



Autumn Lakes Gazette

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January 17, 2018 MEETING

Introductions:

Laura Farkas opened the meeting and introduced the Board members, Keith McCracken and Rob Adelson of AMC Management. Guests included Jim Carver and Norm Rhea, Maryland Heights City Councilmen for Ward 4, and Officer Erica Stough from the Maryland Heights Police Department.

Councilmen report:

Norm and Jim spoke about some upcoming events at the Community Center, which includes the St Patrick's Day Luncheon on March

11, the MOBap Mammography Van on March 13, the AARP Tax Preparation starting on Feb 6 and some of the new day trips planned this year. Details about these programs can be found in the Maryland Heights newsletter.

Jim and Norm also updated the residents that plans for the old 7-11 site are currently in Planned Review with the city and will hopefully be approved soon. And, the developers of the new Ice Rink are expecting to break ground in March.

Police Update

Officer Erica Stough provided information about the crime stats in Autumn Lakes over the past six months. Most of the reports have been normal neighborhood patrols by police. There was a report of several cars being left unlocked and broken into. The owners declined to file a police report.

Please note – most insurance companies will not cover vehicles or their contents if the vehicle was not secured (aka locked) during a break in. Also, do not leave running vehicles unattended.

Use the non-emergency number for issues that are non-life threatening (suspicious cars, garage doors left open; noise disturbance; something doesn't seem right) 208-8477

Use 911 for life threatening issues.

Question – What's going on with the Neighborhood Watch Program?

Answer – The Neighborhood Watch program is undergoing some changes. The city is looking at hosting Ward Neighborhood Watch meetings instead of just small group meetings.

Question – Who can be called if a street light goes out?

Answer – Please call the city's non-emergency number **738-2250** to report non-working street lights.

The Maryland Heights Public Works department will come and take care of it. You do not have to call Ameren.

Trustee Election:

Laura explained that there will be **2 Trustee positions open in May**. If you're interested in running for Trustee, you must be a resident during the term of office and be in good standing with fees. A prospective trustee information form needs to be completed to be on the ballot – this information will be sent out to all residents with the ballots so they can know

more about the candidates. Details and deadlines will be discussed at the March meeting. If you have questions about being a trustee, contact one of the current trustees who will be glad to answer questions.

Parking & Street Lights

Laura did not have any updates about the new No Parking zones or street lights.

City Events

Laura also explained that there's a Paper Shredding Day on March 21 and Electronic Recycling on May 12 at the Maryland Heights Government Center.

Architecture

Dick explained that the biggest problem now is broken/burst pipes due to residents leaving outside hoses connected and/or on. Repairs can be expensive. He highly encourages that residents know where their water shut off valves are and if you need assistance to find the shut off, he's willing to help.

Landscaping

Jay explained that we'll be landscaping the area near the fenced spillway on the lower lake this spring. Look for more details soon.

Social Committee

Christine Melton reported that the Social Committee just had their first meeting of the year.

Here is the calendar of events so far for this year:

Saturday, March 24—Beer Tasting

Meet at Six Mile Bridge Brewery—4 o'clock
You are welcome to bring food to share.



Sunday, June 24 – Pool Party and Ice Cream Social

Saturday, Sept 22 – Autumn Fest

The committee is looking for a **new wine vendor** for our wine tasting. If you know of any, please contact Christine.

Pink Flamingo Friday Parties:



While Pink Flamingo Friday Parties are not a Social Committee event, they are a huge favorite with residents. What is a Pink Flamingo Party? It's a bring-your-own-refreshments and chair to the driveway/block party where the host is identified by a flock of pink flamingos at the end of their driveway.

The first party will be kicking-off this spring. Would you like to share your driveway one Friday? You may borrow the flock from the current host at the end of their party. If you're interested in hosting a party, please contact Christine.

Association Management Report by Keith McCracken:

Autumn Lakes Association as of 12/31/17 was \$71 under budget on income YTD and \$6,087 over budget on expenses YTD. Autumn Lakes Condominiums as of 12/31/17 was \$17,608 under budget on income YTD and \$18,482 under

budget on expenses YTD.

The spring leaf cleanup is scheduled for the week of March 12th (weather permitting). The 18 houses can put their leaves at the curb for pick up. Please do not bag them or blow them into the street.

Rob and Dave have been very busy addressing work requests, removing squirrels and raccoons from attics, evicting birds and replacing the smaller retaining walls. Please do not feed the wildlife as it creates 'nuisance situations'.

With the recent arctic weather, it has become apparent that some unit owners have not disconnected garden hoses and stored them for the winter (or have reconnected them). As a courtesy, our maintenance crew checks and disconnects garden hoses from the outside faucets every November. However, this is a unit owner's responsibility. Leaving hoses connected can result in frozen and burst pipes which in turn results in water damage to the units. Please disconnect water hoses and store them for the winter. It is also recommended to shut off the water supply line to the exterior faucets for the winter and turn them back on in the spring.

Snow Policy:

Plowing and shoveling of drives, lots and sidewalks only occurs after 2 inches or more of snow. For less than 2 inches of snow if icy conditions exist chemical/salt will be applied.

Priority areas: Lots and drives—Sidewalks - Some sections of the city sidewalks. In the event of extreme snowfall or extreme ice, sidewalks will not be done, driveways and lots will be the priority.

If your vehicles are in the driveway, the driveway may not be plowed for insurance reasons. Please park in your garage. Or, you may choose to park in the street AFTER the streets have been plowed then move your vehicle back into your driveway after it has been plowed. With 294 driveways and sidewalks, the snow removal company cannot start every unit at the same time. Please be patient and exercise caution. The company has 24 hours after the storm ends to complete the clean-up.

The Board and I completed the walk-through this fall and are preparing the list of driveways, sidewalks and retaining walls for repair and replacement in 2018. We also looked at the buildings' siding, trim and paint to prioritize which need to be done. Several decks are noted in need of repair or replacement. Owners are being notified and informed that keeping your units (including decks) in good repair is their responsibility and is required for safety to prevent any increase in insurance.

Residents are required to obtain Board approval for decks, windows, door replacements or modifications. As well as any other exterior architectural changes. All necessary city permits are required.

Please note that trash cans/totes are to be stored in your garage and not outside the building or in the driveway.

Please call the AMC office at 314-291-1450 if you have a work request, question or concern.
You can also fill out a work request online at <http://www.autumnlakesstl.com/contact-us.html>.

Nextdoor App:

Just a reminder that the Nextdoor App is a great tool to hear about what's going on around us, but is not the official communication of AMC or the Board. Please contact the AMC office if you have repairs that need to be made or concerns.



When neighbors start talking, good things happen.

Residents Questions & Comments:

Question: Do we have an insurance fact sheet to provide to resident's insurance companies about the recent changes to the Autumn Lakes insurance?

Answer: Yes, you can contact AMC to get information for your insurance agent. There wasn't a large insurance change except that now the Association insurance will cover residents' upgrades. They do recommend that you have at least \$10,000 of Loss Assessment coverage on your private insurance to cover the Association's insurance deductible.

Question: Is anyone eligible for the AARP Tax preparation?

Answer: Details about the AARP tax preparation information are available in the Maryland Heights newsletter.

Question: There is a resident who rides a scooter down the middle of the road. This is unsafe. What can be done?

Answer: Please contact the Association about unsafe practices of residents and they will deal with those issues.

Question: Does the city still do hazardous waste recycling for old paint cans?

Answer: St Louis County hosts hazardous household waste recycling. You can also put out **DRIED OUT** paint cans in normal waste containers. To dry out paint, you can use paint drying packets available at any hardware store or open the cans up and let the paint fully dry.

Other Community News.....

March 3: Home Expo, Etc. (hosted by MH)

9 to 1 pm at MH Community Center

A great resource if you are considering home improvements.

March 31: Paper Shredding

at the MH Government Center parking lot

Come join the fun in 2018!

CLUBHOUSE RENTAL: Don't forget that the Clubhouse can be rented for special events by unit owners. The Clubhouse has hosted several graduation parties, baby showers, bridal showers and more. For more information, please contact the AMC office.

The next Autumn Lakes Association meeting will be held on 3/21/18 at 7 pm.
Autumn Lakes RESIDENTS are encouraged to attend.

RECYCLING GUIDE

YES:

Cardboard - Junk Mail - Newspapers
Beverage Cans - Food Boxes - Food Cans
Glass Jars & Bottles - Milk/Juice Cartons
Plastic jugs, Bottles & Containers
Empty all containers and replace caps

NOT THESE:

Plastic bags, any kind
Coat hangers—Scrap Metal—Pots/Pans
Soiled foil - Heavily soiled food containers
Juice Pouches - Foil packs
Paper Plates - Plastic utensils
Electronics—Batteries
#6 Plastics (ex. Styrofoam)



A trashy subject

- Trash and Recycle Pick-up is on TUESDAY morning.
- If Monday is a national holiday, pick-up will be on WEDNESDAY morning.
- Yard Waste Pick-up is on Monday morning.

If at all possible, PLEASE PUT YOUR TRASH CONTAINERS OUT no earlier than the night before, preferably after 6 pm.

Trash totes and cans should be stored away the evening after pickup. Help keep our neighborhood looking neat.

Allow 3 feet between the big totes and anything else so the trucks can mechanically pick them up.



BEER TASTING

Saturday, March 24, 2018—4 pm
at SIX MILE BRIDGE BREWERY
11841 Dorsett Road, Maryland Heights

MEET US THERE!
You are welcome
to bring food to share!

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Bridgeton MO 63044