**December 2022 Newsletter**

**2022 Accomplishments**

Drainage issues were addressed for 5 houses on Coralberry, 7 houses on Jonquil, 5 houses on Jasmine, 2 on Lavender, 2 on Cornflower and 2 on Oleander. In the spring, the board will determine the next areas that need to be taken care of. Contact Raquel if you have standing water in your yard.

A pond wall was constructed at the south end to stabilize the bank and level out the slope. The fountain has been removed for the winter and will be put back in the spring.

A walkway was constructed to the bulletin board on Cornflower for easier access.

A parking pad, sized to hold two cars, was constructed on Jonquil Lane near the corner of Jasmine Lane. This will alleviate bottlenecks and minimize parking on the streets. The parking is first come, first served.

A tree removal and tree trimming project was completed this fall, removing dead and diseased trees on the property. The healthy trees received a trim and prune in order to maintain their health and beauty. Replanting will be determined in the spring. We’re also looking at shrinking the size of some of the large common beds and converting to grass.

Fall planting has been completed, replacing the bushes and plants that had been removed from the house front beds in the spring.

Park benches were placed around the pond to encourage residents to sit and enjoy the view. Residents have volunteered to store them in their garages this winter. In the spring, we hope to build a storage shed for our community items.

A variety of plants and flowers have been planted on the creek bank behind Lavender in order to stabilize the bank and prevent further erosion.

A speed bump and a new one way sign was installed between the bridge and gazebo area in an effort to reduce speeding and promote safe driving on our streets. The speed bump has been taken up for winter and will be replaced in the spring. Additional speed bumps will be considered in the spring.

Repairing the street curbs is still on the agenda. The work will be completed once there is contractor availability and concrete supply.

**2023 Budget**

The 2023 budget has been finalized and mailed to all home owners. The monthly maintenance fees will increase to $156 per month, starting January 1, 2023, due to the cost increase in materials, labor and all contracts. Also starting in January 2023, payment coupons will no longer be available, rather Barnett will mail out monthly invoices to all homeowners. The monthly payments are due the 1st of each month, with a 10-day grace period before a $20 late fee is charged. If you pay online through your bank, remember to adjust the monthly amount to $156.

**Snow Plow Season**

The snow plow contract for the 2022/23 season has been awarded to Munoz. They will plow when there is a least a 2 inch accumulation. Please park cars in the driveway and off the streets when the snow plow is out.

**New Home Owners**

The Board and Barnett Management are putting together informational packets for new homeowners, which include the governing documents and rule book. If you would like one, please contact board member, Sharon Bennett.

**Holiday Decorations**

The gazebo will be lit up again this year with holiday decorations throughout the month of December.

**Neighborhood Watch**

Are you a resident that lives alone? Do you get the wintertime blues? Would you like a phone call or visit when the weather in inclement and you are unable to get out? The social committee is here to help if you are interested. Members of our social committee would be happy to check with you and be sure things are ok this winter. All we need is your name, address and phone number. Give us a call if this is something of interest to you. Chris Fekete: 440-567-1548 or Fran Gabor: 440-343-1513

**Social Committee Report**

It has been a busy and exciting first year of social events for Sweet Brier. We’ve had social hours, bingo, annual picnic, ice cream social, fish fry, boat races, fishing contests and a chili cook off. For new residents moving into the neighborhood please consider joining us for some of these events next year to meet your neighbors and make new friends. And for those of you who haven’t participated perhaps you might consider coming to just one event next year to give us a try. We would love to have you join us.

The last event of this year is Christmas Caroling on December 18th providing there isn’t a blizzard. We will be gathering at 718 Jonquil Lane around 6pm. We will even have music this year! So come and join us to spread a little Christmas Cheer or wave to us from your front door. Hot chocolate and cookies will be provided afterwards.

Looking forward to Sweet Brier 2023. Now that we have a year of events under our belt we can fine tune them and make them even better plus we are always looking for new ideas. So, if you are interested in joining our committee you are most welcome.