

## SGCA AGM-May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016

1. Meeting called to motion; 1<sup>st</sup>-John Mellor; 2<sup>nd</sup>-Sharan Mellor
2. Introduction of the current board of directors conducted
3. Summary of objective of the board and Settler's Grove Community Association overview conducted. This past year, we have been participating in many discussions/ meetings with the City of Kitchener in regards to lands that are currently on title and as well regarding ongoing maintenance of the common grounds. The City of Kitchener has provided us proof that binds Settler's Grove Community Association under contract to maintain common grounds in the area. This is a registered landscaping agreement that was originally set up by Thomasfield Homes when the subdivision was first established (prior to 1999). Each home owner is bound to this agreement. The board of director's intent go forward is to use up any reserves (monies) towards continued landscaping and social improvements of our neighbourhood to benefit all residents.
4. Overview of 2015 events conducted including;
  - Skating party
  - Annual General Meeting
  - Earth Day Clean up
  - Easter Hunt
  - Garage Sale
  - Annual BBQ in the park
  - Family Movie Day
  - Annual Holiday Party
  - House Decorating Contest
5. Presentation of Finances Overview for 2015;
  - The 2015 finances have not yet been audited, and we are trying to secure someone to complete the audit. Last year, we were able to acquire a free audit and it is our intent to try to find a cost saving auditor. Audit should be completed by June, 2016.
  - In 2015; \$22,998.63 was collected for annual dues. We do have 4 accounts that are still outstanding and we continue to ask for dues via a collections agency.
  - \$12,687.00 was spent on Landscaping

- \$1,247.40 was spent on Director's Liability Insurance
  - \$147.85 on postage and supplies
  - \$300 for annual Director's dinner (thank you for year of service)
  - \$439.29 costs for social events
  - \$23.98 for bank fees
  - \$51.80 for collection agency fees
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- \$5,780.67 for Annual Holiday Party
  - Total of \$20,677.99 spent on expenses, with a net profit of \$2,320.64
  - We currently have approximately \$40,000 in reserves and it is the intention of the board of directors to continue to maintain lowered fees and use the reserves go forward to provide additional services, while maintaining annual fees low. The reserves are currently locked in term accounts generating interest. Any interest earnings will be applied towards reducing annual fees and improvements in our neighbourhood.

#### 6. 2015 Survey Review;

- This year we conducted a survey and received a very good response rate of 30%
- We hope to offer a similar survey next year online to continue acquiring resident's feedback
- The survey was used to acquire feedback and to educate residents on the services Settler's Grove Association provides to the neighbourhood
- Main improvement requested was to offer more adult events to meet the needs of empty nesters. We will continue to look into more events that will fill this gap in the future.
- Overall, the survey confirmed that residents are satisfied with the current level of service provided by the board of Directors, and current Landscaping Services and Social events.
- Majority of residents feel that Settler's Grove is a better neighbourhood compared to others in Kitchener and are proud to live in our neighbourhood.

7. Questions; open floor;

- Why have the islands along Deer Ridge not been maintained? The board of directors did not maintain the islands in 2015 as we were discussing ownership of maintenance of the islands with the City of Kitchener. Now that the landscaping agreement has been confirmed to be valid and registered, we will be maintaining the 2<sup>nd</sup> island (near SGCA entrance store) this year (2016). We will not be maintaining the entrance island (lights at King St.) as there is currently heavy construction occurring. We will continue to maintain the 1<sup>st</sup> island once construction has been completed. We will also be contacting the developer of the gas mall on the corner to inquire about replacing the shrubs in the 1<sup>st</sup> island due to damage caused from ongoing construction.
- Residents have noticed leftover cuttings along trails and feel it is a fire hazard. This has occurred along the 2 entrances to Winifred Street, which backs onto the Deer Ridge Gold Club. City of Kitchener will direct this question/concern to the Operations Department at the City of Kitchener. It was also suggested that “Do not dump” signs be installed.
- What is the City’s plan to address Phragmites located in the park? These are invasive species of weeds that look like Bamboo growing along ponds and park areas. The board feels this causes a safety issue as the plants have grown to be so high and makes visibility difficult in the park. There is currently no solution available at this time to address this concern. The City of Kitchener continues to have discussions on how to address. There are 2 issues faced; #1; The Operations department needs to get a handle on the scope and #2; there is no Provincial legislation on how to handle this issue. The City of Kitchener is responsible for this concern across the entire city and Phragmites exist throughout the City of Kitchener and province.
- Asphalt along Deer Ridge Drive is poor due to ongoing construction and heavy traffic; The board of directors in conjunction with the City of Kitchener will be attending a meeting with the Planning Department from the City of Kitchener to discuss ongoing planning of the neighbourhood and will pose this question. We are encouraging any residents that have any questions pertaining to planning of our neighbourhood, send any inquiries to [sgca@live.ca](mailto:sgca@live.ca) and we will profile with the City of Kitchener.
- Speed Signs seem to be missing in the neighbourhood; Send inquiry to City of Kitchener to have addressed

8. Nominations for 2016-2017; 1<sup>st</sup> Motion =Erin Vandahle and 2<sup>nd</sup> Motion=Christine Bettencourt-DaSilva. Current Board of Directors would like to proceed to serve another term from 2016-2017. Votes taken with 100% acceptance.

9. City of Kitchener; Rohan Thompson thanked the board for representing the residents of Settler's Grove Community Association and acting upon the vested interest of all residents.
10. New Volunteer to serve on board for 2016-2017; Thank you Rosemarie Tossell for volunteering!
11. Closing of Meeting; 1<sup>st</sup> Motion=Helen Van Osch; and 2<sup>nd</sup> Motion=Christine Bettencourt-DaSilva