

NEWSLETTER

Rustlewood Homeowners Association
111 E Rustle Way Grapeview Washington 98546
April 30, 2021

ANNUAL MEETING NEWS :

Good News! Even though we still need to be cautious, the board decided that we will have our Association Annual Meeting this year at the regular time which is the first Sunday of June. This year for the first time we will hold the meeting outside if weather permits. Please mark your calendars and reserve **June 6 at 1PM**. Our annual meetings are extremely important for the functioning of our community and this year is even more important as we try to return to normality. It has been 2 years since we met all together as a community so please try to attend.

PROXY CARD IMPORTANCE:

We realize that even though many of us have had our COVID vaccination, there are some who have not. With that in mind some of our community may not feel they would be safe at this time to attend a meeting even if it is held outside. We also know because of prior commitments some of you may not be able to attend and for all those reasons it is important for those who can't attend for whatever reason to mail back the proxy cards that we are sending you. The return of your card will accomplish two things **1.** Your vote by proxy can be counted on a number of issues that will be addressed at the meeting **2.** Your proxy along with every person who attends will count toward the quorum that we need to have a meeting and make decisions for the community. If you would like to assign your proxy to a certain person you can stipulate that designation on the proxy card. Designations must be assigned to another homeowner who is in good standing or to a board member. We have made it easier for you to return your proxy by sending you a card that is self address and already stamped. We would love to see you at the meeting but if you can't attend please return the card by mail.

BOARD MEMBER ELECTION:

This year we will be voting on 2 board positions. We will hopefully be returning to our format where every year we elect either 2 positions or 3 positions that rotate off after 2 years of service. We have maintained the same board members as were elected 2 years ago with the exception of 1 board member that moved out of our area. That position was filled temporarily but is one of the 2 we will be voting on. Please consider whether you would like to serve on the board or if you know someone who would be willing to serve. Any homeowner who is in good standing (your association dues must be current) can be elected to the board. There are many ways to serve your community and being on the board is one of them.

USE OF THE CABANA:

Our cabana is once again open for reservations. Please note that even though we have reopened we hope those that wish to use it will continue to exercise good judgement when comes to safety of those attending. It is still important to social distance and wear masks if you are aware that people attending have not been fully vaccinated. We don't want you or someone you know to become one of the growing statistics. We are still charging a \$25 cleaning fee. To make sure our facility is clean for each group that uses it we sanitize surfaces after each use. We hope to return to normal cleaning and when we do we will eliminate the cleaning fee.

SPECIAL THANKS:

If you have been down to the beach recently you may have noticed we have a new Rustlewood sign. We would like to thank Albert Portner for his willingness to not only remove the old sign and haul away but to install new posts and paint them along with designing a new replacement sign that should last us for years to come. We have many people in our community that donate time, energy and sometimes their own money to make our community a better place to live. You may not be aware of what they have done because they do it quietly and without fanfare. Albert is one of those people but I for one wanted to say "Thank you".

COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE:

Its that time of year when we look around and realize we have too much stuff. If you have junk or treasures that you would like to share with others and maybe make a few bucks in the process then you may be interested in our upcoming Community Garage sale. We are thinking about the weekend of July 10 & 11. If you are interested in participating contact Sharlynn Portner at 815-219-2734. It's important that you contact Sharlynn because she will be assessing how many people are interested and if enough then we will proceed with help from the Association. In the past the Association has advertised the event in the local newspapers and we have placed signs to indicate which streets have homeowners participating. Each homeowner will be responsible for their own sale but as a community we can work together to bring more potential treasure hunters to your door.

COMMUNITY CLEANUP:

We have noticed that we have areas that could use a little cleanup and maintenance. To all homeowners the culverts and ditches in front of your house or on you street are not a good place to discard unwanted items such as tires, trash, bicycles or toys. The streets which include the ditches and culverts are all part of the county. We hope that homeowners maintain those areas to make your home and our community more attractive. We will be organizing a community wide cleanup and any items we fine in places other than your yards we will be removing and discarding.

I BET YOU DIDN'T KNOW:

I have heard on several occasions the phrase "Isn't that what we pay our dues for"? Let me break down what your dues actually pay for and how many homeowners it takes to pay them. Our dues of \$100 a year is probably the lowest in Mason County but lets see what you pay for based on 2020 data.

1. Electricity takes approx. 39 homeowners to pay each year
2. Water takes another 9 homeowners
3. Insurance takes another 9 homeowners
4. Lawn maintenance 4 homeowners
5. Cabana cleaning and upkeep 9 homeowners
6. Bill paying, bookkeeping, banking & misc. 22 homeowners

The items listed are just what is standard and recurring not things that are unforeseen or any improvements. Thank you all who pay your dues because hopefully you see we do a lot with not necessarily a lot of money. Oh, by the way this newsletter is being paid by the dues of 2 homeowners.