
SIERRA SPRINGS NEWSLETTER

Contributed by Soo-Z Deane

May 28, 2011

Sierra Springs 2011 Annual Meeting Held May 23rd

ANNUAL MEETING

The 2011 Annual meeting for Sierra Springs was held at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, May 23rd at the community pool area. Outgoing Board Members present were Laura Mier, Caroline Piepenbrink and Soo-Z Deane.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mike Gerson of Gerson Realty & Management Company reviewed the 2010 and year-to-date 2011 financial reports for Sierra Springs HOA. Mike reported that the financials are in good shape and under budget. Mike also reported that Sierra Springs was not having too many problems with foreclosures.

ELECTION

Mike Gerson announced that we had a quorum for the election of the Board of Directors. Soo-Z Deane said that she could not run for reelection to the Board and to please give any votes for her to other candidates. Five Board Members were newly elected and appointed as follows:

Laura Mier, President
Adrian Black, Vice President
Carolyn Piepenbrink, Treasurer
Jim Reid, Secretary
Susan Bigler, Member at Large

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Laura Mier reported that Sierra Springs is a great place to live. Once again, the HOA dues did not increase while the community was well maintained. There are new light poles around the pool and the rusted BBQ grill was removed. Flowers were planted and the walls were repaired at the Sierra Springs entry. **Life is good in Sierra Springs!**

OLD BUSINESS

- The section of front yard sprinklers along Concord Street will be repaired next.
- Overpopulation by cats remains a problem in Sierra Springs, probably due to being located by Freestone Park. Two residents have voluntarily been catching ferel cats, taking them to be spayed or neutered and releasing them back into the neighborhood. This TNR Program (trap/neuter/return) is purported to be the best solution. It also was suggested that residents be discouraged from providing food to ferel cats because, without food, they will likely migrate to another area.
- Several homeowners reported that the landscaper continues to blow the leaves into the bushes and that sprinklers are not being repaired. It was decided that the landscaper needs to run a complete check on the sprinkler system monthly and give Mike a report.
- SRP replaced the rusted light pole on Vaughn Avenue.
- A previous issue of tire slashing was reported to have cleared up.

NEW BUSINESS

- Mike and Laura reported that the next upcoming community improvement would be painting of the walls and buildings in the pool area the new color Sand Dune.
- The recent removal of oversized pine trees by homeowners was discussed. It was pointed out that the pine trees, while being pleasant visually, were causing problems with roofs, plumbing, foundations, sidewalks, drainage and landscaping. Soo-Z showed a picture of a Chinese Pistache tree that professional landscapers recommended to her for planting in Sierra Springs. As a medium growth tree, it would be a good fit for the smaller lot sizes in Sierra Springs. Pistache trees are planted all along Lindsay south of Elliot, if homeowners would like to take a look.



- Mike will get quotes this Fall for resurfacing the alleyways, planned for next year.
- It was discussed that any nice shrubbery, such as Cape Honeysuckle, Dwarf Oleander, Privet, Sage, Pittosporum, Natal Plum and the like, was acceptable for landscaping. And, crushed granite was acceptable to use in the planting beds.
- The community bulletin boards need repairing and it would be helpful to post notices of upcoming HOA meetings and other neighborhood events. Mike gave Laura a key so residents can more easily gain access to the bulletin boards.
- Soo-Z reported a 25% community discount offered to Sierra Springs by Dunn-Edwards Paint, a new Dunn-Edwards web site for viewing Sierra Springs' paint colors online, and the official Dunn-Edwards pre-approved paint sample book made for Sierra Springs. The paint sample book will be held by Adrian.
- An updated version of Rules and Regulations was approved by the Board to replace the 1998 version. The new 2011 Rules and Regulations are posted on the Sierra Springs' web site under Pages & Links.
- Annie, a homeowner, said she could not find a current web site for Sierra Springs. Soo-Z volunteered to set up a web site for Sierra Springs so the community will have a public forum for communicating and staying informed of events. If you are reading this Newsletter, our new web site is 'up and running' online.

ADJOURNED

With no further business, the 2011 Annual Meeting of the Sierra Springs HOA and Board of Directors adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Sierra Springs ~ Items of Interest

The link to the Dunn-Edwards paint color web site for Sierra Springs is:

<http://dunnedwards.com/Homeowners/ExploreColor/ColorTools/ColorArchive.aspx>

The code for our 25% community discount on Dunn-Edwards products is: 233246-000.

The nearest Dunn-Edwards location is: 1514 East Ray Road (at Val Vista) in Gilbert.

The new Sierra Springs HOA web site Home Page is:

http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/Sierra_Springs_Home