

NPOA Board of Directors 2008

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Treasurer – Ellen Ignatow
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Treasurer@northbrookpoa.com

Committees

Deed Restrictions:
deedrestrictions@northbrookpoa.com
Clubhouse: Lisa Lowenstein
(h) 713-777-7641, (m) 713-202-0861
Swimming Pool: OPEN
Hospitality: Earlene Gales
(h) 713-773-3199
Trash: Pat Gana (h) 713-771-0955
Traffic & Security: Mark Preslock
(h) 713-416-9106
Newsletter: Vanessa Collier
(e) mauiquiet@yahoo.com
Youth Club: Victoria Linares
(h) 713-777-8830

NPOA Members Preferred Contractors Recommended by NPOA Members

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Visit our Website

<http://www.northbrookPOA.com>

Northbrook Property Owners Association

Northbrook News

April 2008

Shout Out!

Toot Your



Own Horn!

By Stephen Haslam & Shelly Isman

Here's a chance for you to "shout out" for yourself by pitching in for one of the tasks on the list below. Let your voice be heard through your actions. Shelly, Stephen, Shannon, Ellen, and the District Reps will get to them when they can. But being volunteers themselves they can always use a hand. See if you can beat them to some of these tasks.

You may be able to take on a regular weekly or monthly task, or maybe you just have an hour or two somewhere to pitch in. Every little bit helps. Talk to your District Rep, or call Shelly Isman or Stephen Haslam.

- ρ Deliver newsletters
- ρ Water flowers 2x/week at Northbrook signs (coming soon!)
- ρ Collect garbage in greenways
- ρ Fix conduit and wiring exposed in greenways.
- ρ Repair several items at pool and clubhouse buildings, need a handyperson to fix.

- ρ Research & write grants requesting money from various organizations.
- ρ Assistance on data entry for directory update and email lists
- ρ Community liaison person to coordinate with other community service organizations.
- ρ More patrollers for Citizens on Patrol Program.
- ρ Welcome new neighbors
- ρ Help coordinate a community party or a neighborhood "night out."
- ρ Contact people for Directory info
- ρ Help with mailings periodically
- ρ Keep an eye out for the community center and for your neighbors!

There is always more that could be done. Let us know when you have some time, and what you can do to help.

Caretaker Needed

NPOA is exploring the possibility of engaging a part time caretaker 2-3 hours per day, 5 days a week for miscellaneous work and duties around the NPOA area. This will be a paid position. Must be at least 21 years old, have time available in the A.M. and P.M. Contact Sheldon Isman (email: 713-270-8811 president@northbrook.com)

The Monthly Meeting

March 18, 2008

Opening: A Board Member from Braes Oaks Management District gave a 20-minute presentation on what they could do to help NPOA. They have many resources for our community.

NPOA Board and member meeting

A. Seeking Grants

Grants of up to \$10,000 are available. Shelly applied for a small grant and Victoria Linares volunteered to help, but we need people to research and apply for these grants.

B. Directory Report

The response has been limited. Reminder emails will go out soon, then people will be contacted by phone and then in person.

C. Financial Report

73% of the 2008 assessments are paid. Check out the NPOA website for the full report.

D. Greenways

Sewer repairs will continue for 3-4 weeks. The contractor working for the City will clean up when they are finished, leveling ground, planting sod, repairing fences and walkways. Note anything that needs fixing, including cables & gas lines, and inform Stephen Haslam.

E. Clubhouse repairs

Ellen will renew the Terminex contract. Immediate and simple repairs are done. However, additional repairs are needed that we cannot afford.

F. Social Committee Report

Sue and Shirley will help welcome new owners. They received a list from Ellen, but have not yet received the materials needed.

G. Deed Restriction Report

Last year 4 people were mistakenly charged for attorney fees. The Executive Committee has agreed to void the charges to the homeowners who should not have been charged. Also, Chris Cowles explained the

process of becoming a "group home." The Deed Restrictions Committee is following the correct procedure for gathering information on two homes in our community, with neighbors helping to observe activities and take photos.

H. Trash

The current trash provider has been very accommodating. However, a motion was passed to explore once a week City Trash pick up for next year. The City will deliver 96-gallon trash containers, and collect heavy trash 4x/yr. After the approval process is complete the Board will vote on whether to change from the current provider.

I. Dogs in neighborhood

Concerns were expressed about two homes with pit bulls. Shelly agreed to inquire directly with the homeowners.

J. Security

Many topics were raised and discussed regarding security, with a variety of opinions on each issue. But no specific plans were presented. The only actions taken were to suggest a security tip in the newsletter (which is already done most months) and to schedule a community meeting to discuss security concerns within the next four weeks.

K. Pool

The current pool contract will conclude in 5 weeks. Nancy Strait has talked to a total of 7 real estate agents who believe that the pool is an asset to our community. Nancy has gathered data and will work with Shelly to prepare a proposal for resolving concerns and operating the pool at a reasonable rate. The meeting minutes can be accessed at the NPOA website.

Next Meeting

April 15, 7:00pm.

Watching Out For Your Neighbors

Let's see – the proverbial 24/7 adds up to 168 hours a week. Wouldn't it be great to have someone watching over our neighborhood every hour of the day? Sergeant Bobby Hebert from Precinct 7 recently told our President that they might be able to increase patrols. That would be big.

The police also want us to pitch in by patrolling ourselves. Community members who are certified for the Citizens on Patrol program usually drive for an hour at a time. COP program coordinators just learned that time spent walking the neighborhood may also count toward maintaining our COP certification.

If you walk Northbrook regularly contact the program coordinator to find out how to become certified. If you are already certified and you walk, let the coordinators know so your hours can be counted. And be sure to get the new form completed in order to keep your certification current. This needs to be done immediately! If you don't get re-certified, your hours won't count toward our minimum requirement.

If you are ready to contribute, or if you have questions contact Shelly Isman (713-270-8811).

Be Environmentally Friendly

It's that time of year again! As homeowners we are spring cleaning and doing home improvements. We find that we are stuck with items (such as batteries & paints) that we shouldn't put in the trash but don't know where to dispose of them. The City of Houston is working to make the management of household hazardous waste easier by providing an ongoing collection.

The Environmental Service Center is located at 11500 South Post Oak. The center is open: Tuesdays and Wednesdays 9am to 3pm & the second Saturday of each month from 9am to 1pm.

This is a FREE service, but you will need a recent water bill to show proof of residency. The ESC provides a drive through, drop-off location and the staff will unload everything for you.

The ESC will accept the following materials: Acids, Aerosol Cans, Batteries, Antifreeze, Brake Fluid, Car Waxes, Craft & Hobby Chemicals, Degreasers, Drain Cleaners, Fertilizer, Fluorescent Lights, Fuels, Herbicides, Household Chemicals, Kerosene, Metal Polish, Motor Oil, Oil Filters, Paints, Stains, Paint Thinners, Pest Strips, Pesticides, Pharmaceuticals, Photo Chemicals, Pool Chemicals, Power Steering Fluid, Solvents, Tires (limit 10), Transmission Fluid, Turpentine, and Varnishes. They also accept residential electronic scrap items (monitors, CPUs, televisions, VCRs etc.) will also be accepted.

For more information log on to:
www.houstonsolidwaste.org

Thank you Britt Hutchison for sharing this information with us again.