

# HIGHLAND ACRES/LAKESIDE HEIGHTS HOMES ASSOCIATION

## Winter, 2021    N E W S L E T T E R

HA/LH Homes Association, P.O Box 28294, Kansas City, MO 64188-0294    816-734-5546

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### **Neighborhood Park**

The neighborhood park located between 112 Terr and 113 St and N Charlotte and N Tracy is owned by the Homes Association and maintained by the volunteers on the Board. No city funds or services are provided thus two board members must bag the trash and place at one of the residences for pick up. New lids were purchased for the trashcans to eliminate illegal dumping and rain water accumulation. Mowing is contracted but most limb debris must be removed by members of the Board or any neighbor who volunteers to assist. The GaGa Ball pit, hammock structure, and wood bordering the park were all Eagle Scout projects assisted by board members, but expenditures were limited. Two electrical accounts are paid by the Association with Evergy providing and installing lights when they burn out. The playground equipment broke in several places last spring and was unable to be repaired to meet code requirements; therefore, a new set was ordered. The pandemic affected that order and delayed installation. Several of the Board members, Steve, Bobby, Russ, Roger, and Christine, were responsible for taking down the old set and clearing the way for installation of the new one. Their efforts saved the Association hundreds of dollars. The set has arrived but installation will depend on weather factors and the company's work force during this pandemic. Replacing picnic tables, resurfacing the playground and/or parking lot will be delayed. Everyone can help keep the park clean and safe. Report any illegal activity observed at the park.

### **Financial Obligations**

The funds to pay for the new set or any other improvements are part of the \$45 annual dues. Over the last 14 years, money has been put into a savings account mainly used for park improvements. According to the Declaration and By-Laws of the Homes Association, loans or individual assessments cannot be used to finance any expenditures. **It is imperative that all residents pay those annual dues to maintain balances to provide the services and maintain the park.** It is a private park so funding from outside sources would have to be in grant form that specifies it's a private park. In order to purchase the needed equipment for the park and maintain responsible budgets, several fiscal changes were made in 2020. The

spring newsletter was posted on the Homes Association web page to save the printing and postage costs. Old files and other Association paperwork had been stored in a rental unit for several years. The storage unit prices continued to increase to the point it wasn't fiscally sound to continue rental, so members of the Board spent several hours in July reviewing, purging files and divided the appropriate files among the officer's homes.

### **Communication**

In addition to the address, phone number and webpage listed above, some residents use Facebook.com and Nextdoor.com as sources of information and communication. The Facebook group is listed as Highland Acres/Lakeside Heights Homes Association. The HA/LH webpage can be retrieved by a Google search or access it through Northland Neighborhoods. To retrieve HA/LH on the NNI.org webpage, click the Neighborhoods tab, then Member Organizations to find HA/LH. This webpage is free, therefore, it is meant to be full of information without the glamour of an expensive web designer. Documents & Pages on the page include new information and archived newsletters, expenses, and other issues.

### **Mosquito Control**

Unless prices increase significantly this spring, 20 applications will be contracted to control the mosquito population. Certain measures each home owner should take to eliminate mosquitos is in a separate document in Documents & Pages.

### **Effects of the Pandemic**

When spring arrives, the park will be open if deemed safe by local guidelines. **There will NOT be a general meeting in March.** As pertinent information is received it will be posted on [NNI.org/neighborhoods/member organizations](http://NNI.org/neighborhoods/member organizations).

**STAY SAFE, WEAR A MASK, KEEP SOCIAL DISTANCE, AND AVOID LARGE GATHERINGS.**

**CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS:** Steve Espeer, Pres; Bobby Verhulst, Vice Pres, Nancy Flynn, Sec; Linda Espeer, Treasurer; Pat Flynn, Christine Hayden, Roger Hutchcraft and Russ Kieslich **Anyone willing to help with projects or join the Board, call the Homes Association number and leave your contact information.**