

Ellicott Mills Homeowners Association Newsletter

(443) 745-2919

www.ellicottmills.org



Winter 2013

ALL EMHA HOMEOWNERS

OFFICAL BUSINESS TO BE COMPLETED

As a quorum of 41 homeowners (1/10 of the membership, one vote per household) did not attend the annual meeting on December 4, 2013, no election of directors was held. Currently, the nominees for directors are the 3 current directors - Mary Eusini, Rosemary Vicini and E. Vignarajah. According to the bylaws, the association can have 3 to 7 directors. If anyone would like to place any other names in nomination, you may if the following criteria are met:

- ~~ The person making the nomination is a member in good standing;
- ~~ The person being nominated is willing to serve (If you are nominating someone else you must contact them first to be sure that they agree to have their name placed in nomination.)
- ~~ The person being nominated is a member in good standing.

As stated in the bylaws Article IV, Section 2, directors are to be elected at a General meeting having a quorum. Article IV, Section 2 also states that each Director shall be elected for one (1) year or until his successor is elected whichever shall be the longer period. If we do not receive more than 4 additional nominations, the current directors and any additional nominees up to seven (7) will serve as directors until the 2014 General meeting. If more than the 7 permitted directors are nominated, another general meeting will have to be convened.

The first Ellicott Mills Homeowners board meeting of 2014 will be held on January 8, 2014 at the Russel Toyota Conference Room. Please submit any additional nominations by January 7, 2014. If no nominations are received, the current board will remain in place for 2014.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this action, please contact me at president@ellicottmills.org.

MESSAGE FROM THE EMHA PRESIDENT

Hello,

For those of you who were unable to attend the annual meeting, I would like to tell you a little about the board, its committees and what was accomplished in 2013. The board oversees all of the activities of the architectural, open space, social, police liaison, block rep and finance committees and the association's web site.

We meet the first Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Russel Toyota conference room.

The board receives monthly status reports from each committee and conducts whatever association business that needs to be conducted.

From time to time, we also have guests at our meetings. This year some guests included: a representative from Baltimore County councilman Tom Quirk's office; members of the association who are interested in having the association's support for having a bike route go through our community to Patapsco State Park; and homeowners with concerns have attended board meetings to address their concerns.

The board worked with Councilman Quirk's office to have our streets repaved this past summer. The board made a donation to Woodbridge Valley to support the movie night that they held at the pool in the summer. Woodbridge Valley also included us in a night that they were sponsoring at Oriole Park and permitted our members to buy reduced price tickets.

We also share the cost of the sign at the corner of Rolling Road and Crosby with Woodbridge Valley. We are aware and have been aware of its deterioration since August. New support posts were created and have finally been installed after several delays. There were several reason for the delays. Some delays were due to a larger commitment that the sign company had and then there was some back and forth with the BGE regarding the illumination of the sign. The sign posts have been replaced but the lights have still not been replaced.

I respond to or forward to the proper committee all emails received and voice messages left at the association's voice mail phone number (443-745-291). To my knowledge every voice message and email sent to the association this year has been answered. We do get requests and inquiries regarding problems/issues that are not within the responsibility of the board. So, I am sure that our responses may not always be satisfactory. How-

ever, the board's responsibility is limited by our bylaws and what we actually own and don't own.

Also, after 2 mailings which cost the association several hundred dollars, the revised bylaws have been approved. The total votes received were 280 - 257 votes for the revision and 23 votes against.

Once again because of the cost of mailings, I would urge everyone to register to the web site. In addition to the benefit of reducing the cost of mailings, we have also been sending out announcements and notices such as police action in the neighbor and the invitations from Woodbridge Valley to join them in their movie night and at Oriole Park. Even though you may have submitted your email address when you paid your annual assessment, it cannot be added to the web site data base unless you add it yourself. So, please go to our web site at ellicottmills.org and register your email address.

The Architectural Committee is continuing with the rewrite of the Architectural Guidelines. This committee also held the Pride of Ownership Contest and the Christmas Decorating Contest. Additionally, the committee reviewed and approved 15 applications for changes to home exteriors. Please see the article below addressing the requirement to submit an application before beginning most alterations or additions to existing structures or adding any accessory structures.

The Open Space Committee purchased and installed the dog stations. We know that they are being used. We also know that they are not being used by everyone who should be using them. Some people leave their dog waste just a few steps away from a dog station.

The Open Space Committee also contracted with a water management company to provide us with a plan to correct the water drainage problem in the open space located between Slitting Mill Place and Iron Bolt Court.

The Social Committee held our annual picnic at which a good time and good food was had by all. The weather was beautiful. We got to meet some new neighbors. Adults and children participated in spontaneous games. It was a fun time. The Social Committee also co-sponsored with Woodbridge Valley an Easter Egg Hunt for our little ones.

Our Police Liaison rep keeps us current on the happenings in our neighborhood and attends the monthly committee meetings held by the Baltimore County Woodlawn Police Precinct 2. At these meetings he addresses any issues that we may be having in the neighborhood and brings back information that Baltimore County believes is important for us to know. Fortunately, our neighborhood is very

safe. Even so, we should all always exercise safety precautions and be alert at all times to our surroundings. Never hesitate to report anything that you think is suspicious.

The Block Rep committee was responsible for the purchasing and the placing of the flags for the 4th of July weekend. The Block Rep members are also asked to notify Diana Jolley of the Social Committee of new home owners and newborns on their court or street so that Diana can deliver a welcome package to them.

The Finance Committee purchased and installed a bookkeeping/accounting system - QuickBooks Online - for the association. The committee has contracted for a review of our books.

As mentioned in my message in the fall newsletter, the board has started contacting management companies. Your board and your committee members are all volunteers, with jobs, families and other responsibilities.

We are soliciting proposals from management companies this month. We will decide which proposals may best fit our needs and then set up appointments to have those companies address the board in January. We will have to make a decision by early February because the cost of the services of a management company will determine what the 2014 assessment will be. We are required by the covenants to mail the annual assessment letter by February 15, 2014. Just to let you know based on our covenants the assessment cannot be increased by more than 10% in a given year.

As I hope that you can tell from this list of activities and accomplishments that we have been very busy.

Finally, I would like to wish each and every one happy holidays and a very happy and healthy New Year.

Mary Eusini, President
president@ellicottmills.org

DUMPSTER DAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2013



Ellicott Mills had its annual dumpster day on Saturday, September 7. It turned out to be a beautiful cool morning introducing the beginning of fall. As usual we had a successful day of filling up dumpsters full of unwanted items

from our homes. We filled up 4 dumpsters in the space of 4 hours.

Thanks to Vigna, the dumpsters arrived on time. Also thanks to our volunteers for the day - Mary Eusini, Mike Saunders, Charles Sydnor and Clarence Smith. Plus a special thanks to Lisa Williams who besides manning the dumpsters also walked along the woods bordering Upper Mills Circle picking up the litter accumulated there. By my last count she had filled 3 bags. Watch the newsletter for the announcement of the date of the 2014 dumpster day. (Bruce Morton)

ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE



The leaves have fallen, the days are shorter, and the Holiday Season is upon us. Before we know it - spring will arrive. Working on revising the Architectural Guidelines has been the main focus of the Architectural Committee over the past year. Look for publication of the revised Guidelines in the spring of 2014.

Winter can be a great time to make a plan for spring projects concerning your home. Making a list of needed repairs - broken or missing shutters peeling/faded paint, cracked sidewalks, overgrown shrubbery/trees, etc. - can help you get a head start when springtime finally arrives. Remember - all of us, as homeowners, are responsible for maintaining our property "in a clean and well-kept fashion" (Architectural Guidelines, Section VI). And, don't forget when making your plans - a written application and approval by the Committee is required ***before*** any alterations (additions to existing structures or for any accessory structures, such as fences, sheds, new decks/patios, etc.) you may be planning are started. If you have questions, don't hesitate to contact the Architectural Committee at: architectural@ellicottmills.org Stay warm and count the days until spring arrives. (Rosemary Vicini)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1st 2014 Board Meeting 01/08/14

2013 BLOCK REPRESENTATIVES

If there is a block rep vacancy on your court, please consider volunteering to fill it. Thank you.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINES

Spring - March 21, 2014
(mailed March 28, 2014)

2013 OFFICERS

Mary Eusini President
president@ellicottmills.org
Rosemary Vicini Director
boardofdirectors@ellicottmills.org
E. Vignarajah Director
boardofdirectors@ellicottmills.org
Stacey Cameron Treasurer
treasurer@ellicottmills.org
Mignon Atkins Secretary
secretary@ellicottmills.org

2013 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Architectural: Rosemary Vicini
architectural@ellicottmills.org
Block Reps: Sothy Vignarajah
blockreps@ellicottmills.org
Open Space: E. Vignarajah
openspace@ellicottmills.org
Police & Community Liaison:
Michael Saunders
policeliason@ellicottmills.org
Social: Diana Jolley
welcome@ellicottmills.org
Website: Cori Greib
webmaster@ellicottmills.org
Newsletter: Arschel Morell, III
newsletter@ellicottmills.org

Ballymena Kristine O'Reilly (#3)
Carters Rock (Vacant)
Country Mill Raymond Jolley (#3)
Crooked Willow Sylvia Cothorne (#4)
Crosby (300-314ABC) Maryann Brown (#300)
Dwelling House James Boston (#3)
Helms Pick Lynne Olson (#17)
Hickory Ridge Mignon Atkins (#25),
Nelson Dennis (#17)
Iron Bolt Michelle Page (#7)
Island Run John Stephens (#18)
Main Falls Circle (7201-7215) Clyde and Kathleen
McPherson (#7214)
Main Falls Circle (7807-7820) Earl Jenkins (#7811)
Main Falls (7822-7834 even) Janet O'Brien (#7832)
Main Falls Circle (7900-7922 even) (vacant)
Main Falls Circle (7901-7921, 7827-7833 odd) Ayanna
Baker (#7921)
Marshs Victory Christopher Darling (#24)
Mill Pool Walt and Mary Kay Willing (#4)
North Stead Anton Smoot (#23)
Six Notches (1-25) Arschel Morell (#9)
Six Notches (27-92) Rosemary Vicini (#41)
Slitting Mill Ms. George Karousos (#301)
Stout Run Bryant Senio (#11), Len & Adel Buettner (#16)
Three Willows Regina Smith (#3)
Upper Mills (6801-6812) Sothy Vignarajah* (#6804)
Upper Mills (6902-6918) Sothy Vignarajah (#6804)
Upper Mills (7000-7022) Leroy Burch
Upper Mills (7024-7122) Sothy Vignarajah (#6804)
Upper Mills (7201-7210) Sothy Vignarajah (#6804)

TRUMPET PIANO GUITAR



Music teacher looking for new private students. I have 15 years experience teaching student of all ages. Phone: **Melissa Grieb** 301-512-9988.

PIANO LESSONS FOR ADULTS AND CHILDREN



Catherine Elkiss 410-788-5175

WELLNESS

Erin E. Kleopa,
Certified Holistic Health Coach
www.new-life-wellness.com

I support young women and mothers regarding how to eat for their bodies without deprivation so that they can reach their health and wellness goals without ever 'dieting' again. Contact me for your complimentary Discovery Session. erin@new-life-wellness.com 443-281-ERIN (3746)

Erin E. Kleopa,
Arbonne Independent Consultant
erinkleopa.myarbonne.com

I'm looking to mentor someone new! I teach women how to work part time hours at home with full-time (and more) income while helping others improve their health and well-being. Swiss, botanical-based, vegan, non-GMO skincare & body care for the whole family, cosmetics, nutrition & wellness products. I offer a complimentary consultation for all lines - have a facial, makeunder or tasting of our Simply Fit kit. Erin@new-lif-wellness.com 443-281-ERIN (3746)

CITIZEN PROTECTION AGENCY SECURITY COMPANY

My name is Darrin Granger. I live at #1 Ballymena Court and have so for over 12 years. I own and operate Citizen Protection Agency Security Company. CPA Security conducts security, consulting and investigations for private, residential and commercial businesses in Maryland. We also investigate domestic divorce cases as well. I have over 24 years of Law Enforcement experience. Phone: 410-491-1501

O'Reilly Early Learning Center

I am a licensed (#153179) daycare provider at 3 Ballymena Court. I am a certified teacher and taught in the public schools for 9 years before starting my daycare. I have been in business for the last 3 ½ years I have 2 full or part-time openings for children 2 years old or older. I would love to provide service to families from our community.

Kristine O'Reilly, 443-341-6440, 410-952-7038
oreillyelc.com



~~ Personalized care ~~ Individual attention ~~ Accredited & certified (#157957)

~~ Affordable rates ~~ flexible schedules ~~ Accepting all ages

~~ Full or part time ~~ Before/after school openings

For more information please call 410-709-8666
Or visit us on the web: friendlydaycare.com

Ellicott Mills Homeowners Association
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Catonsville, MD 21228