

The Fiesta Bee



A Monthly Newsletter for the Fiesta Gardens Homes Association, San Mateo, CA
www.FiestaGardensHoa.com PO Box 5288, San Mateo CA 94402

ephulman@yahoo.com

Inside This Issue

President's Message	1-2
Civic Report	2
Monthly Calendar	3
Board Meeting Minutes	4-5
Measure P Information	6
Social Director's Report	7
December Agenda	8
Christmas Light Contest Flyer	9
Block Captain needed!	11

Find past issues of the Bee, Financials, FGHA documents, announcements and more at the FGHA webpage
www.FiestaGardensHoa.com



The next Board meeting will be
Wednesday, December 5
7PM in the cabana.

President's Message

By Steve Strauss

WHEN you build it...

It's time to build the new Cabana. At the last meeting, the board approved the recommendation of the Cabana Committee and selected a contractor for the new Cabana.

Now we figure out the best way to pay for it. We've gone ahead and explored our options and now are going to ask your opinion. If you are on NextDoor, you will see a survey just for Fiesta Gardens owners, on the options for paying for the Cabana and the necessary information you need to give us your opinion. (If you're not on NextDoor and want to participate in the survey, please email treasurer@fiestagardenshoa.com and we'll email you a link).

Some of *my* thoughts on the subject...

1. If we choose to do a one-time assessment with no dues increase, we save on interest, and we pay for the whole thing now by those who live here now. Your property value goes up. And we have a nice new Cabana!
2. If we choose to do a small assessment along with a dues increase, we pay interest, and we pay over a 20-25 year period, with everyone that lives here over that time period paying their share. Your property value goes up. And we have a nice new Cabana!

Also, very soon, you will have access to an artist's rendering of the new Cabana, as well as a floor plan. You'll be able to see a picture of what we're buying. I've seen the plans. You're going to be impressed. The Cabana Committee has spent the last four-plus years getting us to this point and are to be commended. It hasn't been an easy road, and it took longer than we had hoped, but we're so close you can almost smell the paint. Thanks again.

After we get the survey results, when we DO get to the actual approval process, the most important thing will be that EVERYBODY VOTES. The VOTE will be the VOTE, and no one will tell you *how* to VOTE (they *may* ask), but please just VOTE. To make these kinds of decisions, we not only need a majority, we need a quorum. What that means is that a certain percentage of the membership has to VOTE. (Seeing a theme here??) Unfortunately, the voting process we must follow can get expensive, so we only want to do this once.

Enough about that....

Continued on page 2

FGHA Board of Directors

President Steve Strauss	president@fiestagardenshoa.com
Vice President Mike Russell	vp@fiestagardenshoa.com
Civic Affairs Rich Neve	civic@fiestagardenshoa.com
Park Director Roland Bardony	parks@fiestagardenshoa.com
Pool Operations Steve Stanovcak	poolops@fiestagardenshoa.com
Pool Maintenance Steve Muller	poolmtc@fiestagardenshoa.com
Social Director Carmen Quaresma	social@fiestagardenshoa.com

FGHA Staff

Treasurer Steve Gross	treasurer@fiestagardenshoa.com
Secretary Pam Miller	secretary@fiestagardenshoa.com
Bee Editor Eleni Hulman	editor@fiestagardenshoa.com

President's message

from page 1

I would like to formally introduce Pam Miller as the new FGHOA Secretary. Pam has served on the board in the past and will be a great asset to us as Secretary. Please join me in welcoming Pam to the team.

As the end of the year approaches, it's time to start thinking about filling some Board positions. As it stands as of now, we have at least one, if not more, Board positions available. If you are interested in being on the Board, please shoot me an email at president@fiestagardenshoa.com. If you didn't know you were interested, you may be contacted by the Nominating Committee. We're always looking for new and future Board Members.

Next Board Meeting – Wednesday, December 5th at the Cabana. See you there.

Happy Holidays to everyone in the Fiesta Gardens Family. Enjoy some fun, food, family and football with those you love (and maybe some you don't, but have to!)

Oh and.....VOTE!



Civic Report

By Richard Neve

Traffic Action Plan

Refreshing the restriping in the neighborhood will begin soon. Expect some signs and barricades around those areas.

19th Avenue/Fashion Island Blvd corridor: use the following link to complete an online survey to put forward your views on how to improve traffic flow in this area
www.cityofsanmateo.org/corridorsurvey.

Meeting: There will be an open house for information and further public comment for the 19th Avenue/Fashion Island Blvd corridor on Dec 11th, 7:00 p.m. at the Fiesta Gardens Cabana.

San Mateo General Plan

Get involved in the future of San Mateo! The city is holding a series of public meetings to get citizens' input on the update to the General Plan. There are a number of active groups out there attending these meetings who support massive development in San Mateo. If you want your ideas and opinions heard you need to attend.

General plan website:

<https://www.cityofsanmateo.org/1537/General-Plan>

Meeting: Discussion on General Plan, November 23rd, 7:00 p.m., at the San Mateo Police Station.

Measure P

Did you notice that Measure P was not on the ballot this month? Information on the recent activities related to Measure P is in this month's bee.

MONTHLY CALENDAR

FIESTA GARDENS

December 5
FGHA Board Meeting
7 p.m., Pool Cabana

December 14
Holiday Lights Contest

December 15
Deadline to get articles and ads to Bee Editor.

SAN MATEO.

December 3
City Council meeting
Where: City Hall, Council Chambers
When: 7:00 p.m.

December 5
Park and Recreation Commission Meeting
The Park and Recreation Commission was established in 1912 makes recommendations to the City Council on acquisition, development, beautification and maintenance of public parks, landscape resources, public recreation facilities, budget, and programs of Park & Recreation activities.

Where: City Hall, Council Chambers
When: 7:00 p.m.

December 8, 9
46th Anniversary of the Holiday Festival of Dance
This annual event is co-sponsored by the San Mateo Parks & Recreation Dept. and the San Mateo Dance Association. Through the magic of theatre, dance and a lot of hard work by many volunteers, the San Mateo High School gym is transformed into a Holiday theatrical production complete with lighting, music, costumes, choreography and more than 500 dancers. The 46th Anniversary of this magical production and will feature dancers currently within the City's Youth and Adult Dance Programs, as well as city employees who perform in our famous Reindeer and the City Dancer's dance. This year's production is entitled "The Snow Tree" and is sure to warm hearts both young and old. Public sale for tickets begins Monday, November 19th at 9am at Beresford Rec. Center and King Center.

Where: San Mateo High School, Gymnasium, 506 N. Delaware
When: 5:30 p.m.

Cost: Adults \$12.00 / \$13.00 at the door
Children 2-12 years \$2/\$3 at the door Under 2 free

Contact: (650) 522-7444

Are You Considering a Move?

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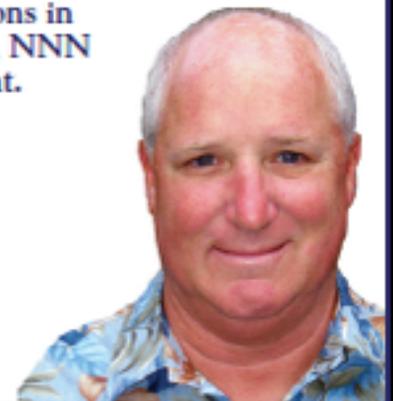
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A Former Fiesta Gardens Resident of 28 years!

FGHA BOARD MEETING – October 3, 2018

APPROVED Minutes, Respectfully Submitted, Allyson Strauss, Acting Secretary

The Board Meeting, which was held at Fiesta Gardens Pool Cabana, was called to order by Steve Strauss, President, at 7:04PM. Board Members in attendance were: Steve Strauss – President, Mike Russell -- Vice President, Rich Neve – Civic Affairs, Roland Bardony – Parks Director, Steve Stanovcak -- Pool Operations and Carmen Quaresma -- Social Director. Steve Muller – Pool Maintenance was absent

Minutes from the September meeting were presented. MOTION to approve by Mike Russell. SECOND by Rich Neve. Motion passed and September minutes were approved.

Financial / Steve Gross – Everything is in order. Financial reports available on website.

BOARD REPORTS

Civic / Rich Neve

- Traffic action plan – red curbs being 'refreshed', city may start traffic counts near FG Elementary, 19th Ave. / FIB corridor study meeting 11/8 @ 7PM @ City Hall.
- Ongoing changes to Passages project. More info when available.
- Measure P issue still ongoing. With concerns, contact City Council members.
- Info / Screening re: Hep B at SM Main Library 10/11/18.

Social / Carmen Quaresma

- Halloween Party 10/27 4:30-6:30PM at the Cabana. Parade, games, food and fun for all. Need volunteers – please contact Carmen.
- Movie Night 9/15 – “Back to the Future” was a success.
- Xmas Light contest judging 12/14 Time TBD. Lining up celebrity judges.

Parks / Roland Bardony

- 11 sprinkler heads have been changed. Timing to be adjusted.
- Park pathway – track and parking lot should be repaired / replaced within the next year. Bridge may (should) be replaced soon.
- Large branch broke from tree. Scapes to remove and evaluate whether tree is dead.
- 40 bags of sand were replaced at the kiddie park. Thanks to the volunteers for your help.

Pool Maintenance / Steve Muller

Absent. No report.

Pool Operations / Steve Stanovcak

Last day of pool operation is 10/14. 3 more parties scheduled.

Vice President / Mike Russell

Nothing to report

President / Steve Strauss –

- Applications have been received for Secretary Position. Hope to decide before next meeting.
- Need new block captains for two locations.

OLD BUSINESS

Cabana Project –

- Cabana Committee meeting 10/14 @ 1130AM with bidding contractor and architect to make sure that all components of the job are included in bid.

NEW BUSINESS

Secretary position –

- Secretary interviews to be held 10/14. Steve Gross to arrange.

Insurance Coverage –

- Questions were asked about insurance coverage for 'for profit' groups using FGHA facilities (i.e. playground use by day care, tennis lessons, etc.). Per our insurance carrier, we are covered for any and all liability, with the exception of possible negligence. Park and playground equipment is checked and maintained monthly.

Cabana financing options

- Questions were asked about how we plan to pay for Cabana project. There are three options that are being considered.

Continued next page

- o Finance 100% of project through one-time assessment.
- o Mortgage 100% of project through dues increase.
- o Mortgage 50% of project through dues increase plus one-time assessment.
- Waiting for actual cost numbers to be determined before decision put to membership. Survey to be done in advance of vote to gauge preference of membership.

Questions and Comments

Meeting adjourned @ 749PM. MOTION for adjournment by Mike Russell, SECOND by Steve Stanovcak. Motion passes 7-0.

FGHA BOARD MEETING – November 7, 2018

Unapproved Minutes, Respectfully Submitted, Pam Miller, Secretary

The FGHA Board Meeting was called to order by Steve Strauss, President, at 7:06 PM. Board Members in attendance were: Steve Strauss - President, Mike Russell - Vice President, Rich Neve – Civic Affairs, Roland Bardony – Parks, and Steve Stanovcak – Pool Operations. Absent: Carmen Quaresma – Social Director, Steve Muller – Pool Maintenance.

October 2018 Minutes: On a motion duly made and seconded and approved by all board members, the minutes of the October 3, 2018 meeting were approved.

Financial /Steve Gross – Due to pool closure payroll will go down. \$68,000 worth of liens were established, mostly apartments.

BOARD REPORTS

Civic/Rich Neve

- Red curbs will be refreshed next month.
- Measure P gives control over how San Mateo will look in the future - look for flyer.
- 19th Ave/Fashion Island Blvd survey, tentative meeting at cabana on 12/11.

Social/ Carmen Quaresma was not in attendance, Mike Russell gave report.

- Halloween Party was a great success. Pictures will be in next Bee.
- Holiday Light Contest will be 12/14.
- Judges will be from outside the neighborhood.

Parks/Roland Bardony

- Winter plants were put in by Scapes.
- Sprinklers will be adjusted accordingly for the winter.
- Scapes trimmed the damaged tree in the park. It's still alive and should be fine.

Pool Maintenance/ Steve Muller

- Absent – No report

Pool Operations/Steve Stanovcak

- Pool is closed for the season.

Vice President/Mike Russell

- Nothing to report.

President/Steve Strauss

- Great turn out for Halloween, fun was had by all.

OLD BUSINESS

Cabana Project

- On behalf of the Cabana Committee, Denise Iskander recommended to the Board to hire JD Builders to construct our new cabana.
- Mike Russell motioned to approve JD Builders to construct our new cabana, the motion was seconded by Steve Stanovcak. The motion passed 5 to 0.
- Survey will go out on Neighborhood Site to see how people would like to finance.

NEW BUSINESS

- There was no new business.

ADJOURNMENT/NEXT MEETING

The next Meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 5, 2018 at 7pm. Meeting was adjourned at 7:34PM.

Hello Neighbors!

San Mateo's height, density and affordable housing protections are at risk!

Wondering why your November ballot didn't have a measure to continue these protections?



Do you remember being asked to sign a petition last spring to renew San Mateo's height, density and affordable housing protections by placing the "extension of Measure P" on the ballot? Over 7,000 San Mateo residents signed that petition, far exceeding the number needed.

Despite the support of so many San Mateo voters, our City Council chose not to place the measure on the 2018 ballot. Fortunately, our signatures are still valid for the next regular election, November 2020. The City Council has a minimum legal duty to put the measure on that ballot, but even that is not assured.

Attorneys for well-financed development interests, including Hillsdale Mall's Bohannon Development Co., have been actively trying to prevent our measure from ever reaching voters. They claim the measure, San Mateo policy for 25 years, is "flawed", and have even encouraged costly lawsuits to silence citizen action.

This is a classic big-money tactic to thwart citizens' grassroots efforts and keep you from voting on this important issue.

We believe that residents directly affected by city-wide land-use decisions should have some control of those decisions, not just three council members on any given Monday night.

**That's why we're still fighting for YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE
on building height, density, and affordable housing.
BUT WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

If this is important to you, please contact us NOW!
650-539-4930 or limitheights2018@gmail.com

We'll keep you informed, be your voice, and lead the effort towards a better San Mateo!
Learn more on our website: www.smartergrowthsm.com

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Social Director's Report

By *Carmen Quaresma*



The Halloween Party was a success. Many families came out with delightful costumes. We had pizza, lots of treats and some fun games for the party. Many thanks to Michelle Bardony, Sara Padilla and David Martin for your help and generosity.

Don't forget our annual Christmas Light Contest will be on December 14th. Everyone is eligible for the contest this year. Check the poster for the newly minted categories. We have secured our community judges this year, and they are: Diane Whitaker (Chair of the Planning Commission), Brad Underwood (Director of Public Works), and Eric Rodriguez (City Council Member). Thank you to Rich Neve for inviting these great judges for our contest. Individual prizes will be awarded that evening and the street prize will be awarded separately.

On a final note, the Christmas contest will be my last event. Thank you to everyone who has lent a hand, great and small, throughout these two years. From Easter Egg hunts, to Christmas Lights, I see that we are such a wonderful community. Fiesta Gardens is unique because it's still like a neighborhood from years past where our children know their neighbors and play on the streets, we greet each other driving past and support each other if anyone needs a hand. I feel the social position is important for our HOA; it allows everyone a chance to get to know each other in a relaxed setting and come together for our neighborhood. Please consider volunteering for this position.



**Fiesta Gardens Homes Association
Board Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, December 5, 2018
7:00 PM**

1. Call to Order
2. Reading and Approval of Minutes
3. Financial Report – Steve Gross
4. Board Reports:
 - i. Civic – Rich Neve
 - ii. Social – Carmen Quaresma
 - iii. Parks – Roland Bardony
 - iv. Pool Maintenance – Steve Muller
 - v. Pool Operations – Steve Stanovcak
 - vi. Vice President – Mike Russell
 - vii. President – Steve Strauss
5. Old Business
 - i. Cabana Clubhouse/Bathrooms/Guard House Renovation Update
 - ii. Christmas Contest Update
6. New Business
7. Questions and Comments
8. Adjournment/Break into Executive Session if needed



Fiesta Gardens Neighborhood

CHRISTMAS

LIGHT CONTEST

JUDGING WILL BE HELD

DECEMBER 14TH

FOUR WINNING CATEGORIES

1. Griswold Award-- for the house that is so bright and beautiful
2. Classical Award-- Tastefully done without too much extra
3. Best Themed Award-- Continuous theme throughout display
4. Best Street-- The street with the best participation





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Happy Holidays!



Well, 2018 is almost over and we are entering one of my favorite times of year, the winter holidays! Arguably some of the best food and traditional family recipes come out of the archives and make it to our holiday tables. On the Saturday after Thanksgiving, my family will be hard at work making about 1800 ravioli's in the tradition of my great-grandmother. We will be side by side with multiple generations creating these magical puffs of dough that will grace our dinner table on Christmas day. It's a tradition my family treasures and looks forward to every year. The landscape around the table changes as the older generation moves on into our hearts and memories and as the younger generation grows and hears the stories of the past. It is always a bitter sweet day of reflection and joy! I would love to hear traditions your family celebrates! Email me with one of your holiday family traditions and I'll put it in a future Bee Article.

CONGRATULATIONS to the Demetris Family on Sullivan for being the lucky winner of my Thanksgiving Turkey Giveaway. In addition to winning the turkey, I will be donating \$50 to the Second Harvest Food Bank in their name! If you have a few dollars to spare, I encourage you to visit <https://give.shfb.org/donatenow> and make a donation. Or if the burning fires in California are a passionate cause for you, you can donate to the Red Cross at <https://www.redcross.org/donate/donation.html>. Be sure to select CALIFORNIA WILDFIRES under the I want to support tab! There are so many people who aren't fortunate enough to be able to celebrate their family traditions this year or any longer because of a variety of circumstances. A little help goes a long way!

Next month, I will have a neighborhood sales update. There are currently 3 homes available for sale.

May your family be blessed this Holiday Season! I look forward to seeing you around the neighborhood!

181 2nd Avenue #100, San Mateo, CA 94401 | 650.685.7621 | David@SellPeninsulaHomes.com



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RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

Volunteers needed!

SEEKING BLOCK CAPTAIN!

We are in need of block captain for
ANNAPOLIS DRIVE

If you are interested, please contact any Board
member for more information or to volunteer!

Thank You!

SEEKING NEW BOARD MEMBERS!

By January 1, 2019 we will need
At least one new volunteer Board member for
our Association.

Please contact any Board member for more
information or to volunteer!

Volunteer Board members serve a two year term.
Must be members in good standing.

FIESTA GARDENS HOMES
PO BOX 5288
SAN MATEO CA 94402-0288