

The Meadow Lark

November 2011



A Monthly Publication by and for the Residents of The Meadows, a Family Condominium Community

Candidates Night – November 17

Would you like to meet the candidates that are running this year for election to the Board of Directors? You can do just that on Candidates Night, which will be held on Thursday, November 17 at 7:00 PM in the Clubhouse.

There are seven candidates running for four two-year terms on the Board of Directors. The candidates are Joseph Fusari, Joan Orvis, Lynn Piercey, Kelton Reynolds, Joe Ann Rice, Tabitha Roberts and Eric Sokolowski.

Please plan to attend this important meeting. The Board of Directors sets the budget for our community, and also establishes all of the rules that all residents need to abide by.

Election Time – December 13

It's that time of year again. In addition to the local and state elections being held on November 8, The Meadows will have an election for members of the Board of Directors. Four seats are being contested this year.

We will hold the election at the Annual Meeting on Tuesday, December 13 at 7:00 PM in the Clubhouse. The package for the Annual Meeting will be mailed out shortly. This package will contain all the information about the election, including a proxy and a ballot. If you cannot attend the meeting, you need to send in the proxy, and you can then also cast your votes for members of the Board of Directors by returning the ballot. If you do not receive this package by mid-November, please contact the office so you can obtain one.

Return of the proxy form is very important. Our By-Laws require a certain percentage of Co-Owners either to be present at the meeting or to have signed a proxy form so they can be counted as present. Proxy forms, as well as the ballot if you wish, need to be returned by 4:30 PM Monday, December 12. They can be mailed, placed in the black Council mailbox located outside the Clubhouse or can be returned to the Meadows office in person.

Taking Care of Trash

Trash is an issue that no one really wants to deal with, but its existence is a fact of life. Some people just can't seem to dispose of trash properly. In order to keep our community looking as nice as possible, everyone is asked to please not leave trash on the Common Elements, and if you see some unsightly trash, please be a good citizen and pick it up.

To keep your community clean, please contact the Management Office at 703-830-4464 or meadowsoffice@verizon.net to report any neighbors who you feel are not following the rules related to trash and its removal. Please be aware that a full description of the rules and regulations regarding trash will be appearing in the December issue of *The Meadow Lark*.



Board of Directors Meeting: Thursday, November 17, 7:30 PM in the Clubhouse. Residents and Co-Owners are encouraged to attend. Agendas are posted online and at the Clubhouse on the Tuesday before the meeting. Minutes available upon request at The Meadows office and online at mymeadows.net.

Executive Committee: Thursday, November 17, immediately after Board meeting.

Candidate's Night: Thursday, November 17, 7:00 PM, Clubhouse

Office Closed: Thursday and Friday, November 24 & 25

Upcoming Dates...

Annual Meeting: Tuesday, December 13, 7:00 PM, Clubhouse

Residents and Co-Owners are welcomed and encouraged to attend any committee meeting. All meetings are held in the Clubhouse.

Holiday Office Hours

Closed Nov. 24 Thanksgiving
Closed Nov. 25 Day after Thanksgiving
Closed Dec. 26 Christmas Monday
Closed Jan. 2 New Years Monday

**NO TRASH PICK-UP
on November 24,
Thanksgiving
Please do not put trash out
on November 23**

See Candidate Bios on Page 3

President's Corner

The budget for 2012 has been passed and the Board is aware that the raise in condo fees is on the minds of most of us. It was a difficult decision that had to be made. Board members are Co-Owners like you and are aware that we must do this to keep the association financially viable and to protect our investment in our community and our homes. As a retired person living on a fixed income, I don't like it but realize that it has to be done.

As the time for elections draws near, I hope that all Co-Owners and residents will plan to attend the Annual Meeting on December 13th of December at 7 PM in the Clubhouse. If you don't vote before the meeting, you can do so at that time. There are seven candidates for the 2012 Board and four open seats. The composition of the Board may change but the members represent all Co-Owners. So – please vote!

~ Joan Orvis

Board of Directors Motions

At the October 20 Meeting

- Passed motions approving two Architectural Review Forms.
- Passed a motion to approve a bid of \$950 from Katchmark for a roof repair.
- Passed a motion reaffirming previous email votes regarding approval of insurance renewal, two waterproofings, a roof repair and an interior alteration.
- Defeated a motion to reduce the hours for security.
- Passed a motion to not allow home swim meets.
- Defeated a motion to remove funding from the swim team.
- Passed a motion allocating some funding for the swim team.
- Defeated a motion to remove funding for removal of dog feces.
- Passed a motion to change the guest fee at the pool to \$5 per day.
- Passed a motion to adopt the budget for 2012 with changes discussed at the meeting.
- Passed a motion approving a speaker for the Annual Meeting.
- Passed a motion to not hold the December Board meeting.
- Passed a motion approving the Halloween decorating contest.
- Passed a motion renewing the snow removal contract with Collins Septic at the same rates as last year.
- Passed a motion accepting a bid from Middledorf of \$1950 for powerwashing.
- Passed a motion accepting a bid of \$4700 from KGS for grading correction behind a unit.
- Passed a motion approving a complaint resolution procedure to be used relating to violation of state law.
- Passed a motion reducing a violation charge.
- Passed a motion to accept our attorney's recommendations regarding two collection cases.

COMPLETE MINUTES OF BOARD MEETINGS
AVAILABLE AT THE OFFICE

Remodeling?

Any desired changes to the exterior or interior of your unit must be submitted on an ARF or Request for Interior Alteration form to the Board of Directors for approval PRIOR to the change being done.

Satellite Dishes in The Meadows



Security Totals

September 15 – October 14, 2011

Vehicles Ticketed: 77

Vehicles Towed: 9

Calls for service and/or situations involving or requiring security assistance, by street:

Avocado Court: 1

Cool Oak Lane: 3

Golden Oak Court/Road: 8

Rustling Leaves Lane: 3

Saguaro Place: 3

Saint Germain Drive: 3

Strasburg Drive: 8


Turin Lane: 1

Calls referred to FCPD/FCFD: 5

The Meadows



Fire Regulations

- Kerosene, or any fuel heaters, are forbidden by Meadows regulations.
- Residents should not store combustibles in furnace rooms. It is a serious fire hazard and is against County and Meadows regulations. 
- Smoke detectors are required on *each level* of homes in The Meadows.
- Residents should maintain a fire extinguisher in their units. It should be rated at least 2A:10BC.

A/C UNITS

If you replace your air conditioning unit, you may install it inside your utility room or submit an ARF for proposed exterior installation.

Board Candidates

There are seven candidates for the four open spots on The Meadows Board of Directors, the election will be held at the Annual Meeting on December 13 in the Clubhouse. Here is a brief biography of each candidate and a statement concerning why they are running for the Board of Directors. Please plan to attend Candidates Night on Thursday, November 17 at 7:00 PM in the Clubhouse. You can meet and ask questions of these candidates at that meeting.

Joseph Fusari

Joseph has lived in our community for the past two years. He has degrees in International Political Science and Police Science and works as a Contract Specialist/Business Advisor. He says he is interested in the Board of Directors "because I care about our neighborhood, its security and my neighbors. I have spoken with many of my neighbors and I have a good sense of what issues are most important. I want to use my education, career experience and motivation to see the Meadows become and continue to get better for all residents." He goes on to say "I will be able to provide my knowledge of budgeting, forecasting and my experience working with and through complex legal issues."

Joan Orvis

Joan has lived in the Meadows since 1991, first as a renter then she bought her unit in 1993. She served on the Board of Directors for ten years, then two years later was elected again in 2009. She currently serves as the President. She is a member of the Historic Centreville Society and serves on its Board of Directors. Joan states that "the Meadows is my community and not only mine. It belongs to all of us. Keeping it attractive, maintaining buildings and keeping the Association financially healthy are my goals."

Lynn Piercey

Lynn has lived in the Meadows for 15 years. She has been a member of the Board of Directors for four years and works in accounting in the construction industry. Lynn is interested in being on the Board of Directors because "I want to be involved with the issues that affect our community. I want to help make this a safe and clean community. I am interested and

welcome feedback from all members of the community."

Kelton Reynolds

Kelton has been a Co-Owner and lived in the Meadows for 24 years. He raised his family here, and works for a local grocery chain. He has served in various positions on the Board of Directors, including Vice President, for 14 years. Kelton says "I understand the Board has to look at the whole picture when trying to find solutions to problems. I have gotten to know what's right for the community and what we can't do." He also says "my motto is 'do what's right for the whole community and be fair to everyone'."

Joe Ann Rice

Joe Ann has lived in the Meadows for 14 years. She is retired from Fairfax County where she worked for 18 years. She lived in Annandale for many years and was involved with the homeowners association before moving here. She is interested in being on the Board of Directors "because I would like to take a more active role in governing of the community. I have seen many changes in the last 14 years and would like to see the community brought back to the way it was when I decided to move here." She then says "I feel that my knowledge and experience would be an asset to the other homeowners, renters and the community on the whole."

Tabitha Roberts

Tabitha has lived in the Meadows for almost three years. She is the owner of an event planning business and a member of the Association of Bridal Consultants in Virginia. She is interested in serving on the Board of Directors because she says "I have a commitment to making our neighbor-

hood a better, safer and more involved community." She states "I know that safety and community pride are issues that need to be addressed. I think that the Board holds the key to making real changes in the Meadows to make it not only a desirable community to live in, but a neighborhood people will want to move in to."

Eric Sokolowski

Eric grew up in the area and moved to the Meadows in 2005. He is a graduate of Penn State and works for an engineering firm doing work for the Navy. He is active in the local Jeep community and participates in fundraisers for several organizations. He was appointed to the Board of Directors several months ago, and would like to continue as he feels "my presence on the Board has given the community the voice that it has been looking for. Historically Boards in Associations have received negative comments" regarding issues in the community. He goes on to say "if I am elected, I will continue to work at removing this negative stereotype by truly being a representative of the community and its residents."



Sunday, November 6

"Fall Back" at 2 AM

*Set your clocks back one hour
and replace the batteries in your
smoke alarms*

Meadows Website

www.mymeadows.net

Council of Co-Owners

The Meadows

6100 Strasburg Drive
Centreville, VA 20121

The Meadow Lark is published each month exclusively for the benefit of the residents and owners of The Meadows. It is the official publication of the Council of Co-Owners and is under the purview of the Board of Directors. News items, personal ads, and such are welcomed and should be placed in the large mailbox in front of the Clubhouse, emailed to meadowsoffice@verizon.net or faxed to 703-815-0755. The deadline is the 20th of each month. Personal ads must be 25 words or less, on 8½x11-inch paper. Include your name, Meadows address, and telephone number. They must be renewed each month. The Meadows does not endorse any advertisers.

EDITORS: Bill Liedtke and Joan Orvis

Meadows Office
Monday–Friday, 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM
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