



**NEWS
AROUND
THE
NEIGHBORHOOD**

Winter 2014/2015

2015 Board of Directors

**Jay Popp, President
Ralph Flens, Vice President
Joe Arias, Treasurer**

**Kathy Skurauskis, Secretary
Ron Szikora, Director**

A NEW PRESENTATION

We are going to present our Newsletter in a brief, bullet statement format. We are hoping to present a lot of community information in such a way that the reader is not distracted by wordy explanations. Of course if you would have any questions about any of the statements please feel free to contact Peter Bylen at pbylen@1stpropertymanagers.com or the Briar Cove Board at briarcoveboard@yahoo.com

Our next open Board meeting will be Thursday, April 16, 6:30 pm, at the Schererville Library.

Per our bylaws ALL Christmas decorations should have been removed by now.

To stay informed about community activities, alerts, and announcements and to receive future community newsletters make sure Peter Bylen pbylen@1stpropertymanagers.com has your EMAIL address.

As required by our community covenants, provide Peter Bylen with homeowner's insurance information. This is for your safety as well as your attached neighbor.

Please put Pipeline mailings you receive in a place you can retrieve easily. There is information in the mailing that will help you identify if an emergency situation may exist.

A Channel 2 TV news reporter happened to visit our community on Christmas Eve, interviewed several residents, took some pictures, and aired the experience on the 10 o'clock news that night. Apparently the reporter was familiar with our community and thought our community would be nice to visit on Christmas Eve.

Briar Cove will start the first phase in our painting program for our Community this year.

The painting will occur over a three-year period.

The first phase of our driveway asphalt resealing program will also start this year.

The process will be spread out over a two-year plan based on the year it was last sealed. The sealing material will be non-coal tar, in consideration of environmental issues.

Further information about both programs will be provided by email and future newsletters.

Briar Cove News Around the Neighborhood – Winter 2014/ 2015

The 2015 Briar Cove Committees (*Chairperson) are as follows:

Architectural Review Committee

*Bill Sliepka, Bobbie Czajka, Jack Doherty, Virgil Jordan, Ron Szikora

Finance & Budget Committee

*Joe Arias, Ralph Flens

Landscaping & Beautification Committee

*Sue Arias, Beverly Perotti, Ken Darrow, Nancy Lyzenga, Leslie Slatter, Chris Popp, Mary Szikora, Millie Baccino, Dee Niven

Nominating Committee

*Ralph Flens, Diane Carroll, Betty Bryan, Beverly Perotti

Rules Committee

*Joe Arias, Patti Jongsma, Paul Hess, Virgil Jordan

Social & Welcoming Committee

*Kathy Skurauskis, Dee Niven, Leslie Slatter, Betty Bryan
Beverly Perotti, Rita Stopper -----Welcome Team

After a busy year, our “tandem welcoming team” of Rita and Beverly is again ready to make contact with about 3-4 expected new neighbors. Last year they welcomed 12 new residents. Along with a smiling “welcome to the neighborhood,” they provide a welcome packet that consists of general information, our governing document in a binder and a gift basket of fruit.

Website & Newsletter Committee

Kathy Skurauskis and Jay Popp

The Briar Cove Book Group is back from Christmas break and discussed *Defending Jacob* by William Landay in January. This legal thriller tells of a lawyer defending his own son on murder charges and is highly recommended. On February 18, we will be discussing *The Senator's Wife* by Sue Miller. If any women in the neighborhood would like to join in, contact Karen Davis at 865-2241 or email KDavis5722@att.net to obtain a book.

Schedule of 2015 Briar Cove Board Meetings - April 16, July 16, October 15, November 19

In general, snow removal will not start until the end of any single snow event as long as it exceeds 2 inches.

Our website host is now Go Daddy. Website host 2MHost has been canceled.
Much thanks to Kathy Skurauskis for her hard work in making the transfer to our new web host.

Briar Cove News Around the Neighborhood – Winter 2014/ 2015

Yellow ribbons were attached to 26 trees by a Forever Green arborist to determine quantity and location of Ash trees in our community. Unfortunately, Northwest Indiana and other large areas in the Midwest have been infested by the Emerald Ash Borer which is killing the trees.

More info to follow this spring.

Currently the plan is to have four Community newsletters during the year:

Winter (January), Spring (April), Summer (July) and Fall (October).

It is planned to distribute most newsletters by email to save on mailing costs.

There is a rumor going around the community that if a resident desires to do services on their property that are provided by the Association, they can deduct the cost of the service from their monthly assessment. That is totally untrue and could ultimately result in legal action such as a lien being placed on his or her home for unpaid assessment and attorney fees.

Still need a few more votes to pass our three proposed amendments: (1) Association responsibility of trees and bushes, (2) Board member “good standing” requirements and (3) Architectural review committee jurisdiction. Please contact Peter Bylen or any Board member for further clarification.

Coyotes have been observed in our community, so please keep a watchful eye on your pets if they are outside.

Last but not least, the Briar Cove Homeowners Association has successfully completed another year in sound financial fashion.

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