Kendall Casey, Chairman

PARKING

Just as a reminder, please remember that parking on the streets of SunLand is not allowed. Parking is restricted to driveways and the designated parking strips in front of the homeowner's property. If there is a need for additional space, please consult your neighbors before using their parking strips.



WATER NEWS ABOUT YOU

Thank you!!

- ❖ In 2013 we pumped nearly eight million gallons less water out of the ground in comparison to the previous year. Much of that savings is due to your conservation. A continued conservation trend will slow the escalation of rates because of a reduction in wear and tear on equipment, less power needed for pumping, and a reduced quantity of wastewater needing treatment and disposal.
- ❖ Speaking of wastewater, those SunLand neighbors living closest to the treatment plant need to know that we will be emptying out the very old facultative lagoon this spring and you may experience some funny smells.

You know what it smells like when you stir up the mud in an old pond. That's what we'll be doing. This is a onetime event and should take only a couple of weeks at most, so please endure.

- ❖ Please continue putting your non-digestible and personnel care products in the trash, not the garbage disposal or the toilet, and please take your old medications to the police station.
- ❖ The Water District is in the process of replacing the pump in one of our wells. This should have no effect on your water service but just in case all does not go as planned, always be prepared for a reduced service by keeping some extra water under the sink and in the fridge.
- ❖ Before you know it spring and irrigation season will be on us. Everyone with an irrigation system needs to have that checked out to make sure it's in proper working order and that means having your backflow protection assembly tested too. Please remember to have your BPA tester send the results to the Water District.

Mike Langley, Manager

SunLand Water District



**COFFEE AND DESSERT WITH THE
SUNLAND BOARD IS COMING SOON.**

We had a great response from many of you at the last annual meeting in September. Good questions were asked and lots of useful suggestions were made.

The Board wants to direct SunLand in a way that represents your values and will make you feel proud of the community we all call home. So lets continue the conversation over coffee and dessert, in a more casual setting, where you can ask any Board member a question or make a suggestion.

Soon you will all receive an invitation to join us on the evening of *Wednesday April 2nd*, so please keep that evening open.



Owners Association
135 Fairway Drive
Sequim, WA 98382

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FOR RESERVATIONS PLEASE CALL:

THE GATHERING PLACE	February	Gladys Dressler 2gdressler@wavecable.com	582-3877
	March	Karen Clatanoff kclatsy@wmconnect	681-3987
	April	Gail Nelson ghnelson@live.com	582-3770
	May	Karen Bulkeley kkb1@wavecable.com	681-5398

The volunteers listed above have charge of the Gathering Place reservation book in the months listed