

Mill Creek Estates Homeowner Association Inc. (Phase I)
Springfield Illinois
November 17, 2019 at 3:00 p.m.
Held at Kerasotes YMCA

Board of Directors Members Present: Bruce Bonczyk, Peter Van Gieson, James O'Brien, Diane Boyle, and Julie Sundquist.

President Bruce Bonczyk called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m. There were more than 8 members represented in person (several arrived during the meeting) and 30 by proxy, which met the quorum requirement of 21 members represented, as explained in the meeting notice.

Ward 10 Report: Ralph Hanauer, who is our alderman, spoke and answered questions.

- Work for Archer Elevator Road to be upgraded from Greenbriar to Wabash was delayed last year to develop a plan to protect the Franklin Ground squirrel. The upgrade is now scheduled for next summer. Traffic diversion to Meadowbrook should be expected at times.
- The Springfield Police Department has initiated a Project Safe Neighborhoods. Part of this project allows residents to register the locations of their outdoor video surveillance systems with the police department. **This is voluntary.** When an incident occurs, this registration will enable the police to contact nearby video surveillance system owners and request their help to collect video evidence and allow the police to follow up on leads. <https://www.springfield.il.us/Departments/PoliceDepartment/ProjectSafeNeighbor.aspx>
- Free branch pickups by the city are now only done **a few specified weeks** in the fall and in the spring. Branches should only be left out at the beginning of those two weeks. Ralph noted that the city was beginning to issue violation citations for branches left out at other times. See the city website for details: <https://www.springfield.il.us/departments/publicworks/branchpickup.aspx> Branches can be taken year-round to the Evans Recycling facility at 2100 J. David Jones Parkway with proof of city residency (7am-5pm M-F, 7am-noon Sa).
- Free leaf recycling by the city will extend through December. See this website for details: <https://www.springfield.il.us/Departments/PublicWorks/leafPickup.aspx>
- Ralph Hanauer can be contacted at hanauerward10@gmail.com, through the city website, at city hall 217-789-2151, or at home 217-679-5555.

Treasurers Report: Eddie Simpson, our treasurer, was recovering from a hospitalization and not at the meeting. Julie Sundquist reported that the association collected \$18,401.50 in dues so far this year. Only three owners have not paid dues this year and dues for all previous years have been collected. The fiscal year runs from July 1 through June 30. Generally fiscal matters are discussed in more detail at the Spring meeting when the budget for the next year is adopted.

Common Area Trees: Peter Van Gieson and Jim O'Brien oversaw bidding and completion of the removal of several trees that were a safety hazard or had fallen. Others have been identified will be addressed soon. Members should email the board of any other trees on accessible common areas that may need trimming or be a safety hazard.

Stormwater Retention Area: Bruce Bonczyk gave an update on the drainage improvements. Two 12-inch drains were installed to carry water from the east inlet to the west outlet. Rip-rap was moved to improve flow and address eroded areas. An east to west swale between the two drains was constructed to carry excess water during high flows. The soil removed was used to fill low

areas on the southeast corner. Most of the work is done with the exception of a couple of area that need to be leveled. Timing that work will be determined by the weather.

Entrance Landscaping: Work was contracted to replace dead or struggling plants, trim trees, replace the some of the irrigation hose and system components, remove rotted landscaping timber, and fill in an eroded area.

Neighborhood Directory: Board members have been working to update the phone directory last published in 2015. An updated electronic PDF version is now available on request by association homeowners. To get a copy or advise us of phone changes please email the board at millcreekboard@gmail.com Be sure to include your name and address. To ensure privacy we will not be posting this on the website and only sending to verified association homeowners.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
James O'Brien, Secretary

Neighborhood Watch: For several years we have advocated using a free social media service called **Nextdoor**, which can be found at www.nextdoor.com. Many residents have signed up there. It offers the ability to post messages or urgent alerts. You can sign up for it yourself; you do not need any intervention by the MCEHA board or directors. Jill Stoops and Julie Sundquist are available to explain this service. If you find the notifications too numerous, you can adjust what information that you receive in the settings menu. Jill and Julie can assist if you need help with that.

The City of Springfield has a **citywide messaging alert service** that is also free. Go to the city website, www.springfield.il.us. On the top of this website go to "I Want To.." and choose "Sign Up For..." and "City Text Alerts". Residents can sign up for various emergency alerts from blizzards to high winds to flash floods. A street address and either a text-capable cell phone or an e-mail address must be provided.

Web-Site: Our web page is at: <http://www.millcreekestateshoa.com>
It has various documents and maps, including the covenants and by-laws, historical meeting notices and meeting minutes, and other items of interest.