



Across the Brook

Current Officers

President

Mary Scott
2121 Brookview Lane

Vice President

Beau Schwabe
2129 Brookview Lane

Treasurer

Nancy French
2604 Brookside Ave.

Secretary

Kara Moore
2605 Brookdale Ave.

Member-at-Large

Allen Smith
2205 Brookhaven Ct.

Committee Chairs

Welcoming

Carolyn Slaughter
340-4287

Newsletter

Kara Moore
844-8224

Beautification

Denise Dawley Smith
330-1662
Leigh Campbell
340-4287

Events

Gloria Harper
359-7943

Letter from the Board

Dear Neighbors,

We, the Board of Brookhaven North Homeowners' Association (HOA), are updating you on the status of your association and its various projects before we send out dues invoices for 2008.

First, as most of you know, the HOA is a volunteer entity. No homeowner is required to pay dues, and participation is completely at the discretion of each household. That being said, most of you have seen the benefit and necessity of paying dues to maintain and improve the entrances and perimeter common areas of our neighborhood, as well as community events designed to enrich and enhance the quality of life we enjoy in our neighborhood. For your insight and commitment, we thank each of you who have paid dues in the past. Some of you have even participated in the various committees we have tried to establish, again to increase the sense of community and "neighborliness" that exists in really great neighborhoods. For your dedication, energy, and ideas, we also thank each of you.

But we now find ourselves at a crossroads in the future of our neighborhood. Our percentage of dues-paying households has never risen above around 65% (it was only 61% for 2007). There are some in this neighborhood who are content to let everyone else carry the burden for their fair share. Even with the very modest amount of \$75.00 per year, some neighbors don't contribute. This isn't fair to those who do pay dues.

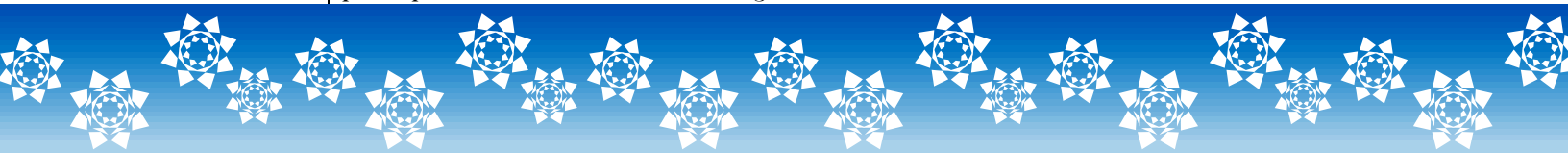
We have accomplished some great projects with a small budget by being conservative and judicious with our funds. But now, the biggest project we attempted, a new perimeter fence, is beyond our reach. We received four bids for the fence, all of which were in the \$43,000 range, plus or minus a couple of thousand dollars (and not including repair to the brick columns). With a bank balance of around \$13,000, you can see that we are a long way from this amount, even though we have been building a capital improvements reserve for the last few years. Even if we split the cost with the directly-affected homeowners, we can't afford to do even one side (either Bryant or Covell).

Therefore, your Board is contemplating options for a permanent replacement of the fence, but in the meantime has decided that two interim steps can be taken:

1. We will get bids for repairing the fence in its weakest spots. This may include some post replacement, reattachment of the fence panels, and individual board replacement where necessary. We will work with the directly affected homeowners to share in this cost.
2. We will be raising the dues in 2008 to \$85.00 per year.
3. We are exploring ways to increase participation of homeowners.

While raising dues is the least pleasant way of raising the money, we find it necessary in the face of rising costs with just the maintenance of the entrances, much less the supplementation of our capital reserves fund. The last year dues were raised was in 2004.

You will find the financial report for 2007 in this newsletter. Thank you in advance for your participation and concern for our neighborhood!



Brookhaven North HOA Treasury Report Year End 2007

INCOME	
Dues collected in 2007	\$13,396.25
EXPENSES	
Advertising	\$114.44
Beautification	\$4,395.26
Committee Expenses	\$108.75
Events	\$762.72
Misc	\$297.15
Office Supplies	\$109.87
Petty Cash	\$20.00
Postage	\$334.20
Printing	\$117.74
Utilities	\$3,096.43
Total Expense	\$9,356.56
Reserve for Capital Expenses	\$4,039.69

Email address bhtreasury@hotmail.com; please e-mail for any clarification of the report.

A big Note of Thanks to Inez Wagoner who served as Co-Treasurer! Inez has remarried and, sadly for us, moved out of Brookhaven North. While we miss her vitality and participation, we wish her nothing but the best of luck in her new life and home! Take good care, Inez, and keep in touch!



>>>> ANNOUNCEMENT! <<<<

We have taken the first step to taking our neighborhood into cyberspace by securing the website name

BrookhavenNorth.org

We will be exploring different website hosting sites, and let you know when it is up and running!

Also,

Watch for our announcement in April of the Annual Meeting!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Operation Clean Streets Saturday, April 12, 8:00 – Noon

Help clean up Edmond and get free coffee and donuts! Volunteers meet in the west end of the parking lot of the City's Admin Building located at 100 E. First.

Household Hazardous Waste Event, April 12, 8:00 – Noon

Dispose of all those cleaning supplies, paint, car batteries and chemicals, as well as e-waste like TVs, computers, VCRs, etc. at the parking lot east of the Liberal Arts building on the UCO campus.

For more info on either of these events, call 216-7770

Also, check out the new City of Edmond website at www.edmondok.com for EVERYTHING you wanted to know about your fair city!

Brookhaven North Homeowners Association
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