
GRANDE HILLS ESTATES

Volume 23, Issue 3

P. O. Box 395, Bush, LA 70431

www.grandehills.org

September 2020



MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Due to COVID 19 restrictions the Association will not hold a second membership meeting for 2020. We hope to be able to schedule our annual meeting and election in January 2021.



The board and the association would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to Ron Trupp for his dedication and service to this association. Ron has retired from the Grande Hills Homeowners Association board of managers. Ron has served as the treasurer since 2008, and we are so grateful for his years of service to this community. Ron, you always gave us 110%, and we could never ask for more. Words cannot express how grateful we were

to have you. Thank you so much for your time, enthusiasm, and genuine dedication with assisting the board in all aspects. You were always there to help us and other members and provide your valued input and opinion. Your hands are always willing to extend help and assistance.

**“Volunteers wear working boots,
but leave a trail of angle footprints”
– Terri Guillemets**



Tonya Hahn has graciously accepted a position on the board due to Ron's retirement. Tonya will assume Ron's duties as treasurer. Tonya is not a stranger to our association. She has volunteered numerous times to be on the election committee for our annual meeting and has actively participated in our meetings. Tonya will complete Ron's term on the Board.

MANY THANKS

The association extends a big thank you to one of our members, Gene Veillon, CPA, who has volunteered for years to prepare the association's income tax return. Thanks again for your commitment to our community.

FRONT ENTRANCE

We have electricity at our front entrance! This has been an ongoing project the board has been trying to bring to completion for the past two years. Your board is committed to working for the continued, ongoing improvement and betterment of our subdivision.

Our beautiful front entrance sign is now illuminated, and an outlet is installed behind the entrance sign on each brick wall. This undertaking was

accomplished because of the selfless dedication to community and family of Ron Trupp and his son-in-laws: Johnny Buisson and John Tidrick. Thanks to the volunteering of their time and expertise, they gifted this community, by keeping down the related costs of this project. Together they worked tirelessly to install the necessary conduit and fixture installations. This upgrade is a wonderful enhancement to our subdivision entrance. The board and association members wish to extend our gratitude to Ron, Johnny, and John for your unselfish generosity, planning and the tremendous labor you gifted to us and this subdivision.

Grande Hills Lake Revitalization Project Update

Phase 3 Update



Back in February of 2018, the 'Lake Committee' was formed. A group of interested and concerned association members had their initial meeting on June 16, 2018, to discuss; "implementing strategies to improve fishing on the lake". Their goal was to gather information and develop specific recommendations for revitalizing the fish population in our lake. The desire was to improve overall fishing on the lake. That may not mean trophy bass fishing, but hopefully to provide good fishing opportunities for all ages. The first two strategies they addressed were: 1.) Developing better spawning and fish habitat areas in the lake, and 2.) Restocking plans for the spring of 2019 and 2020. The committee provided the board with a plan for implementing these strategies including estimated costs, equipment and material requirements and an

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implementation schedule. This committee consulted with Mr. Charles Clark. Mr. Clark's expertise and guidance is sincerely appreciated by the committee and the board.

In December of 2018, the Grande Hills Estates Lake Committee presented their lake regeneration recommendations.

Phase 1 – Improve fish habitat in the lake and initial fish stocking, December 2018 thru March 2019. This phase included:

- 1.) Installation of gravel spawning beds at three selected locations around the lake, with each location having one 4'x 10' and two 4'x 4' spawning beds.
- 2.) Installation of artificial habitat structures in three selected locations around the lake with one artificial tree and two Georgia traps at each location.
- 3.) Installation of Christmas tree reefs in 4-6 selected locations in deep water near the lake dam.

The construction and placement of the spawning gravel beds has been completed. The construction and placement of the artificial trees and *Georgia Traps* has been completed. The donated Christmas trees were placed in the lake in January.

Phase 2 – Stock the lake with selected fish species, April/May 2019.

On May 22, 2019, the lake was stocked with 1,200 Copper Nose Bluegill, 500 Redear Bream, 20,000 Fathead Minnows and 1,100 Channel Catfish. No largemouth bass were included in the initial phase stocking process, as the hatchery could not provide the larger bass desired. The addition of the bass will be scheduled at a later date.

Phase 3 - Stock lake with additional bass and forage fish as desired, spring of 2020.

The stocking was rescheduled, and additional fish were added on **8/7/2020**. The lake was stocked with an additional: **5,000 Bluegill, 2,000 Thread Shad, 5,000 Fathead Tuffy and 36 Large Mouth Bass**.

Phase 4 - Increase fishing activity in the lake, June 2021. Allow additional fishing in lake and harvesting of new bass per posted modified slot limits. Continue monitoring fish activity and harvest results. Stock additional fathead minnows and bass as budget constraints allow, if needed.

The committee's planning has been well thought out and cost conscious. The Grande Hills community is sincerely appreciative of the lake committee's commitment, time and labor invested in bringing this project to fruition. As an association member you should be immensely proud of what has been accomplished and what is yet to come. The board and association members extend our gratitude to the lake committee for all of the care, planning and excellent work the committee team has provided.

Lake Committee Members: Ken Cooper, Steven Crawley, Casey Lynch, Dion McKinley, and John Oglesby

LAKE DRAINAGE CULVERTS



A member of our lake committee, Ken Cooper, recently went to check on the lake culverts. He spent some time

cleaning out 3 of the culverts closest to the boat launch. He was surprised to find several landscaping bricks of various sizes in both ends of each of the culverts and was able to remove the bricks. Ken reported he did not encounter any bricks about four months ago when he previously did some clean out work. Both ends of those culverts need to be cleaned out about every three months, so it is a little easier to handle and insure there is a proper release of the lake water. Home and property owners, please do not throw logs or large pieces of wood of any kind into the lake. Association members, please do not dispose debris of any kind into the lake. Your cooperation is sincerely appreciated.

LANDSCAPING, BOAT LAUNCH CLEAN UP & BOULEVARD OAK TREE TRIMMING

The board contracted with Green Seasons, our lawn service, to refurbish the front entrance garden, rear entrance garden, the trimming and mulching of the existing azaleas at the boat launch, and tree trimming of our boulevard oaks.

The front entrance scope of work included: labor and materials to extend the front of the flower bed at least 1.5 feet (on the Highway 21 side), removing the existing landscape bricks, and installing a new landscape border two bricks high. Aztec grass was added to the front of the garden. The garden behind the front entrance sign included: clean-up of the flower bed (adjusting and cleaning up the existing liriope border), adding topsoil and cypress mulch, pruning the two crepe myrtle branches away from the front entrance sign, and the installation of six Encore azaleas installed in the garden behind the sign.

The rear entrance scope of work included: labor and materials to install the landscape bricks which were removed from the front entrance and repurposed, as these bricks matched

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the existing landscape bricks at the rear entrance sign. These additional bricks replaced the rotted landscape timbers, which were found and removed, behind the rear entrance sign. Also, removal of the diseased Indian Hawthorn shrubs, weeds, trimming of the existing crepe myrtle trees and the addition of topsoil and mulch. Aztec grass and Encore azaleas were installed.

Plans are underway to place a solar light on the rear entrance sign now that the garden is complete.

Boat launch clean up scope of work included: the removal of vines, trees and any bushes growing within the existing azaleas, trimming and cypress mulching the azaleas, cleaning up the over growth in the ditch area, adjacent to the entrance of the boat launch.

Trimming of the Grande Hills Boulevard oak trees: included legging up the trees and trimming any dead branches within the trees.

We are all blessed to live in such a unique and fine-looking community. Your board of managers is steadfast and committed to the continued betterment and preservation of our distinctive subdivision.

MISSING STREET SIGNS



The Association recently received notification from a member of a missing street sign. After driving throughout the subdivision, a long list of needed signs was forwarded to the maintenance department with St. Tammany Parish. Signs were ordered and installed by the Parish.



COUNCILMAN RICHARD TANNER

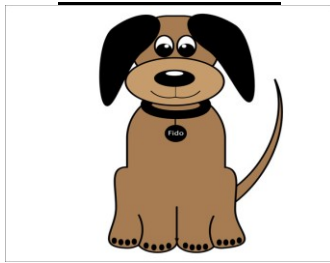
As many may know, our longtime councilman, Richard Tanner, passed away on July 2, 2020. Mr. Tanner was always very attentive to our needs in Grande Hills and was always available if we needed anything. He was dedicated to public service his entire life. We will miss him. His wife, Cheryl Tanner, was sworn in to resume his duties as councilwoman for our district. The association plans to invite Ms. Tanner to our annual meeting in January.



Assessments

The association is in receipt of everyone's annual assessment. Your cooperation in sending in your assessment promptly is very much appreciated for the operation of our association.

DOGS AT LARGE



Homeowners are responsible for keeping their animals on their property. This is a safety issue for members who are out on the streets, walking, running or biking. Every owner or keeper of animals needs to maintain control of their dogs, so as to prevent them from creating or becoming a public nuisance.

Please refer to St. Tammany Parish leash law which is in the ST. TAMMANY PARISH CODE OF ORDINANCES, ARTICLE V, ANIMAL CONTROL AND WELFARE:

SEC. 4-126.00 Animals at Large; leash law.

If the issue continues to happen, a call should be made to report an animal issue to **St. Tammany Animal Control: 985-809-0183** or online: **STPGOV.org** and click on: **Departments**, then Services: **Animal**

Please note, as per our Deed Restrictions and Covenants: All animals shall be fenced or otherwise prevented from roaming freely about (the "Property"), Grande Hills Estates Subdivision.

SPEEDING IN OUR SUBDIVISION



Please be aware of speed limits. This is a residential community, not a state highway. Residents walk, jog, and bike throughout this community and

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cannot be threatened by speeding vehicles. Speeding violations can be reported to the St. Tammany Sheriff's Department Traffic Division by calling **(985) 809-8200**. Please advise any persons hired by you to perform work on your property to please adhere to the speed limit signs in our community.



If you are interested in volunteering a little time and meeting new friends in your community, please send an email from the Association's website so we may add you to the list of volunteers. We need your help in our community.

KEYS FOR BOAT LANDING



If you are interested in obtaining a key for the lock on the gate at the boat landing, please call A.J. Ostarly at 504-258-7626.

A deposit in the amount of \$10.00 will be required to obtain a key. Should you move out of Grande Hills you will be required to turn in your key to receive your deposit. A sign-in list will be kept for members holding keys. Take note that the keys are numbered and can be traced to the individual that signed for the key.

GHEHA ARCHITECTURAL CONTROL COMMITTEE



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 Travis and Jessica St. Pierre, Chairpersons, (985) 886-6038 or (504) 390-2177 or Elliott Hano, (504) 913-8317 or (985) 400-5995 for a Certificate to Proceed to be issued. **NO CONSTRUCTION SHALL BEGIN WITHOUT AN APPROVED CERTIFICATE TO PROCEED.**

A Certificate to Proceed will not be issued until a St. Tammany Parish Building Permit has been issued. A copy of the permit must be submitted to the GHACC along with the other required documents per the Architectural Control Committee Rules and Regulations, Section 2.1.

The Architectural Control Committee Rules and Regulations states under Section 1.1.2.

The GHACC shall have fifteen (15) days after receipt of all required documents to approve or disapprove any application for construction for any structure.

Please allow enough time for this process to be completed before commencement of any type of construction.



A big welcome is extended to the many new families who have recently moved into Grande Hills. We look forward to meeting you at our annual membership meeting to be set in January.

BOARD OF MANAGER MEETINGS



If any member has a matter that needs to be brought before the Board, please contact the Board through the website 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.

REMINDERS Change of Address?



Please help the Association keep track of new ownership, changes of address, and telephone number changes by notifying the Association through our website.

Any questions should be directed to your Board of Managers:

BOARD OF MANAGERS:

Steve Roberts, President
Bonnie Hebert, Vice President
Judy Coker, Secretary
Tonya Hahn, Treasurer
Susan Chartier, Board Member

WEBSITE:

www.grandehills.org

Select "Contact Info" to send an email to the Association