

EFHOA Newsletter – November 2021



EFHOA Annual Meeting Update

The Everett Farms Homeowners' Association (EFHOA) Annual Meeting was held on Monday, November 8, 2021 at the Murphy Elementary School on E. Lake Lansing Rd. Many thanks to the Haslett Public Schools for their hospitality in hosting the EFHOA annual meeting!

At this meeting, three members of the EFHOA were elected to serve three-year terms on the association's Board of Directors. The terms expire in November 2024. **Congratulations to Brittany Catterick, John McKinley and John Saltzgaber!** We appreciate your willingness to donate your time, talent, and energy to making our neighborhood a desirable place to call home.

Other business conducted at the annual meeting included: thanking **Chuck Williams** for his many years of service on the board; reviewing the association's 2022 budget (totaling \$13,130) sent to homeowners prior to the annual meeting; sharing information about the 2022 homeowners' association assessment, which will remain at \$110 per lot; and hearing a special presentation by neighbor Vance Bowers about the advantages of fiber optic service as compared with standard cable service.

EFHOA Board of Directors Meeting Highlights

The board convened its annual organizational meeting immediately following the association's Annual Meeting on November 8, 2021.

Actions taken by the board included:

- Welcoming the newly-elected board members – Brittany Catterick, John McKinley and John Saltzgaber
- Electing Officers for 2021 - 2022:
John Saltzgaber, President
Delaney McKinley, Vice President
Karen Glickman, Secretary
Tom Borden, Treasurer
- Appointing Committee Chairs for 2021 - 2022:
John McKinley, *Grounds Committee*
Brittany Catterick, *Outreach Committee*
Cary Ford, *Landscape & Architectural Standards Committee*
- Thanking Mark Watrich for volunteering and appointing him to serve as the 2021-2022 webmaster for the EFHOA website
- Adopting a 2022 meeting schedule:
February 9, May 11, and August 10, 2021 – *Board of Directors Meetings*
November 7, 2021 – *EFHOA Annual Meeting & Board of Directors Meeting*
- Empowering the Treasurer to appoint an Assistant Treasurer (Cheryl Orr)
- Appointing Siri Rainone to serve as the 2021-2022 New Neighbor Outreach Coordinator
- Appointing Vance Bowers as the EFHOA's Fiber Optics Coordinator and authorizing him to approach providers on behalf of the association about next steps required to bring fiber optic connectivity to our neighborhood.

2022 EFHOA Lot Assessments

Your EFHOA board members volunteer their time and work hard to be good stewards of the assessment fee collected annually from our 150 EFHOA lots. The annual assessment provides for the maintenance -- including preventive maintenance -- of the neighborhood's entrances, cul-de-sacs, and common areas. In addition, the assessment covers the

EFHOA Newsletter – November 2021

costs of insurance; mailings, postage and printing; irrigation; lighting for the entrance signs; and other projects approved by the board. The association does not employ any staff and board members serve on a voluntary basis without any compensation.

The EFHOA homeowners' assessment fee for the 2022 calendar year is \$110 per lot and is payable *by January 31, 2021*. This assessment has remained steady now for six (6) years. Your cooperation in promptly paying the assessment – *slated to be mailed in December* -- would be appreciated and can help the association save money by avoiding the necessity of sending second notices costing postage and paper.

Future EFHOA Communications

As a cost-saving measure, the EFHOA Board has voted to send homeowners future copies of the association newsletter and other announcements via email. Only the EFHOA annual director election ballots and the lot assessments will continue to be sent via U.S. Mail. Please share your email address with us at:

everetthoa@gmail.com

Resources

Streetlights: If the streetlight near your house is out or flickering, please call Consumers Energy at **(800) 477-5055**.

Potholes or Street Repairs: Please contact the Ingham County Road Commission **(517) 676-9722 or (800) 968-9733**

EFHOA Landscape and Architectural Improvement Permit: Please apply in advance for approval of home additions or other outdoor projects. This simple step saves time and possible expense. The permit form is on the website (www.everetthoa.com) and can be downloaded and printed, or a permit can be mailed by sending a request for one to the association email address below:

everetthoa@gmail.com

Please Be a Good Neighbor

Here are a few ways we can all be more considerate of our neighbors:

*** Please make it a priority to remove and store your trash and recycling containers the same day as your pick-up.**

The number of containers left at the curb or in the roadway past the collection day has recently been increasing. This is not only unsightly, but in some cases causes a road hazard.

*** Please be a responsible owner and pick-up after your pet.** Pet waste *left on sidewalks and in resident yards* is unsightly and oftentimes messy.

*** Please dispose of yard debris appropriately.** Dumping leaves, grass, twigs, branches, plant cuttings and other yard debris in the wetlands is strictly prohibited by Meridian Township.

2022 EFHOA Board of Directors

John Saltzgaber, President
Delaney McKinley, Vice President
Karen Glickman, Secretary
Tom Borden, Treasurer
Brittany Catterick, Chair – Outreach Committee
Cary Ford, Chair - Landscape & Architectural Standards Committee
John McKinley, Chair – Grounds Committee
Sharon Saltzgaber, At-Large Member
Randi Stanulis, At-Large Member



**Best wishes for a very
Happy Thanksgiving!!**

EFHOA Newsletter – November 2021

Deer Management Program

This year there has been an uptick in the number of deer roaming our neighborhood causing numerous car-deer collisions and damaging flowers, shrubs and trees. Several neighbors have inquired about the feasibility of conducting a deer cull in the neighborhood in an effort to: reduce the number of deer, increase vehicle safety, and mitigate landscaping damage.

Meridian Township has had a deer management program since 2010. The program's goal is to reduce the number of nuisance deer within residential neighborhoods using volunteer archers who hunt and cull deer in locations throughout the township. The archers are certified bow hunters and are responsible for arranging for the deer they kill to be processed and donated to an area food bank. The 2021 bow hunting season for deer is October 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021.

In response to the concerns raised by homeowners, the EFHOA board has investigated this matter, including contacting Meridian Township. Currently, there are no restrictions on bow hunting deer in Meridian Township. All that is required is a hunting permit and the permission of the homeowner.

The wetland bordered by Kings Cross North on the south, Westminster Way on the west and Barnsbury Road on the north is viewed as the safest place to conduct a deer cull in our neighborhood. This wetland extends east and abuts Brattin Woods Park and its adjacent wetland. Brattin Woods currently has signs posted by Meridian Township indicating it is an active deer management program site.

Homeowners along Barnsbury Road have been contacted about culling deer in the wetland adjacent to their property. Overall, residents were supportive of the idea of managing the deer population in our neighborhood and several homeowners

have granted access to the wetlands through their property. Bow hunters will be setting-up "deer stands" so that they are aiming downwards into the wetlands.

Deer harvesting usually takes place in the early morning hours before daylight until about 9:30 am and again in the late afternoon from 4:30 pm until sunset. Since archers volunteer their time in several different locations, it's expected that the deer culling in this area will not start until after Thanksgiving and then continue through the end of the year.

The initial goal is to safely harvest 10 deer. Upon the completion of this phase, the deer population may warrant harvesting additional deer. There is no cost to homeowners or the association for this deer cull. Meridian Township has agreed to reimburse archers for the cost of the deer tags required to participate in this cull.

An important element of the deer management program is the donation of venison to community food banks. Thanks to the generosity of *Michigan Sportsmen Against Hunger*, last year Meridian Township donated 6,334 pounds of venison from this program to 14 local food banks and to 75 needy families at the Santa's First Responders Party.

Contact Us

Information about the Everett Farms Homeowners' Association, including copies of the association by-laws, declaration of restrictions, plat map, newsletters, budgets, meeting minutes, etc. is available at:

www.everetthoa.com

Questions about the homeowners' association may be emailed to:

everetthoa@gmail.com