

LINCOLNSHIRE NEWS

Lincolnshire Homeowners Association P.O. Box 9532 Springfield, IL 62791-9532 Spring 2017

www.LincolnshireSubdivision.com

Email: LincolnshireBoard@gmail.com Facebook: Lincolnshire Subdivision

Annual Meeting May 2, 6-8 pm

Jerome Civic Center 2901 Leonard St.

ASSESSMENTS DUE BY MAY 2

Agenda

Issues and Projects 2016-2017

Covenant compliance, mosquito spraying, online and social media, new home construction/ Architectural Standards, subdivision entry landscaping, preventing dumping, security

The 2017 budget

Planning cost containment, maximizing money market interest

2017-2018 projects

Park sidewalk replacement, subdivision entry landscaping, Lincolnshire Boulevard tree replacement, park planning.

Election of 2017-2018 Board

Guest speaker

City Arborist Jeffery Reim will explain a replacement plan for the Lincolnshire Boulevard trees and future park projects.

Neighbors needed

Covenant compliance team

Park planning team— gardeners, families and kids to help plan green projects



Attend the annual meeting. Get involved. Subdivision maintenance costs are rising. Let's plan now to reduce future expenses and avoid increasing annual assessments.

Garage Sale Organizer needed to advertise, post entry signs

Contact the Board to help

*2017 Garage Sales
April 22, September 16
7:30 am-1:00 PM*

What the LHA Board Does for You

The LHA Board is volunteers working to protect property values and neighborhood harmony. The Board enforces covenants and files liens for non-compliance, and releases liens when requirements are met.

It collects required assessments and fines, and establishes a yearly budget to maintain common property and pays bills. It contracts for services and neighborhood improvements that benefit all subdivision neighbors.

The Board responds to email from neighbors experiencing covenant problems. It contacts noncompliant homeowners. It works with the Springfield Police Department, the Department of Public Works, and Public Health to solve problems unrelated to covenants.

The Board includes neighbors to serve as the Architectural Standards committee. It ensures that construction covenants are honored by builders and home owners for both new construction and home improvements.

The Board elects from its membership a president, vice president, secretary and treasurer. Many other neighbors are needed to assist specific activities including confirming covenant compliance, garage sale publicity, architectural standards review, and other tasks.

When the Board Meets

Board business is frequently communicated by email. The Board determines a monthly meeting day and place according to the needs of its members. The 2016-2017 Board meets for an hour on the third Monday of the month. See website for details.

Boulevard Tree Replacement Planned

Department of Public Works project list Fall 2017

City arborist Jeffery Reim will speak at our annual meeting to discuss the replacement of the 68 trees on the 11 Lincolnshire Boulevard "islands". The ideal replacement trees should be resistant to winter road salt, be able to thrive in poor soil, require little water, and require little fall leaf clean up.

The boulevard trees give the Lincolnshire subdivision character. It communicates that it is a welcoming, safe place for neighbors to walk, and that residents take pride in home ownership. The trees act as a noise barrier, an important consideration for the subdivision located between highway and high traffic arteries.

With rising costs of mowing, ground cover could save the homeowner's association dollars that are needed for other maintenance responsibilities. We also discussed planting a low maintenance ground cover on the boulevard, such as the sumac that is common to commercial properties such as Sam's Club.

Weather and other considerations will influence the completion of the project.

Just do it.

Join the Board if you...

- Care about your neighborhood and your home.
- Have two hours a month to make things happen as a Board member.
- Responsibly manage money and keep financial records.
- Are a problem solver, will research solutions, make phone calls, emails
- Will team up to make projects happen for the future

2016-2017 LHA Board

Mike Varlotta, *President*

Answers emails, procures bids for services, contacts neighbors about covenant concerns

Bev Huber, *Vice President*

Facebook and web updates to webmaster, covenant compliance

Kathy Hagen-Stapleton, *Treasurer*

Bill paying, financial record keeping, covenant compliance, budget

Sue Tin, *Secretary*

Meeting agendas and minutes, correspondence, newsletter, assessment notices, spreadsheet updates, improvement projects

Thanks to volunteers:

Pat Ryan for maintaining entry planter, Louise Swarz, Marty and Tina Towsley, Cheryl Holtshaus, Olivia Varlotta, Patti Daniels, and architect Ben Dockter for architectural standards review

Covenant Issues?

You may email or write to the Board to ask for help solving covenant compliance issues. The Board does not respond to anonymous complaints. We do not reveal your name when contacting your neighbor to resolve a problem.

Lincolnshire Homeowners Association
P.O. Box 9532
Springfield, IL 62791-9532
Email:
LincolnshireBoard@gmail.com

Download and know your covenants

www.LincolnshireSubdivision.com

Covenant Issues 2016

To maintain high property values by requiring covenant compliance in 2016-2017, the Board sent a number of covenant compliance letters for these violations:

- 14 Mowing/ behind fence cleanup/ yard junk/ brush piles
- 11 Lawn debris on sidewalks/ street/ ditches
- 8 Storage and /or parking camper/ RV/ commercial vehicle/ non-operating vehicle
- 2 Mailboxes/ posts
- 4 Architectural standards

New fence or home improvement?

Submit plans to the LHA Architectural Standards committee:
LincolnshireBoard@gmail.com

Help With Non-Covenant Issues

The LHA Board upholds the covenants to maintain the value of the neighborhood. Direct other concerns to these helpful resources:

City of Springfield website www.springfield.il.us

Ward 10 Alderman Ralph Hanauer 789-2151

Sangamon County Public Health 789-2167
(report grass over 10", mowing enforcement)

Director of Public Works – Mark Mahoney 789-2255

Service Request 789-2246

City Arborist - Jeffrey Reim 789-2428

Waste and Recycling 789-2327

Engineering 789-2260

Springfield Police

Non-Emergency 788-8311 Crimestoppers 788-8427

Beat 600 Neighborhood Police Officer Pager 741-0987
(report barking dogs, dumping, speeding, theft, vandalism)

How can we reduce mowing expenses and improve the neighborhood park without increasing expenses? Planting trees in key areas? Neighborhood garden? Prairie restoration/monarch butterfly area? Volunteer with your family, all ages needed to make plans.

LHA is exploring partnerships and resources like Sustainable Springfield to help us to improve the environment for our neighbors and to reduce mowing costs in the water retention area we call "the park". We need neighbors to develop a five year plan that can improve the park and reduce expenses. We welcome the input of neighborhood kids.

Sustainable Springfield works to increase the urban canopy of trees. For more information see



Sustainable Springfield
a sustainable world begins with us

www.sustainable.springfield.org. Here's why we should make it our goal to increase the urban canopy:

- Trees provide a low maintenance landscape that cools the city. Sustainable Springfield will enact a public/private partnership with property owners, beginning plantings on key entry ways into Springfield that could benefit from low maintenance tree cover.
- If every property owner planted one tree the U.S., the carbon dioxide level in the atmosphere would be reduced by one billion pounds each year.
- Water pollution and flooding are significantly decreased with green infrastructure. Large older urban trees intercept 100,000 gallons of rainfall per year, slowing storm water runoff.

WARNING: Packages delivered by the US Postal Service were stolen from doorsteps on Lincolnshire Boulevard during summer 2016. Arrange the secure delivery of your orders. Report theft to the delivery provider and Beat 600 Officer at pager 741-0987.

Keep Ditches Clean

Lawn debris and trash in drainage ditches costs you \$12,000+ annually
