

Autumn Lakes Gazette

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XXXIV No 2

Board of Directors

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Secretary

Trustee

Trustee

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Architecture committee: Richard Ornberg, Shah Smith

Landscaping committee: Jay Black, Andrea Crouch

AL Website: autumnlakesstl.com



March 21, 2018

Introductions: Shah Smith opened the meeting and introduced the Board members, Keith McCracken and Rob Adelson of AMC Management. Guests included Jim Carver and Norm Rhea, Maryland Heights City Councilmen for Ward 4.

Association Management Report by Keith McCracken:

Autumn Lakes Association as of 2/28/18 was \$808 over

budget on income YTD and \$1,498 under budget on expenses YTD. Autumn Lakes Condominiums as of

2/28/18 was \$6,718 over budget on income YTD and \$40,496 under budget on expenses YTD.

The bills for snow removal have not been submitted as of yet and the minimal snow removal we had this year explain the bulk of the under-budget expenses. Leftover snow reserves from this year go into next year's reserve so that we don't take a big hit in the heavy snow years.

The spring leaf cleanup scheduled for the week of March 12th has been completed. The lake fountains were re-installed in the middle of April.

Rob and Dave have been very busy addressing work requests, removing squirrels and raccoons from attics, evicting birds and replacing the smaller retaining walls. Please do not feed the wildlife as it creates 'nuisance situations'.

Mulching began March 23 and continued through the next week until the job was completed. We mulch every two years, so no mulching will be done in 2019.

The two shrub trimmings done by Cut-Rate are scheduled for the last week of May and the last week of September. There are some units who are on the "no trim list" per resident request. If you want to check if your unit is on the list, or ask that your unit is added to the list, please contact AMC.

The swimming pool is scheduled to be opened on Saturday, May 26th, weather permitting.

Residents are required to obtain Board approval for decks, windows, door replacements or modifications, as well as any other exterior architectural changes. All necessary city permits are required. This is done to make sure that the project meets city codes and Association standards.

Please note that trash cans/totes are to be stored in your garage and not outside the building or in the driveway.

Please call the AMC office at 314-291-1450 if you have a work request, question or concerns. You can also fill out a work request online at:

<http://www.autumnlakesstl.com/contact-us.html>.

Board Reports:

Suggestions for Improvements: Shah explained that we continue to look for residents' suggestions for improvements to the Associations common grounds and facilities so that we can make budgetary plans. If you have something you'd like to see in Autumn Lakes, please contact Shah.

Pool Cards: A reminder that residents will need to have a pool access card to use the pool this summer. If you received your card last year, the card will be activated when the pool opens this summer. If you need a pool access card, a \$10 deposit per card is required and households are allowed up to 2 cards. **Cards will be available at the next Board Meeting or through AMC.**

Mayor's Neighborhood Trustee Meeting: Laura reported on what she learned when she attended the meeting. Some of the items discussed included a proposed Neighborhood Grant program that could help subdivisions complete neighborhood beautification projects, the McKelvey trail completion status, discussion about the new McBride homes project at Page & 270 and development of high-rise luxury apartments at the old Bally's site on Dorsett Road.

Parking: Laura and Jay went to the Public Improvements meeting to discuss the no parking sign issues within Autumn Lakes. The committee rejected the idea of painting curbs yellow but did say they'd take a look at the signage and areas where parking seems to be a safety issue.

Neighborhood Garage Sale:

Saturday, May 19th from 8 am to 1 pm

Trustee Election: There will be 2 Trustee positions open in May. If you're interested in running for Trustee, you must be a resident during the term of office and be in good standing with fees. A new prospective trustee information form should be completed to be on the ballot. This form will be sent out to all residents with their ballot prior to the election so they can know more about the candidates. If interested, please contact AMC to fill out the form and return it.

Councilmen report: Norm and Jim spoke about some March events at the Community Center, which included the paper shredding event on March 31st, the Doggie Bone Hunt on March 24th, and the Glow in the Dark Egg Hunt on March 25th. Details were in the Maryland Heights Newsletter.

- Jim and Norm shared that the Mayor has a new Tree Project he's working. The goal is to plan 5,000 trees in 5 years. These trees can be planted on common neighborhood grounds and will be given away for free. Details about this project will come soon.
- Jim and Norm also updated the residents that plans for the old 7-11 site, soon to be an LP gas station/shop, are currently going through the zoning and planning process.

Committee Reports:

Architecture – Dick explained that if you want to do external work on your unit (such as windows, decks, doors, etc.) you must get Board approval. It's not a complicated procedure but must be done to ensure that the changes meet Association guidelines. Contact AMC with your plans to start the approval process.

Question: Some vendors state that they are up-charging customers by 10% for doing work in Maryland Heights and Creve Coeur because of issues with building inspectors, problems with building permits or occupancy inspections. We have seen problems with consistency, some items cited when they should be grandfathered in and follow-ups requiring additional items when a different inspector comes out. What can we do?

Answer: Make sure you share that documentation with Dick, Shah, Norm and Jim so that they can follow up. The councilmen need documentation to be able to follow up and fix issues.

Question: Why do does a resident need a building permit just to replace a door if the door is the same as the old door?

Answer: Building permits and inspections are required to make sure that the installation and materials meet today's building code standards. Building codes are updated regularly for safety and security of homeowners.

Landscaping – Jay explained that we'll be landscaping the area near the fenced spillway on the lower lake this spring. The committee is looking to re-grade the slope and then plant new ground cover as well as decorative plants around the fence. The Board will be discussing the plans later in the Executive meeting.

Scheduled Social Events for 2018

Sunday, June 24 – Pool Party and Ice Cream Social

Autumn Lakes provides the Fried Chicken and Ice Cream, residents bring goodies to share!
Fun for the whole family!

Saturday, Sept 22 – AutumnFest, 4-8 pm

Residents bring a dish to share and AMC Association provides the meat. Dinner is served at 5 pm. Spunky Beans, the face painter will again join us for this fun evening.

WANTED: New wine vendor for our wine tasting. If you know of any, please contact Christine.

Pink Flamingo Friday Parties:

While Pink Flamingo Friday parties are not a Social Committee event, they are a huge favorite with residents.

What is a Pink Flamingo Party? It's a bring-your-own-refreshments/chair to the driveway/block party where the host is identified by a flock of pink flamingos at the end of their driveway.

The first party will be flying in this spring! if you're interested in hosting a party, you may borrow the flock from the current host at the end of their party. If you're interested in hosting a party, please contact Christine.

WATCH FOR THE FLAMINGO SIGN AT THE BULLETIN BOARD!



Next Door App: Just a reminder that the NextDoor App is a great tool to hear about what's going on around us, but is not an official communication tool for AMC or the Board. Please contact the AMC office if you have repairs that need to be made or concerns.

Residents Questions & Comments

Question: How prevalent are the deer in the area?

Answer – There are quite a few deer in the area. Most deer are nocturnal animals who are more active at dusk and dawn and during mating season. Please be cautious when driving around the neighborhood, especially in areas near the lakes and wooded common grounds.

Question: What's going on with the junky vehicle near his unit?

Answer – If you notice cars with expired license plates or unfamiliar to the neighborhood, please contact the non-emergency number for the Maryland Heights police department and they will check the vehicle out. In the case of the vehicle mentioned above, the vehicle is scheduled to be towed tomorrow if the owner does not claim it.

Question: Do residents have to submit plans to AMC if they want to make changes to their landscaping?

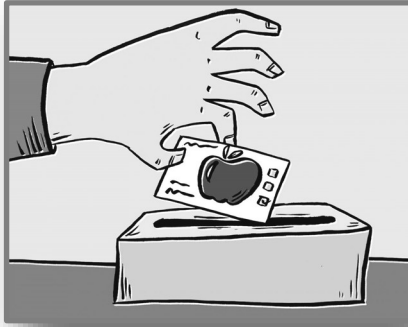
Answer – Please contact AMC about planned changes to landscaping. Please note, the resident (and future owners) will be responsible for the landscaping that they plant themselves.

Question: Does the Association have plans to seal the asphalt roadway on Autumn Trace Court?

Answer – The Board is currently evaluating all asphalt driveways and roadways for sealing. There is a schedule established for sealing surfaces but priority is given to those surfaces identified during the fall walkthrough.

CLUBHOUSE RENTAL:

Don't forget that the Clubhouse can be rented for special events by unit owners. The Clubhouse has hosted several graduation parties, baby showers, bridal showers and more. For more information, please contact AMC office.



**Two Board positions are open for election
in May. Ballots will be mailed to you.
Cast your vote!**

RECYCLING GUIDE

YES:

Cardboard - Junk Mail - Newspapers
Beverage Cans - Food Boxes - Food Cans
Glass Jars & Bottles - Milk/Juice Cartons
Plastic jugs, Bottles & Containers
Empty all containers and replace caps

NOT THESE:

Plastic bags, any kind
Coat hangers—Scrap Metal—Pots/Pans
Soiled foil - Heavily soiled food containers
Juice Pouches - Foil packs
Paper Plates - Plastic utensils
Electronics—Batteries
#6 Plastics (ex. Styrofoam)



A trashy subject

- **Trash and Recycle Pick-up is on TUESDAY morning.**
- **If Monday is a national holiday, pick-up will be on WEDNESDAY morning.**
- **Yard Waste Pick-up is on Monday morning.**

If at all possible, **PLEASE PUT YOUR TRASH CONTAINERS OUT** no earlier than the night before, preferably after 6 pm.

Trash totes and cans should be stored away the evening after pickup. Help keep our neighborhood looking neat.

Allow 3 feet between the big totes and anything else so the trucks can mechanically pick them up.

**The next Autumn Lakes Association meeting will be held on 5/16/18 at 7 pm.
ELECTION OF TRUSTEES! Autumn Lakes RESIDENTS are encouraged to attend.**