
GRANDE HILLS ESTATES

Volume 15, Issue 2

P. O. Box 395, Bush, LA 70431

www.grandehills.org

February 2012



2012 ELECTION RESULTS

BOARD OF MANAGERS

We thank you members for the overwhelming participation in the election process of your Association. The election for the 2012 Board of Managers for the GHEHA, Inc. was held on January 28, 2012, at the firehouse on Hwy. 21. Total acreage votes cast were 707.47 out of 1255.11 acres (56%) in the subdivision.

The results of the election are as follows:

A.J. Ostarly – 562.26 acre votes
Ron Trupp – 549.74 acre votes
Steve Roberts – 544.30 acre votes
Bonnie Hebert – 513.05 acre votes
Judy Coker – 513.40 acre votes

Votes received for write-ins:

Eric Lowe – 79.52 acres
Mary Oliphant-Wood – 74.29 acres
Craig Duplantis – 5.23 acre votes
Robert Roundtree – 5.23 acre votes
Craig Guidry – 5.23 acre votes
Richard Hammer – 5.01 acre votes

Your new Board of Managers met on Feb. 7th and elected positions as follows:

- ▶ President: Steve Roberts, 985-809-6279
- ▶ Vice President: Bonnie Hebert, 985-867-9137
- ▶ Secretary: Judy Coker, 985-893-0858
- ▶ Treasurer: Ron Trupp, 985-809-1180
- ▶ Parliamentarian: A.J. Ostarly, 504-258-7626

ANNUAL BUDGET

The 2012 proposed annual budget in the amount of \$23,089.00 was overwhelmingly approved by 72% (requires 2/3's majority vote for approval) or 506.49 acres out of 707.47 acre votes cast. Therefore, each member's annual assessment for 2012 is \$18.40 per acre owned.

Thank you members for your continued support.

ASSESSMENT DUE DATE

Your invoice for the 2012 annual assessment is enclosed with this Newsletter.

The assessments are due by **APRIL 30, 2012** and will become delinquent on **May 1, 2012**. The Association has expenses that are currently due so your prompt remittance is appreciated.

ELECTION COMMITTEE

Many thanks go out to the election committee, which consisted of Cita Griffin, Johnny Buisson, Jessica St. Pierre, and Kirk Aymond. Now that the Association has the computer program necessary for calculating voting results, the counting of the ballots ran very smoothly and quickly which gave the volunteers an opportunity to attend the meeting.

SUMMARY OF THE 2012 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

First, the Board would like to thank all the members who attended the annual meeting. It was a great turn out. There were several good ideas that came out of the meeting. The members expressed interest and gave suggestions in making this a better subdivision. This type of interaction between the membership and the Board will assist the Board greatly in fulfilling its obligation to you. Your input was beneficial, and we thank you for your active participation.

Richard Tanner, Councilman for our District, was one of the guest speakers at the meeting this year. He advised us that he has already taken a tour of the subdivision and is in the process of selecting streets in his district that need an overlay. He anticipates placing Pimlico on the overlay list for 2013.

After several inquiries from the membership, Mr. Tanner clarified his support of subdividing parcels of land in his district into lots. He advised that it has nothing to do with restricted subdivisions like Grande Hills Estates, and other subdivisions in his district. He stated that our subdivision would still be bound by our restrictive covenants of single family, 5 acre or more lots and could not ever be subdivided.

Our guest speaker, Steve Sperier with the Crawfishman Triathlon thanked everyone for allowing this event to take place in our subdivision. He advised everyone that this year's triathlon will be held on **Sunday, May 6th** on Dion McKinley's property. He stated that the proceeds from the race go to various charitable organizations on the northshore. He advised that the liability insurance coverage for this event is paid by the Crawfishman Triathlon.

They are always looking for volunteers so if you are interested in assisting for

GRANDE HILLS ESTATES

Volume 15, Issue 2

P. O. Box 395, Bush, LA 70431

www.grandehills.org

February 2012

this year's race please email Kirsty Salvetti at kiwishark@msn.com as all volunteers registered will receive a special T-shirt. If you want to come out to watch and enjoy the party, the race starts at 7:30 a.m. with the final finisher completing by 11:30 a.m.

Steve also suggested that they would like to hold a smaller event in early summer. Plans have not been finalized for this event.

There were also suggestions from the membership to investigate the possibility of using one sanitation department for garbage pickup in Grande Hills. The membership suggested that we may be able to obtain a special rate if a large percentage of homeowners use one particular company.

The Board plans to take a look into this matter and will advise the membership of our options in a later newsletter.

Another interesting topic that was discussed among the membership was natural gas for our subdivision. It was announced at the annual meeting that the Board had received notification from the Parish that a public meeting would take place where residents of the Parish could bring concerns to the Public Service Commission, i.e. complaints regarding use of cell phones in our area, natural gas for our subdivision.

Since our annual meeting, one of your board members attended the Public Service Commission meeting and advised that obtaining natural gas in our subdivision does not seem to be feasible as the high cost would need to be absorbed by the residents. The Board is waiting on more information and will advise in our next Newsletter. In addition, a complaint was also noted regarding cell phone usage in our area.

YOUR PERSONAL ELECTION BALLOTS

The Association's attorney has received a request from the attorney for Eric Lowe, Craig Guidry, Betty Shackelford, Thomas Vermillion and Mary Lee Oliphant-Wood to save your personalized election ballots for them to review.

We need your thoughts regarding this. Are you comfortable with allowing members to look at your personal vote? Please give us your opinion by either calling a board member or sending us a note.

The procedure for the Association's election for a Board of Managers and approval of the budget are as follows: Sealed ballots are turned over to a volunteer election committee to open the envelopes and count your votes. At the conclusion of this count the committee certifies the election results by signing a ledger sheet summarizing the results. At this point, the ballots are placed in a large sealed envelope to be held for 30 days as is required for public election.

KEYS FOR LAKE

As discussed at our annual meeting, a new lock will be placed on the gate at the boat landing. The keys for this lock cannot be duplicated. A deposit will be required to obtain a key. Should you move out of Grande Hills you will be required to turn in your key and receive your deposit.

This lock system hopefully will reduce the risk of non members using our lake. A sign in list will be kept for members holding keys.

The deposit is \$ 10.00. If you are interested in obtaining a key, please call A.J. Ostarly at 985-871-8963 or 504-258-7626.

COMMITTEES

We are in the process of finalizing all committee assignments and are actively seeking volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering your time to improve our subdivision, please call one of your Board of Managers so we may add you to the list of volunteers. We need your support.

Travis and Jessica St. Pierre, Architectural Committee, 985-892-6383

Hank Scavo, Landscape Committee, 504-915-9354

Maintenance Committee

Pat Trupp, Welcome Committee

Thank you members for your time and assistance.

BIG THANKS

The Association thanks Dr. Smith for serving on the Board. We know how valuable time is as a doctor, and we appreciate your support and feedback as a board member. Thank you for your participation.

The Association thanks Pat Trupp as Chairman of the Landscape Committee. The entrances to our subdivision have always been beautiful. Thank you for your time and effort.

Hank Scavo has graciously offered to take over this position as Chairman. The Association looks forward to working with you. If any member would like to volunteer some time to help Hank, please call him at 504-885-4052.

UPDATE TO DAMAGED ENTRANCE SIGN

As this newsletter is being prepared, the entrance sign on Highway 21 and Grande Hills Blvd. is being installed. The insurance company who insures

GRANDE HILLS ESTATES

Volume 15, Issue 2

P. O. Box 395, Bush, LA 70431

www.grandehills.org

February 2012

the responsible party has paid for the repairs. In addition, the garden will be replanted with new plants also.

BOARD OF MANAGER MEETINGS

If any member has a matter that needs to be brought before the Board, please call one of your Board of Managers for the date of the next board meeting so you may attend.

With family commitments, school activities and full-time jobs, it is very difficult to schedule ahead of time monthly board meetings for the year. For this reason, the Board requests that you give us a phone call, and we will gladly let you know when the next board meeting is scheduled.

SPECIAL THANKS

Special thanks go to Gene Veillon, Jr. for his continued tax consultant and preparation services.

CERTIFICATES TO PROCEED

As stated in the Grande Hills Architectural Control Committee Rules and Regulations, all plans for building structures, additions, fences, pools, etc. are to be submitted to the Architectural Control Committee for review in order for a Certificate to Proceed to be issued. Travis & Jessica St. Pierre are the Chairpersons of the Architectural Control Committee and can be reached at 985-892-6383.

REMINDERS

Change of Address?

Please help the Association keep track of new ownership, changes of address, and telephone number changes. Any changes should be directed to Board Member Ron Trupp 985-809-1180.