**EWCA Minutes for May 17, 2023 Meeting**

Members in attendance: Frank Sheridan, Claudia DeCicco, Tom Kennedy, and Christy Cushing.

The meeting began at 9:14 pm.

**EWCA Annual Dues**

There are 17 unpaid residential EWCA dues.  A third notice will be coming out.  After the third notice, any unpaid dues will be referred out for collection.  The homeowner will have to pay the cost of dues plus the cost of collection and legal fees associated with collection.

Please mail your dues to:

PO Box 652

Oakton, VA 22124

**Brightlea Drive Home Construction Violation**

There is a house under construction that is in violation of the ARC Guidelines that the homeowner’s agreed to when they negotiated the ARC’s approval of the work. The Board is looking into Legal Counsel.

**Crossbow Court Pedestrian & Traffic Related Concerns**

We are not getting help from FCDOT and VDOT.  Supervisor Dahlia Palchik has not returned the Board’s phone calls regarding concerns about the school related traffic and overall safety.  At this juncture, the best way forward seems to be our community advocating on our own behalf.  If you have professional experience with media strategy, media outreach, work for a press office, or are skilled at doing communications, the Board would appreciate speaking with you.  If you are willing to volunteer by providing the Board with guidance on how to go about getting the word out with the media and how our community can do this kind of outreach, the Board would be interested in speaking with you.  Thank you for your consideration.

**House Blight Report with the County**

A County blight abatement program has been looked into in order to potentially help address neighborhood complaints and concerns about a longtime derelict home on Oleander.

**Common Ground Tree Removal**

A mature tree was taken down from the Common Grounds as it was hollow and a precarious safety hazard to a house on Oleander.  A price was negotiated for the take down for $1,300.

**Save the Dates:**

The Annual Common Grounds Clean Up will be held on Saturday, October 7th.

The Annual Community Picnic will be held on Saturday, October 14th.

**CareRing Program**

"We all need someone to whom to talk. If you live alone and would like to start your day talking to a friendly voice, then please consider connecting with the Fairfax County program called CareRing. CareRing is a daily outbound calling telephone program designed to help individuals who are living alone, aged, disabled, or chronically ill. Clients in this program are provided the additional support and community connection to help them remain independent and living a connected and safe life. If you, or a loved one you know, are interested, then please call Allegra Joffe at 703-400-9523 or email [ajoffe@prsinc.org](mailto:ajoffe@prsinc.org)."

**Street Lights**

To report an outdoor lighting concern, submit a concern to Dominion Energy at: <https://www.dominionenergy.com/virginia/report-outage-or-emergency/streetlight-outages>

**Street Sign Issues**

To report any issues with street signs, contact Fairfax County Department of Public Works and Environment Services.Call M-F 8-4:30 at 703-877-2800 or submit a maintenance form at: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/public> works/street-name-sign-maintenance-form

**Stop Sign Visibility Issues**

To report a problematic visual obstruction of a stop sign, call V-DOT at 703-259-0243 or go to  <https://virginiadot.org> You can place a maintenance request online. Click the associated tab at the top of the main page labeled, “to report a road problem.”

**Oakton High School Facility Issues**

To report any facility concerns regarding Oakton High School, such as dangerous trees or vine growth, contact the FCPS Facilities Leadership team at:<https://www.fcps.edu/contact-us>

**Feeding Wildlife in Our Community** -  Please do not feed the foxes.  They are a vector for rabies.  Fairfax County Animal Control has said that they will not trap or remove them as they are a natural occurring species.  If you see an aggressive fox, it could be a sign of illness.  You can call (703) 691-2131 to report aggressive behavior.

**Potholes**

To report potholes in roads or any other issues related to roads contact the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) here: <https://my.vdot.virginia.govor> call 1-800-FOR-ROAD.  Once reported, VDOT typically repairs the pothole within 72 hours.

**Seller’s Packets**

Recently, several homeowners selling their properties have contacted the EWCA at the last minute asking for seller’s packets.   The seller’s packet is homeowner’s association documentation provided to the buyer by the seller. It includes information such as proof of HOA insurance, annual dues, ARC compliance, confirmation that the HOA does not have a lien on the property, etc. The Virginia Code requires that a property seller supply this information to the buyer through the HOA.

The packet requires some work on the part of the Board and is impossible to deliver overnight.   If you are thinking about putting your house on the market, please reach out to the Board Immediately. You'll drop off a check for $100 which will start the process.  The EWCA VP will gather the documents, the ARC will do a walk past the exterior of the house to affirm compliance with ARC guidelines, and then the packet will be assembled and sent out.

Starting early allows you and the ARC Board to resolve any issues that might remain unsettled before the crush of a closing date makes everything hectic. Doing so also allows the volunteers who do the work time to do it well.

**Contact info for the BoD:**

Frank Sheridan President: [fsheridan@verizon.net](mailto:fsheridan@verizon.net)

Tom Kennedy, Vice President: [tkennedy26@cox.net](mailto:tkennedy26@cox.net)

Claudia DeCicco, Treasurer [wadecicco@gmail.com](mailto:wadecicco@gmail.com)

Christy Cushing, Secretary [christyelizbeth@gmail.com](mailto:christyelizbeth@gmail.com)

Sarah Alonso, ARC Co-Chair: [sarah.alice.slater@gmail.com](mailto:sarah.alice.slater@gmail.com)

Page McKinstry, ARC Co-Chair: [ppb29@hotmail.com](mailto:ppb29@hotmail.com)

Be sure to check our website for docs, old minutes, info on getting ARC approval for your home projects, etc:<http://edgeleawoods.com/>

**HOME SALE & HOME OWNER ASSOCIATION DOCUMENT ACQUISITION**

Here the steps involving the acquisition of ARC documents,

1) Pay a $100 fee c/o EWCA to acquire an EWCA Seller Packet.

            -Checks with a written request to receive an EWCA seller packet can be mailed or hand delivered to:

9916 Oleander Avenue

c/o Frank Sheridan

Vienna, VA  22181

2) The Board needs three weeks for the completion of HOA documents in order to,

            -Complete an ARC walk-through of the outside of the home.

            -Gather homeowner policy insurance information, EWCA budget information, lien info, and fill out the State of Virginia HOA Disclosure Packet.

**ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BY-LAWS REGARDING EXTERIOR CHANGES TO YOUR HOME**

Please be aware that before you do any kind of work or improvement to the outside your house it needs to be reviewed first by our Architectural Review Committee (ARC).  These are by-laws as they pertain to advance approval for changes to the exterior of the home.  If you have any questions, you can drop an e-mail to our ARC Chair, Colleen Kennedy, [tkennedy26@cox.net](mailto:tkennedy26@cox.net).

            "No building, fence, wall or other structure shall be commenced, erected, or maintained upon the properties, nor shall any exterior addition to or change or alteration therein be made until the plans and specifications showing the nature, kind, shape, height, materials, and location of the same shall have been submitted to and approved in writing as to harmony of external design and location in relation to surrounding structures and topography by the Board of Directors of the Association, or by an Architectural Committee composed of three (3) or more representatives appointed by the Board."

ANY CHANGE to the exterior appearance of a property lot within the Edgelea Woods neighborhood requires the approval of the Association’s Architectural Review committee (ARC). Requests for changes/modifications to lots within the community must be presented to the ARC in writing using the prescribed form from the homeowner's manual. The ARC will review requests within 30 days of the receipt of the request.  Reply to the applicant will be in writing.  Whenever possible, the ARC will try   to provide initial notification by telephone/in person prior to the delivery of written reply to allow for the expeditious scheduling of work.

**Clearing After Snow Storms**

Please shovel your sidewalks after snow storms to facilitate children walking to bus stops and for those of us walking dogs.  If you are not able to shovel your sidewalk, please let one of the Board members know and we can coordinate with an able-bodied shovel owner. If anyone is willing to volunteer to shovel, please contact Frank to join the Sidewalk Brigade.