

WEXFORD WATCH

WEXFORD VILLAGE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Annual Meeting Recap

The 2013 Annual Wexford Village Association meeting was Tuesday, Dec 3 at High Point Church. Approximately 40 people attended.

Dick Ihlenfeld, board president, introduced board members that were in attendance, presented the association's finances, and asked for volunteers to join the board.

George Dreckmann, Recycling Coordinator for City of Madison, gave a presentation on how the one-can recycling program works. There was a video showing what happens to the items put in recycling containers, and Mr. Dreckmann answered questions about

the recycling program. To learn more about the city's program, including what you can and cannot put in your bin, refer to the Streets & Recycling Web site: <http://www.cityofmadison.com/streets/>

Many of the board members are returning for 2014, but there are some position openings. We are specifically looking for help with the directory and Web site. If you'd like to be on the board, e-mail Dick Ihlenfeld at rwi@chorus.net to learn more about the openings. Board members are expected to serve on various committees and attend the monthly meeting.

Dues & Directory

The Wexford Village dues notice and directory updates were mailed Jan 1, 2014. Return your payment and information in the addressed envelope by Feb 1, 2014 to avoid the \$10 late fee.

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.

Neighborhood Watch Meeting Recap

Last May, Lieutenant John Patterson and Patrol Officer Adria Warren met with residents of Wexford Village at the Alicia Ashman Public Library to explain the Madison Police districts and to offer tips on neighborhood safety.

Safety tips from the meeting:

- Display house numbers clearly so first responders can find your house.
- Keep garage doors and windows closed (even during the day) to prevent theft.
- Lock cars that are left out (during the day and overnight), and do not store garage door openers in these vehicles.
- Trim trees and bushes away from windows so burglars can't hide.
- Install motion-detection lights.
- Use timers for various interior lights.

- Put a hold on mail and newspapers when going out of town, and have someone take care of your snow removal/lawn maintenance.
- Make a list of all valuables in case you need to file a police and insurance report.
- Use window stops on 1st floor windows.
- Leave a spare key with a neighbor instead of under the doormat.
- Place a sturdy piece of wood in sliding door tracks or use a foot-activated lock to make them difficult to open.
- Call police if you see strange activity.

If you'd like to be on the neighborhood watch e-mail list, fill out the form on the Wexford Village Web site: <http://www.wexfordvillage.org/neighborhoodWatchSubscribeForm.htm>

The Wexford Watch is now online. To receive the electronic editions published throughout the year, update your e-mail address on our Web site <http://www.wexfordvillage.org/associationUpdate.htm> or send your e-mail address to Trish Watts at pwatts@tds.net.

Tree Trimming

In November, members of the Wexford Village and Saukdale Condo boards got together to walk the Wexford/Saukdale berm, looking for dead trees, limbs, and other safety hazards. 32 areas were marked as needing attending. The associations will split the cost of the clean up project, with much of the work already completed.

If you notice dangerous trees or branches on Wexford Village owned property, contact a board member about removing the hazard.

Clean Sweep Moves

Clean Sweep has permanently closed their Fish Hatchery location and opened up at 7102 US HWY 12 near the Dane Count Landfill.

Clean Sweep is a place to bring hazardous household materials such as oil-based paints, paint-related products, pesticides, poisons, aerosols, and rechargeable batteries. A list of materials and how to dispose of them is available at: <http://www.danecountycleansweep.com/household.aspx>

Bears at the Zoo

The Henry Villas Zoo is fundraising for their Arctic Passage project, which is set to break ground in early 2014 and will bring bears back to the zoo.

Donations can be made online at razoo.com/Vilas-Zoo-Bears, at vilaszoo.org, or by calling the Friends of the Henry Vilas Zoo at (608) 258-9490.

Board Meeting

Reminder that the Wexford Village Association Board meets at 7 pm the first Tuesday of every month (except December and July) in the High Point Church. We donate \$125 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. 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. First offense is \$124 with subsequent offenses at \$187.

To report a hazardous sidewalk, or to obtain free sand, visit the city Web site: <http://www.cityofmadison.com/residents/winter/snowice/snowrules.cfm>

Wexford Park

A new storage shed is in Wexford park. The shed is 9x13 and is next to the current shed. It sits on rot resistant chemically-treated landscaping timber skids, which are on a bed of crushed limestone for ventilation and water drainage underneath. The current shed is on a concrete slab. The option to use limestone saved a significant amount of money in build costs and time. The new shed does not have electricity.

This new space eliminates the need for

Board members to store park equipment in their homes, and we no longer need to track who has what equipment.

Wexford Village Association paid \$2000 for the shed. The City of Madison Parks Department paid for the rest and did the installation. This spring, the Parks Department will stain the new shed.

The park is open in the winter. Thanks go to Ken Schmidt for maintaining the ice-skating rinks.

Leasing Your Property

There are a number of Wexford Village homeowners that lease their property to family members or other individuals. Recently, there have been a few situations where the tenants were not taking care of the property or were a nuisance to other residents. The Wexford Village Homeowners Association is not responsible for the actions of renting tenants and has no authority to restrict who rents in our association. Homeowners must be diligent in researching prospective renters. There are agencies in Madison that can help home-

owners find renters and also help manage the property

Even if a homeowner is not residing at the property, they are still responsible for making sure the association dues are paid and that the property is maintained to the standards listed in our covenants.

If residents have issues with renters, the Board suggests contacting the homeowner to discuss the situation. If necessary, residents can also contact the City of Madison police department.

Sidewalk Repair

In 2014, the City of Madison will repair defective sidewalks in our district. You might have noticed sidewalk markings this fall. Sidewalks marked with a white "X" and arrows or dashes are to be replaced. Sidewalks marked with a pink line and a white "C" are to be cut to remove a tripping hazard.

Property owners with sidewalk needing to be replaced or repaired will be mailed an

estimate in early spring. Owners can hire a licensed contractor and pay 100% of the repair costs or have the work done by the City contract and pay 50% of the repair costs. Construction is scheduled for early May with completion by September. More information is available at: <http://www.cityofmadison.com/engineering/constructionSidewalk.cfm>