

The Facts—President / Public Relations / Development: Open

Vice President / Environmental Advocate: Diane Suchomel E-mail: diane@cohopejeffco.com Secretary: Cheri Paavola 303-972-8080

Email: cheri@cohopejeffco.com

Treasurer/Newsletter/Membership: Ray Moore

303-978-1145 E-mail: wrmoorejr@msn.com

#### **Upcoming Meetings:**

Open Space: Jan 6 4:30 -8 pm, Virtual Meeting

Board of County Commissioners Every Tuesday at 8:00 am

Foothills: Jan 25, 6 pm, The Peak.

Board of Adjustment: 1st & 3rd Wednesday at 9 am, Hearing Room

One,100 Jefferson County Parkway DRCOG: Jan.19, 6:30 pm, Virtual Meeting

Planning Commission: 1st, 2nd, 4th, and 5th Wed. 6:15 pm, Hearing

Room One, 100 Jefferson County Parkway

Calendar for upcoming meetings: No January meeting. Our next meeting will be Feb 2, 2022

In This Issue: Information and Minutes 1, 4 Backyard 1-

COHOPE Treasury Activity: December 2021	W. R. Moore, Treasurer
Beginning Balance December 1, 2021	\$ <b>1271.91</b>
Deposits	\$ 0.00
Withdrawals	\$ 26.80
November newsletter \$3.85, Website \$14 Bank fee \$8.95	
Ending Balance January 5, 2022	\$ 1245.11

## THE BACKYARD

# Columbine Hills News

**Year-End Notes From The Treasurer** — As we wrap up 2021, I want to take this opportunity to share with our neighbors, both members and non-members, how the finances of the Association rest. The Columbine Hills Civic Association costs money. Shocker, I know. Every month and every year, we have both fixed and variable expenses. The money to pay for these comes entirely from you, our members. Let's review what these costs are and what it means for you, the folks who comprise this neighborhood.

In 2021, the Association will have spent \$3360.00 on the newsletter alone. This comes to every household, every month, with news about our neighborhood, our neighbors, classifieds, and other fun and helpful items to read. We spent \$941.00 for annual insurance. We spent \$148.00 for our yearly PO Box fee, another \$10.00 to register with the Secretary of State, and as members of COHOPE, we pay an annual fee of \$30.00. Our annual fixed expenses total \$4489. And what about variable expenses? In 2021, we have already paid for events such as the Community Garden at St. Philip, the Xeric Garden on Kendall and Canyon, the picnic, including the bouncy castle, face-painting, and great food and beverages, and the gift cards to reward great yards and holiday decorations. Just the variable expenses this year cost \$1600.00.

Currently we invite each household (and there are 1,283) to pay \$25.00 annually to support the Association. So just to cover our fixed fees, we need 180 households to submit \$25.00. If we add the variable expenses, not counting dumpster days, 64 households would need to contribute \$25.00 just to pay this year's variables. Put it all together and we need at least 234 households to pay dues. So far this year 128 households have contributed; only 1/10 of the households in CHCA. I am asking each one of you to commit to your share of this Association. Twenty-five dollars per year is not an unreasonable contribution for us to support the events we offer and the monthly newsletter. This is a great neighborhood, with great folks living here. We meet you when we are walking. We are inspired by your lawns and decorations. We are fortunate to have several of you participate in events and projects. We just ask you to put CHCA higher on your list of fiscal priorities. We on the Board volunteer our time because we love our neighbors and our community. Please, join us in pitching in \$25.00 next month so that 2022 can be a wonderful year here in Columbine Hills. —Respectfully, Galen Wiese, Treasurer

## Columbine Knolls South II Review

From President's Corner— We held the annual and bi-monthly meetings on Tuesday, November 9th and they went well. These were the first in-person meetings the HOA has held since January of 2020. Unfortunately, Covid-19 is likely to blame for a sparce in-person member turnout, but hopefully that will improve next year. We had 3 member households present, 6 of 7 board members present, and a whopping 78 member households represented by proxy! Our membership approved the annual meeting minutes, ratified the 2022 budget, approved two bylaw amendments, and elected 4 board members. The board of directors include Elizabeth Nelson-Hulse (Vice President), Chris Reynolds (Secretary), Bob Haberkorn (Treasurer), Andi Erpelding-Elkins (Director), Paul Peck (Director), Bob Pellegrini (Director & ACC Chairman), and I will stay on as President. I want to thank Bob Haberkorn for spending many hours going door-to-door to collect proxies from our members. I also want to thank Josh Kunkel for his many years of service on the board. Josh served several terms as both Vice President and ACC Chair, where he, along with our ACC team reviewed and approved hundreds of project requests! Josh, I appreciate everything you've done for our community! THANKS! One topic raised by attendees of the annual meeting was the issue of sidewalk access. I have responded to many emails and phone calls over the years on this subject. There are three primary contributors to the sidewalk access issue. Overgrown trees and shrubs, snow and ice not cleared from sidewalks in a timely manner, and recreational vehicles parked on the sidewalk. We are all responsible as homeowners (whether you are an HOA member or not) to ensure the sidewalks are always accessible. Imagine if you are in a wheelchair or have other mobility issues and you must navigate these obstacles? For many of our residents

it can be a showstopper and not worth the risk. I ask you to take a hard look at your landscaping and trim appropriately. Shovel snow promptly from your sidewalks, and for those loading and unloading recreational vehicles, do it in a timely manner, and please keep all parts of the RV off the sidewalk.

**COMMUNITY EVENTS** – By the time you read this we would have held the Holiday Parade of Lights event. I'm hoping you were able to participate in the parade or watch it from the sidelines. Brenda Abbott (Event Chair) and her team of volunteers put in a lot of time and effort to make this a special holiday treat!

**COMMUNITY PROJECTS:** Unfortunately, I don't have an update on the shade structure project. It is still navigating its way through the county and state permitting process. I will let you know as we learn more.

**COMMITTEES:** The welcome committee is preparing for one final cycle of welcome box deliveries in early December. I want to thank Jennifer Blake, Erin Kunkel and Anita Schicktanz for making these deliveries happen! Thanks!

—Tom Schicktanz, President CKSII HOA

#### **Columbine West Civic Association Newsletter**

From A Moment With The Board The November meeting was our year wrap up. Much of the meeting surrounded the presentation and approval of the 2022 Budget. The budget will be offering all normal events and activities accept the July Swim Night. Since the pool will be undergoing renovations, we felt that skipping a year would be beneficial. Then in 2023 we can bring back the event bigger and better, incorporating a BBQ, contests and give aways for kids & adults. In its place it was thought to bring an opportunity for young artists to showcase their creative abilities during Summer Break. The idea of a Chalk Walk has been tossed around and we would love to have a point person/ Judge to help bring the event to life. There is no set date yet, so it can be at the availability of the volunteer in charge. If you would like to head up this new activity please drop a message to CWCAtalk@gmail.com. We are also very excited to offer Membership due payments directly through the brand new website, http://www.CWCA.com for your added convenience. As noted on the front page of the newsletter the 2022 Membership Dues has seen a modest increase to \$35/annually to help defray the rising costs of activities. This past year turned out to be very successful in many ways and its the Officers/Boards intention to continue offering a balanced program of activities, community involvement and Covenant enforcement. We wish everyone a Joyous Season of Giving & Happy New Year.

# **The Leawood Rapporter**

From Leawood Metropolitan Recreation and Park District Minutes November 11, 2021 The meeting was called to order at 6:42 p.m. by President Steve Wall. Members present: Debby Baker/Vice President and Secretary, Donna Snyder/Treasurer, Wade Hancey/Special Projects, Ike Nelson/Board Member and Dave Padilla/Parks Manager. Public Comments None

**Treasurer's Report** – Donna presented the Treasurer's Report and updated proposed budget for 2022. Bills paid this month include Weston, Denver Water, doggie bag vendor, Waste Management, Xcel Energy, Debby Baker (reimbursement for cost of survey site and signs), Rich Alarcon, Dave's invoice, and reimbursement to petty cash. **Parks Manager Report** – All parks were mowed, irrigation inspected, and doggie bags checked and replenished as needed. All clean-up was completed and the irrigation system was drained and prepared for winter in all parks. New wear bars were purchased for the ATV.

**Raccoon Hollar:** A beaver dam continues to be an issue. Due to the structure of the creek trapping the beavers is not an option, so Dave will clear the dames as needed.

**Old Business** – (1) Weaver Park Bridge Repair Update: Dave confirmed that the bridge repair project has been moved into Spring 2022 at the earliest. The original cost estimate may need to be updated due to increased cost of wood. (2) Resident Survey and Signs: The sign to encourage residents to participate in the survey have been placed in 3 places in Leawood. One additional sign will be placed in Leawood, and signs placed in Country Farms and Vintage Reserve next week. So far there have been 67 responses. A more prominent link to the survey has been placed on the website landing page under Leawood Metropolitan Recreation and Park District.

(3) Tessa Richter/Tinkergarten Update: The classes are proceeding well, and the field use fee is being paid. **New Business** – ((1) Colorado LaserType Cost Increase for the Rapporter: Beginning in September of 2021, Colorado Lasertype has increased the cost to produce and mail the Rapporter to \$262/month due to the increased cost of postage. Wade moved to increase the amount paid by the Leawood Metropolitan Recreation and Park District to cover the District's share of the cost to \$131. Ike seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

- (2) Elections in 2022: One Board Member position be open in 2022. Debby isn't allowed run again since she is no longer a Leawood resident and owner.
- (3) The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 p.m.—Debby Baker, Vice President / Secretary

Leawood Civic Association Board Minutes of November 2, 2021—Present: Paul O'Connor, Kyle Evans, Travis Hall, Mike Major, Chip Langowski, Laurie Selander, Gina Severino, Orin Levy, Camille Sankey, Kate Shafer, Betsy Major, Rhonda Eveleth, Nancy Bock, Debby Baker, Laurie Sarvo, David Sarvo. The new board members will be taking office immediately to be ready for 2022.

Santa Visit: Paul will get Christmas Decorations out of pavilion shed. Nancy reserved the school for the night of December 8th. We may use the meeting room for pictures but that will be determined on the night of the visit with the Pinto picture people. The lunch room will be used for cookies, punch and crafts. Board members will show up about 4:30pm to set up for the visit. Debby will buy and bring bells and candy canes for the children. Laurie Sarvo is looking for a Santa to wear the suit. Nancy Bock will purchase cookies, punch and crafts. Laurie Sarvo will have a table for residents to fill out a survey of what they want in the Rapporter in the future. She will also ask residents to sign up for membership to the civic association for 2022. Laurie Selander will purchase a 4ft banner to advertise the events the civic association sponsors. The banner will be at the table asking for residents to join the civic association. The banner will be at all events in 2022. To all residents: please donate cookies for this event. Questions about cookies, call Nancy Bock – 303-794-5454

**Decorating Contest:** Residents can vote for their favorite house until December 16th. Call or text Laurie Selander – 303-518-1457 and vote for your favorite decorated house. Winners will receive a gift card and their house numbers will be printed on sandwich boards around the neighborhood on December 17th or 18th. Rhonda will get the gift cards. There will be no board meeting in December.

# Westbury

**2022 Board Officers and Directors** —Board elections were held at the November 11th meeting of the general membership. Our thanksto those who ran, and congratulations to the 2022 slate of officers:

John Gaudio, President, Liana Nichol, Vice President, Madonna Gaudio, Secretary, John Martinez, Treasurer

Board Members-at-large: Lauren Alman, Brendon Cody, Sharon Hilderbrant, and Tim Larson.

Westbury's HOA board is an all-volunteer working board. These individuals give of their time and talent to keep Westbury a great community. Please join with them, by contributing your great ideas, attending events in 2022, and paying your 2022 dues.

## Woodbourne

From Notes From the Board —We hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday. Don't forget to save the date for this year's Annual Woodbourne Holiday Hayride on Dec 18,2021. We will be holding an Annual Holiday Lighting competition this year with prizes for the top three finishers. Judging will be the week of December 20th so get your decorations up and remember they have to be removed within fifteen days following the holidays.

The Board is seeking a group of homeowners that are interested in brainstorming possible improvements for the Clubhouse. Please contact Celeste Terrell at CLA (celeste.terrell@claconnect.com) if you would be interested in participating. As we all know, the costs of goods and services have increased substantially recently. The Board struggled with trying to keep next year's budget within the amount of our current dues. However, given all the post COVID price increases, new contracts for trash, landscaping, and all the necessary common area asset maintenance required in our aging neighborhood, we are forced to raise dues this year. Effective January 1, 2022, monthly HOA dues will be \$65.

Please remember to update that new amount if you pay your monthly dues through your bank or third party's bill pay system

I would like to address the fact that we have not put out the survey that I said months ago would be forthcoming. I was premature in promising that. As I have since learned, putting together surveys can be a tricky proposition. What I thought would be good questions have turned out to be confusing in test cases and would not likely result in useful feed-



# There will be no January meeting. Our next meeting will be Feb 2, 2022. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

back for the Board. Needless to say, this task has been put on the back burner for the time being, maybe longer. We'll see. I

I would also like to share the recent tree trimming chain of events. The Board approved a tree-trimming proposal that had been initiated by the previous Board even though we were not fully aware of everything that it entailed. The proposal only addressed the Ash trees in the neighborhood and identified several for removal based on the arborist's evaluation that these trees would not survive the Emerald Ash Borer beetle infestation that may be coming to the area in the next year or so. After removal started, neighbors fortunately contacted the Board when it appeared healthy trees began to be removed. Due to this prompt notification, we were able to stop the accidental removal of healthy trees. Unfortunately, three trees had already been removed and one of them was a primary shade tree for a resident's backyard. The Board feels awful about this and wishes we could go back and see to it that this error did not occur. When the removal portion of the work was stopped, Bailey Tree continued with the pruning that was identified in the work order but, understandably, that did not include the trees that had been slated for removal. That is why dead branches still remain on some trees after the completed work. Since the work order did not include trimming any trees other than Ash trees, we are now working on a plan to have all of the other trees in the common areas trimmed before the spring.—Jeff Hoffman, President

Diane recently learned of ways people can show their support for members of the Jeffco Sheriff's office via the JCSO Employee Assistance Fund. The JCSO Employee Assistance Fund website is: www.jcsoeaf.org and the ways you can donate can be found here: https://www.jcsoeaf.org/copy-of-get-involved-donate-1
The address is: JCSO EAF, Attn. Mike Taplin, PO Box 18082, Golden, CO 80402.

Jefferson County Announces Important Snow Removal Updates—Due to a statewide shortage of truck drivers, Jefferson County Road and Bridge revised its Snow Removal Procedure for the 2021-22 winter season. We appreciate your understanding as we work through this staffing shortage. Community members are encouraged to work from home whenever possible on days where snowstorms affect the roads. Additionally, if you plan to visit a Jefferson County facility during snowy conditions, please visit www.jeffco.us prior to driving.

**Second Fresh Start Event Coming in January for Low-Level Offenders**—In August, government and community partners from Jefferson County gathered to help low-level offenders get their lives back on track without being arrested. Eligible attendees were able to clear their warrant and either set a new court date, re-engage in probation or have their case resolved. Due to the success of the first Fresh Start event, a second event will be held on Jan. 29, 2022.

Paid Opportunity for Youth to Support COVID-19 Recovery—Jefferson County Public Health is recruiting youth ages 14-20 to join a countywide COVID-19 Recovery Youth Action Board. As part of a two-year project, this board will work with adult community partners to identify how we can better support youth mental and physical health and co-create solutions for youth COVID-19 recovery with local decision-makers. Those interested can attend a paid info session to learn more.

From Engage Jeffco December newsletter

homeowness organization

7294 West Hoover Ave Littleton, CO 80123

http://www.cohopejeffco.com

PO BOX 620783 Littleton, CO 80162

Ray Moore

Editor's address: