

WEXFORD WATCH

WEXFORD VILLAGE HOMES ASSOCIATION, INC.

2014 Annual Meeting Recap

The 2014 Annual Wexford Village Homes Association meeting was Tuesday, Dec 2 at High Point Church.

Dick Ihlenfeld, board president, introduced board members that were in attendance and discussed what the board accomplished in 2014, including a new shed in Wexford Park, ash tree treatment, and a review of the association's contracts. Paul Stang, board treasurer, presented the association's finances.

A representative from the West Police District gave a presentation on the status of the Wexford Village neighborhood and an update on Madison police initiatives. Some of the highlights of the presentation include:

- Call volume in Madison is up in general. This does not mean that all of the calls are crime related, just that the police are responding to more calls. Wexford Village is one of the safest communities in Madison.
- In response to the increase in crime, many new investigative units are being formed. This includes a violent crime unit, a burglary unit, and task forces for mental health and neighborhood resources.

- A new police district is being created, which will make the West district smaller (Wexford Village will remain part of the West district). The new headquarters will be in the old Mount Olive Lutheran Church on Mineral Point Rd. It is scheduled to open in 2017. Design work begins in 2015 and construction will commence in 2016.
- You can stay up-to-date on Madison Police business through Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/MadisonPolice>), Twitter (<https://twitter.com/madisonpolice>), YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/user/CityofMadisonPolice>), and their blog (<http://www.cityofmadison.com/police/blog/>).

Many of the board members are returning for 2015, but there are some position openings. If you'd like to be on the board, e-mail Dick Ihlenfeld at rwi@chorus.net to learn more about the openings. We are specifically looking for help with the website, which involves making timely updates to the site so the information is current. Board members are expected to serve on various committees and attend the monthly meeting.

Plans for 2015

The Wexford Village Homes Association budget is in good shape. For the last couple of years, we have saved money because items that we budgeted for either were not needed or did not require the full budgeted amount.

For example, the association has not needed to spend as much money on repairs for the lights along the walking paths.

As a result, we are able to spend more on neighborhood events, like the End of Summer Party, and plan to maintain the current

line-up of events in the future. We were also able to treat ash trees in the neighborhood that might have otherwise been killed by beetles.

In addition, we will be making significant improvements to the walking paths next year. Deteriorating sections of the paths will be cut out and replaced. Specific sections will be identified in spring.

Contact the board if you are aware of path sections that are in rough shape.

Dues & Directory

Return your dues payment and directory information in the addressed envelope by Feb 1, 2015 to avoid the \$10 late fee. Note: Dues have not increased from last year.

The association will place liens on properties that fail to pay their dues in a timely manner. The dues money pays for maintaining our pathways and green spaces and our neighborhood events.

The 2015 directory will be distributed in February.

The Wexford Watch is available online. To receive the electronic editions published throughout the year, send your e-mail address to the Wexford Watch at wexfordwatchmadison@gmail.com.

Ash Trees

Thirty-two Wexford Village-owned ash trees were treated for Emerald Ash Borer by TruGreen (who does Wexford Village weed control) at a cost of \$75 per tree. The treatment is to last 2 years. This was significantly cheaper than other companies and cheaper than replacing all the trees.

The board is in negotiation with the City of Madison to share the cost of treating ash trees in Wexford Park. The city's current proposal is to cut down all ash trees in the park.

Circle Maintenance

Reminder to residents who live on cul-de-sacs to not pile their yard waste in the circles.

This spring, we will be having dead trees from the circles removed. We'd appreciate it if residents who lived on cul-de-sacs would take the initiative to maintain these green spaces. This would save the association on maintenance costs. The board can help purchase trees and plants. Contact a board member for more information.

Dog Waste

Do not leave dog waste on sidewalks, Wexford trails, or in Wexford green space. The board has received numerous complaints about owners not cleaning up after pets. The City of Madison issues \$100 fine to those caught not properly disposing pet feces.

Some of the complaints were in regards to waste on the trail by Stricker's Pond, which was actually from Canadian geese.

Board Meetings

The Wexford Village Homes Association board meets at 7 pm the first Tuesday of every month (except December and July) in the High Point Church. The meeting is open to all residents. We donate \$150 to the church for letting us use their space.

Snow Removal

Reminder that the City of Madison requires homeowners to remove snow and ice from sidewalks by noon of the day after the snow has stopped. If ice is difficult to remove, sand or salt should be applied. Free sand is available at various parks for Madison residents. Fire hydrants in front of properties should also be cleared, and

mailbox should be easily accessible for postal carriers.

Citations are being issued to residents who do not clear their sidewalk. To report a hazardous sidewalk, or to obtain free sand, visit the city website: <http://www.cityofmadison.com/residents/winter/snow/ice/snowrules.cfm>

Wexford on Facebook

If you are a Facebook user, you can connect with your fellow Wexford Village residents on the Wexford Village Neighbors page. This page was created by neighborhood residents and is not maintained by the board.

To participate in the page, you will need to join the Wexford Village Neighbors group. The group is not open to non-residents and membership is controlled by a moderator.

End of Summer Party

The End of Summer Potluck was held Saturday, September 6th at Wexford Park. It was a fun event of food and games and was well-attended. The board provided grillables, buns, and beverages, and residents provided desserts and sides.

Thanks go to Monica Bear and Lisa Hofmeister for organizing. We hope to see everyone again next year.

If you'd like to be involved in a Wexford social event, contact any board member.

Service and Recreational Vehicles

Over the past few months, the Wexford Village board has received complaints about impermissible vehicles being stored on Wexford Village residents' properties. Per the Wexford Village Homes Association Covenants, service and recreational vehicles are not allowed to be stored in driveways, along side homes, or underneath decks (<http://www.wexfordvillage.org/publicationsCovenants.htm>). This includes, but is not limited to, buses, compa-

ny trucks, boats, campers, trailers, and RVs. These vehicles can be parked in garages.

The board has sent letters to these residents, which many have ignored. Our next step may be to hire an attorney to bring a lawsuit against those residents. Lawsuits are an expensive use of association dues. If you are a resident who is in violation of the covenants, please relocate your trailer or vehicle.