

Park at Steeplechase HOA News

March 2008

As we start a new year with a new HOA Board of Directors, it is appropriate to thank all of the members who attended the annual meeting and the street representatives who helped collect the proxy certificates for this year's election. We also want to thank Mr. Chris Holt, our past secretary, for his years of service on the board of directors and especially for his support this past year.

This year's annual meeting was much calmer than previous meetings and resulted in the unopposed election of the new board by acclamation. The boards of directors for the coming year are:

- Gene Mitchell – president, mitch9981@yahoo.com
- Trisha Hunt – vice president, hunt39@gmail.com
- Kristi Carlson – secretary, kristiacarlson@yahoo.com.

The main goals of last year's board was to:

- Reduce the HOA dues
- Eliminate foreclosures for dues
- Reduce homeowner delinquencies
- Eliminate/reduce homeowner fines, where possible.

This year's board of directors will continue to pursue these goals, plus add:

- Improve communication
- Improve services.

We are striving to improve our communications by utilizing Email newsletters, such as this, and by establishing a Park at Steeplechase web site. We will still utilize the "Street Reps" for each block for special announcements for members and for member input from each block in the subdivision. Kristi has set up a website at <http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/kyle/pats/> and is still working at adding other features and content. If you would like to help or have some news for the web site, you can contact her at parkatsteeplechase@yahoo.com.

At the meeting, a question about the number of homes in the subdivision that have been foreclosed on by the banks or lenders was raised. In February, according to Ryan Smith, our Alliance representative, "it appears all of the properties are listed in our system are under a person's name, as opposed to a bank/lender/maintenance company name." This is great news for our subdivision as it means that we are beating the trend in the rest of the country. However, as of March we have one property that has been foreclosed.

A request to publish all newsletters and announcements in both English and Spanish for our members who are more comfortable reading Spanish than English was made at the annual meeting. We published this edition of the newsletter in both languages for both the electronic and hardcopy formats. Please let us know if you like this option. For those of you who have not been able to see all the small print on the billboard for the new construction site on our side of I-35, please, check out this link to a web based tour of the new development: <http://www.dsiaustin.com/Animations/Kyle05t.wmv>. It looks great and we will have many more people looking for homes in our subdivision because of these new business opportunities.

Annual HOA Dues payments are coming in slowly. The reduced dues for 2008 are not due until March 1, 2008 and will not be delinquent if received before March 31, 2008. We don't have the luxury of a large margin to carry us through the coming year and need maximum participation to be able to keep this reduced dues structure or to reduce it any further. Please, send your payments in as soon as possible.

As there is not enough business to justify monthly board of director meetings, the board has voted unanimously to schedule the meetings on a quarterly basis, the last Thursday of March, June, and September. There will not be a meeting scheduled for the last quarter of the year because of the holidays. Our annual meeting is the last Thursday of January 2009.

We thank everyone for his or her support and suggestions over the past year. We look forward to a GREAT year at the Park at Steeplechase.