

Acacia Times

Monthly Newsletter of The Acacia Association

February 2016

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Acacia Website

Next Acacia Regular Board Meeting March 8, 2016

General Announcements

Official Notice Annual Meeting: Please read in Newsletter.

Resumes of candidates running for the Board of Directors.

Clubhouse office will be open Saturday Feb 13 and Saturday Feb 20 for voting for Board Members from 10 am to 12 pm.

Christmas decorations should have been taken down by February 1st.

Snow plowing schedule is on the Acacia web-site.

Please pick up after your dogs.

Website: You can access the Acacia website at acaciaihp.com or acacia-ihp.com or acacia-ihp.org or acaciaihp.org.

The next Board of Director's Regular Meeting will be on Tuesday, March 8, 2016. Meetings are at 7:00 p.m. at the Acacia Clubhouse.

OFFICIAL NOTICE - ACACIA ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

The following information has been prepared to assist you in electing a Board of Directors for the Acacia Association. We hope we have anticipated all of your questions.

ANNUAL MEETING DATE: Tuesday, February 23, 2016 at 8:00 P.M.

LOCATION: The Acacia Association Clubhouse, 111 Cascade Drive, Indian Head Park

PURPOSE: To elect three (3) directors for three-year term and one (1) one year term. Directors to be elected, not officers. Officers are elected by the Board from among its members.

Candidates should submit a brief written resume to the Nominating Committee at the Acacia Office before January 8, 2016. These resumes will be published in the January issue of the Acacia Times Newsletter.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Chairman – John Polacek

Members – Karen Sendra

Sharon Kyzivat

We need to have a quorum of voters. **Everyone needs to come and vote.**

ABSENTEE VOTING: If you will be OUT OF TOWN for the month of February and unable to attend the Annual Meeting, you may request and submit an Absentee Ballot form – available from the Acacia Office, on the Acacia Website or in the Newsletter, beginning February 1, 2016. Bring in your request or mail to the office. Your ballot will be mailed to your OUT OF TOWN address after February 1, 2016.

If you will be in town but unable to attend the Annual Meeting, you may vote by absentee ballot beginning February 1, 2016 at the Association office. You must sign the register and vote on the premises. Your ballot must be in a sealed envelope and placed in the locked ballot box. Such ballots will be counted with all the others after 8:00 pm on February 23, 2016.

Association office hours are:

MONDAY THRU FRIDAY 8:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.*

*closed Noon to 1 P.M.

Frank O'Connor

I have been a member of the Acacia Board of Directors for several years. I have served as Recreation Facilities Director, Treasurer, Vice President and President. The Board over that time has dealt successfully with the devastating impact of the Great Recession. While other Associations cut back on services, reduced maintenance, put off capital improvements or issued special assessments, The Acacia Association did none of these things. Instead our Association has replaced the Clubhouse roof, our heating and cooling systems and our patios inside and outside the pool area. In addition, the sidewalks outside the Clubhouse and garages have been replaced and the useless Atrium has been converted into a four season facility that serves our pool goers in the summer and those that use the Clubhouse year round. Lastly, after years of lobbying the Village most of Acacia streets and curbs were replaced. And as part of this project Acacia was able to have our private parking stalls replaced at very favorable prices.

I ask for your vote to continue the work started and to make sure our Capital Reserves are fully funded for the next 25 years.

Acacia Community,

My name is Tim Rost and I am running for a position on the Acacia Board of Directors. I am new to the community and I would like to do my part to support the community and it's members by continuing the work of the board. My wife and I have raised five children in the LaGrange area and I have been a teacher for nearly twenty five years, with ten years of prior experience working for the Village of Broadview. I feel I have a diverse background which I can use to help make good decisions for the community and I would like the opportunity to do so.

ROBERT BERSIN

In my 43 years in Acacia I have served on the Board of Directors for over 25 years. During that time I have been Secretary, Treasurer, Vice President and President. I believe that experience provides me with a unique perspective on the Board's responsibility to the members of the Acacia Association. Our association is rather unique among Chicago-area townhome communities. We are one of the largest with 387 homes and a large amount of open land. Our budget is almost \$1 million, yet our monthly assessments are among the lowest for a community with our amenities. We are self-managed, which is how we keep our costs low. However this self-management requires a commitment from members to serve on the Board and take an active part in managing the Association.

I have made this commitment for as long as I have because I care about Acacia as a community. I want to keep it a place where all types of families can enjoy living, whether they have young children, teenagers or are enjoying their "golden years". It is also vital to provide the services and maintenance that preserve the value of your homes. While I have considered retiring from the Board, I have a few more projects to complete (I am responsible for Village Relations and managing the office) so I am running for one more term and would appreciate your vote.

Heather Martinez

My name is Heather Martinez and I am running for election to the Board of Directors. My husband and I have been Acacia homeowners for more than 11 years and we have two young children. My husband and I met 20 years ago while we were serving in the Illinois Army National Guard. My husband still serves and our family has been through 3 deployments. I currently work for Berkshire Hathaway in Western Springs as a realtor. During my time in Acacia, I have had the pleasure of meeting many of you and it is clear that we share similar concerns: we all want Acacia to run effectively and efficiently. I am dedicated to helping continue the efforts that past board members have implemented and offer fresh ideas for the future. I would greatly appreciate your vote.

Thank you,
Heather Martinez

The Acacia Association Board of Director's Meeting

February 9, 2016

The Board of Directors Meeting of January 9, 2016 was brought to order at 7:00 pm by Pres. Frank O'Connor.

Dirs. in attendance were: Pres. O'Connor, V.P. Eckert, Treas. Polacek, Sec'y Brandush, King, Kwiatek.

Dirs. absent were: Bersin and Murray.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion (Brandush, Polacek) to approve the minutes of the January 12, 2016 Board of Directors Meeting as produced by staff. Motion passed. (6/0/2).

Treasurer's Report: John Polacek reported that on the Treasurer's Report page the pool resurfacing has been moved to a Capital Expense.

We see that the assessment collection was \$83,014 with other sources giving a total income of \$83,639. Expenses were \$46,808 leaving a net ordinary income of \$36,811. The expenses were low as they always are for November thru March. An FYI for all members, 196 members are using ACH. That is just over 50%. There are 11 late pays in January resulting in late fee charges. This could all be avoided by using ACH and it reduces the cost for the Association. To gain perspective on Past Due Accounts: 42 members owe money, 19 members are chronically in arrears, 5 members owe \$23,711, the total outstanding as of January 31, 2016 is 3.09% of the yearly total assessments.

As we study the reserve analysis, we see that for the next decade our reserves need to increase. We will be discussing this over the course of the next year. Over all we are in good financial condition.

Motion (Polacek, O'Connor) to approve the Treasurer's Report. (6/0/2).

Clubhouse Director's Report: Amy Eckert reported what the findings were at the Clubhouse Decorating Committee in Loretta's absence. There were proposals for

three different phases. All inclusive from the bids so far is \$45,050.00. Phase 1 would include window treatments for the Great Room, Clubhouse, office, bathroom, kitchen/dining area. Doors, windows and trim throughout, ceiling in the main clubhouse, the hallway and stairs going down to the locker rooms. Electrical lighting and fans replaced and replace light and fan switches. Window treatments for the hall. Phase 2 would be for floor replacement for the Great Hall and front entrance foyer. Window treatment blinds for the accounting office, entrance windows, dining area and clubhouse. Phase 3 would be kitchen remodeling including re-facing or replacing cabinets, handles and pulls for cabinets, replace counter tops, sink and faucet. Also re-cushioning the chairs in the clubhouse at the tables. Motion (Eckert, O'Connor) to approve the proposal for Phase 1 of the clubhouse and great room redecorating as presented to the Board in an amount not to exceed \$13,000. Motion passed. (6/0/2).

Recreational Facilities Director's Report: Jack Brandush said the basketball and tennis courts will be open on April 15th. New locks will be put on the courts. You can get new keys for a \$10 deposit and you will need to prove that you live here.

Grounds Maintenance Director's Report: Bill King said that during the past month we had A&B Landscaping here trimming the trees. They also trimmed the trees over by the pool so there are no branches hanging over the fence. We took out 100 trees last year and have 37 stumps left to take out. We have a bid for those for \$1,480. Motion (King, Polacek) to contract with A&B Landscaping Tree Service of Riverside, IL to take out 37 stumps at a cost of \$1,480. Motion passed. (6/0/2).

Townhome Maintenance Director's Report: Amy Eckert said she has nothing to report.

Village Relations Director's Report: Bob Bersin was absent.

Architectural & Landscape Director's Report: Peggy Rose Kwiatek said that there was one new request for windows. There is one new resident whom she will be visiting her Friday to deliver a welcome basket.

Jack said there are 47 houses that still have Christmas decorations out. They will be receiving letters.

Bill said as they were going around looking at tree stumps, so people are just letting their dogs out the front door. They are not cleaning up after their dogs. Residents need to clean up after their dogs.

Discussion of having the Clubhouse open a couple of Saturdays so people can vote on the two Saturdays before the election. A sign will be put out in front of the Clubhouse.

Motion (Eckert, King) to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed. (6/0/2).

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

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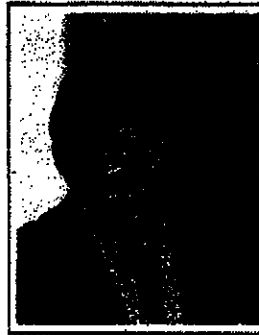
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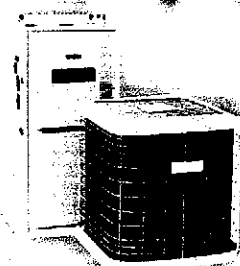
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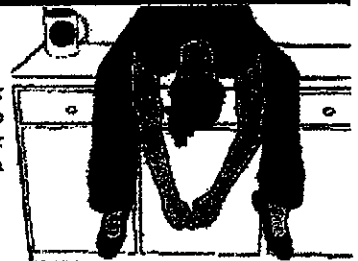
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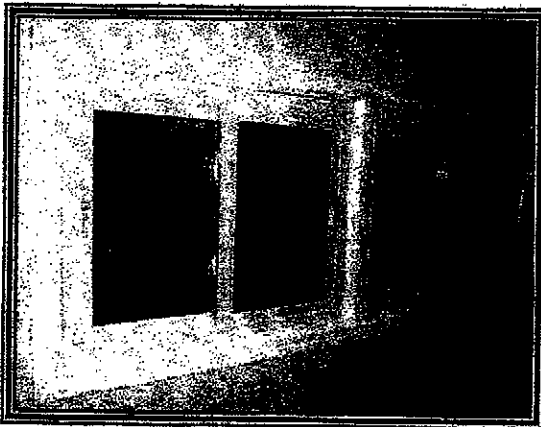
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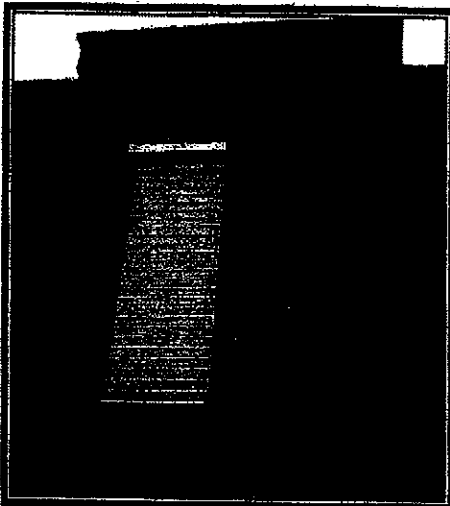


Exterior Bronze

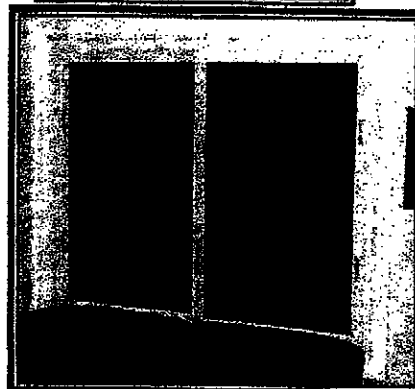


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Exterior Cocoa



Actual Acacia Project
Photos



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