



## ***HICKORY HEIGHTS WOODS ASSOCIATION***

### ***2020 ANNUAL MEETING***

Hello neighbors,

In mid-June, the Hickory Heights Woods Association would normally hold our Annual Meeting in the park. However, in these unprecedented times with COVID-19 still very much a threat to our safety, holding a large gathering would put people at risk. For that reason, we will not be holding the meeting in the park this year. Hopefully we can resume the park meeting next year, where we get a chance to see our neighbors, have a little food, and be social.

Even though we will not have our meeting in the park, the board is still very active and will continue to cover the usual association business. Typically the board President and treasurer present the news of the past year and our treasurer's report so the community knows where the association stands. This letter will serve as the community update, and the included treasurer's report covers the finances of the year. If you have any questions about the numbers, please reach out to Joel Happel (Treasurer) and he would be happy to review over the phone.

We will implement electronic voting by email ballots this year for the first time, so please ensure we have an accurate email address on file by checking the online directory on our association website found at the bottom of this letter. Otherwise you will need to contact the board with your vote during the time allowed and we can provide a paper ballot to you. This year, election of board members will also be done electronically. There are three seats open for the Board of Directors and as soon as we have three nominees we will send out ballots for election.

While the meeting has been postponed, annual dues are still \$150.00 for each household, due no later than Aug 15, 2020. The association dues need to remain on schedule so we can make sure current levels of maintenance are not interrupted. The majority of our budget goes towards the maintenance of our entrance areas, cul-de-sacs, and park. We still have a challenge collecting all the dues each year, so we appreciate your timeliness with submitting them.

For the first time, we will have the ability to accept PayPal transactions, hopefully making sending in dues faster and easier for everyone. We will, of course, maintain the mailing notice and collecting dues by check as well in an effort to service all of our neighbors. If you are not familiar with PayPal we will have detailed instruction on the due notice letter and the web site.

Besides being able to process payments electronically we will also be updating our website to include more detail and content where you can always go to find official notifications, subdivision information, and the ability to reach out to your neighbors with our private directory.

Matt Osiecki will be heading up the park committee for this coming year, so we will look forward to the great things he will bring to the park. We are always looking for helpers and volunteers for these activities so if you are able, please reach out on our Facebook page HickoryHeightsWoodsNorth, or the board for ways you can help. We have other good news for the park as well. This year we have replaced the two old worn out picnic tables and benches so your BBQs will be much more pleasant and accommodating for the years to come. We will need a small group to help assemble the tables and benches when they arrive this month. This little help from neighbors goes a long way in keeping costs down for these projects, and keeps our dues as low as they are.

We had some of our usual neighborhood activities this year, pre and post COVID -19, and still managed to come together as a neighborhood. Our Halloween party was a great success, even with the cold and rain! Thank you to Krista Mayo and Ann Burns for hosting. Our block party, even in the rain, had a good attendance and we got to enjoy exceptional food and fun conversations. We appreciate the efforts of Maggie Happel, Katie Gardner, Maria Anger, and Laura Hutchinson for all the work you put into organizing the event.

Some of the other activities this past year were a little hampered by COVID - 19 like the Easter egg hunt, which is usually in the park, but turned into a scavenger hunt with the help of neighbors putting items on their porch and in windows for the kids to find. It really did help the little ones being able to get out of the house for the first time to interact with neighbors again in some capacity. Thank you to everyone who participated and helped organize that event.

As for the maintenance of the neighborhood, the Andover cul-de-sac was renovated up to the standards of the other cul-de-sacs and looks great. Our current landscaping company has been doing a good job and is a good value for the price we pay for that service. During the early growing season, the park grass gets long, but it is cut each week. Our cul-de-sacs are maintained with mulch and with weed prevention as well. The mosquito prevention program continued again this year so you should have fewer bites.

For the new business at hand, the board is considering the idea of updating the neighborhood mail boxes to bring back the uniformity of the subdivision. Over the years the replacement of the mailboxes had not been set to a standard of conformity. We are currently looking into the possibility of going back to a standard uniform mailbox for the subdivision. There would be potentially three options with different levels of costs that would be presented for a vote by the association. Depending on costs, this would likely be a one-time assessment shared by the community. The board has reviewed a few styles similar to the subdivision directly east of us. We encourage you to visit the adjacent neighborhood and see the aesthetics of going back to a uniform design. It brings cohesion to the subdivision, curb appeal, and adds value to the homes and overall neighborhood.

Finally, we want to also welcome our new neighbors to our community! You have joined a thriving, friendly neighborhood and we look forward to meeting all of you. This year has been challenging for all of us, and has put new and complicated stresses on many aspects of everyone's lives. I can say with such fervor that our neighbors have not lost sight of our community, and even with masks on there is always a friendly wave.

Thank you for your continued interest in this community.

Greg James	Joel Happel	Krista Mayo	Mike Orrell	Nick Pyykkonen
President	Treasurer	Vice President	Secretary	at Large

Hickory Heights Woods Park Association

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Subdivision Web Page & Directory <http://hickoryheightsnorth.com>

Facebook page: HickoryHeightsWoodsNorth

For electronic payments, please send payments to: **HHWNhoa@gmail.com**