



Knollcrest News

Knollcrest
Family Community
May 2016



Greetings!

What a wacky winter we had! After only a few snowstorms, we had a severe thunderstorm with 60 degree weather on February 24th! Schools were closed the following day, due to a transformer fire and trees across the road as well as flooding. Sump pumps were working overtime to handle the two inches of rain that fell. The Town seemed to bear the brunt of the storm, as there was no damage reported in Knollcrest.

After an uneventful March, we were greeted with early April snowfalls. As we enter May, the roads have been swept of sand and the flowers and trees are starting to bloom. The beach dock is in and the marina is starting to fill up with boats as we head toward the unofficial start of summer.

The News wishes all the Moms in the community a very Happy Mother's day!



The Eagles have Landed

There have been several bald eagle sightings this winter. For the past several years, bald eagles have inhabited a tree on Eastview Road. Last year, there were seven bald eagles sighted perched in the tree. This winter they have moved a bit further south,

The Knollcrest News strives to keep the community informed of all the happenings in Knollcrest. In doing so, we hope to build and foster the spirit of community that has been the hallmark of Knollcrest for the past 80 years

Thank you to the contributors from our Knollcrest Community who help make this newsletter a true Community effort.

If you missed an issue, they are available at www.knollcrestnews.org

Editor: Rosemary Scott

but were still seen swooping and soaring over the lake in search of prey.

According to an article in the Google News, more bald eagles are wintering around the lake and some are even calling Connecticut home year- round!



Board of Directors

At the March meeting the Board voted to obtain legal advice regarding letters of adverse possession that were sent to two residents under a previous Board.

The Beach Director stated that repairs to the steps at the children's beach and main steps will be repaired. This work was reported completed at the April meeting.

The Water Director reported that one test was added by the State before approval is given for the new well. The test has since been completed and approval was granted.

Steve also reported at the March meeting that he met with the Zoning Officer of the Town regarding the pavilion and building a pavilion would not be an issue with the Town.

The Property Maintenance director reported that the lawn maintenance company informed him that the two private lots that the Board has been mowing need to be done twice a month instead of once. Public comment regarding this issue was made by former Board President Betsy Delaney who stated that when she was President these two property owners maintained their properties at their own expense. However, after she left office, the Board resumed using taxpayer funds to pay for their upkeep. She stated that by continuing to use taxpayer funds, the Board should be aware that it is exposing the community to possible liability. A motion was made at the April meeting to notify the property owners and have them maintain their own property. If the owners do not, then the Board would mow the lots twice a month and bill the owners for the cost.

At the April meeting the Secretary read into the record a vote that was taken via email regarding notifying the community of recent deaths of residents. The vote resulted in a tie with the President, Charlie Franklin, breaking the tie with a 'no' vote. It was resolved that the Board will not notify the community of a loss. This discussion and vote was apparently carried out via email between board members in between the March and April meetings.

There was much discussion at the April meeting regarding unpaid kayak fees. It was resolved that legal advice would be obtained to help with payment compliance.

The Secretary read into the record the vote for sand removal contract. Estimates were obtained by the roads director of \$3,900.00 and \$4,000.00. The Board voted via email to grant the contract to Excel.

A vote was taken regarding public comment. The Board will discuss any public comment at the following

month's meeting as an agenda item.

The Roads director reported that a drainage complaint was made by an Eastview Road resident. Vice President Mark Cronk stated to the Board that this is an ongoing complaint. He explained that the resident refused the Board's solution and was going to get back to the Board with an alternative drainage solution. Mr. Cronk stated that the homeowner has not done that and offered to accompany the Roads Director to talk to the resident.



Budget Meeting

During the February, March and April Board of Directors meeting there was some discussion regarding the 2016-2017 Budget. At the February meeting, Vice President Mark Cronk told the Board he was working on a two- to- five year plan for the District. He said he would present his plan at the Budget Meeting. At the March meeting, the Roads Director told the Board he would need \$3500.00 for estimates he received for work to be done around the community. That would bring the Roads budget to \$5000.00. The Board discussed the fact that in previous years they reduced the capital expenditure budget to accommodate a line increase. It was resolved to complete the discussion and finalize the budget at the April meeting. There was no discussion, however, regarding the budget at the April meeting. At the end of the meeting Treasurer Kathy Cullen made a motion to accept the budget "as presented." The budget will remain the same as last year.

The second item on the Budget Meeting's agenda will be the pavilion. The pavilion was first introduced to the Board by Steve Plante at the February meeting when he announced he would meet with the Town's Zoning Officer to see if the Town would allow a pavilion at the beach. According to the approved minutes of the March meeting, he described it as "screened room with a roof and deck overlooking the water." It would replace the basketball court depending on its position. At the April meeting, the Treasurer asked him to explain the plan, as they haven't really discussed it before. He told the Board it would be at the basketball court with a roof with picnic tables and hook- up for lighting as well as an area for golf cart parking. There was concern from several Board members regarding the loss of the basketball court. President Charlie Franklin stated that he felt that the basketball court area is currently a waste of space. But other members did not feel the same way and remarked that they did not want the court to go away.

Steve said that he would get a drawing of the plan and show it to the residents to gauge community interest.

The Budget Meeting will take place on Saturday, May 7 at 10 AM at the New Fairfield Senior Center.



Lawn Care and the Lake

As summer and lawn maintenance season approaches, we need to be mindful of what we put on our lawns. During a rainstorm nutrients and chemicals that you apply to your lawn wash directly into the lake or to a storm drain that leads to the lake, especially in our community. The Candlewood Lake Authority (CLA) has some tips for lake living and lawn care. They remind homeowners that they cannot fertilize within 15 feet of the lake shore (as per CT law) and to always use eco-friendly alternatives to keep chemicals out of the lake. This will help prevent additional nutrients from entering the lake, which may contribute to algae growth.

Waterfront homeowners are encouraged by the CLA to create a buffer garden by the lake. Knollcrest's Marina Director, Elliot Sears, said in the March meeting that he was going to plan a buffer garden at the marina this year. A buffer garden is described as an undisturbed zone of vegetation to help reduce pollutants from reaching the lake. Without a buffer, nutrient- rich fertilizers leach into the lake when it rains which causes algae blooms and excessive growth of aquatic weeds (milfoil).

For more information, check out the CLA website at: www.candlewoodlakeauthority.org



In Remembrance

Knollcrest lost one of its oldest residents last month. Grace Trentacoste passed away on April 25th. She lived in her home on Crestway until shortly after her 102nd birthday. She would have been 103 in July.



Knollcrest Networks

Hall Rental Available

Hall rental available at Squantz Firehouse. Great for meetings, parties, graduations, bridal and baby showers etc. Full commercial kitchen and large hall.

\$300.00 plus proof of insurance. For more information please call 203-312-5741 and leave message.

Community Service Website

www.k-wx.com Knollcrest weather cam and data available 24/7

Data as of: Sat Feb 13 18:20:21 2016

Wind Direction NNW
 Wind Chill Past Hr. -21.1
 Wind Gust: 11.4 mph @ 17:38
 Pressure 29.56
 Dewpoint OFL
 Past Hour Rain 0.00
 Past 24 Hour Rain ... 0.00

High: 7.7 @ 4:08:38 PM
 Low: 0.6 @ 6:21:02 PM

Knollcrest Weather
 Sponsord by
 Knollcrestnews.org
 and
 k-wx.com

0.6
 Temp Prior (0.8)
 Humidity: 19%
 Weather Alert: None

Live View Available During Daylight Hours

6 Min. Update Interval.... Forecast: Clear and Rising Pressure

Services Offered:

Responsible pet sitter / dog walker available.
Please call 203-470-1056

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