

## **GOOD NEIGHBORS • GOOD NEIGHBORHOODS**

### **Oakland Mills Neighborhood Enhancement Advisory Committee Report from the 26 July 2016 Meeting**

**ATTENDEES:** Jervis Dorton, Lynn-Steven Engelke, Judy Gottsagen, Pat Hersey, Claudia Hollywood, Ginny Thomas, and Kay Wisniewski

#### **DISCUSSIONS**

- The NEAC Architectural Guidelines subcommittee (Jervis, Claudia, and Judy) will be making recommendations for revisions to the OM Architectural Guidelines. The subcommittee has begun reviewing the OM Architectural Guidelines and will be comparing them to those of the other nine Villages. As part of this process, questions concerning property types to be included (residential, commercial, apartments, etc.) will have to be resolved. Alisa Batiz (an OM realtor) will work with the subcommittee to clarify the Columbia Covenant Compliance Addendum with the goal of including the revised guidelines as part of the addendum package.
- Long Reach has a resource featuring suggested "best practices" (including styles of fences, shutters, etc.) that could provide a model for a similar resource to accompany guidelines for applications to the Resident Architectural Committee. This resource should be available to all property owners, including the HOAs.
- Bill McCormack is our contact for approaching Calvin Ball and Bob Francis (Department of Inspections, Licenses, and Permits) to determine the status of legislation to address the oversight of rental licenses and problems involving "deadbeat landlords." NEAC will consult with Bill as to how the committee can best support the Board and the County in this area.
- Last year NEAC compiled a list of home maintenance and home improvement services recommended by residents and will contact Jonathan and the Housing Committee about posting this list to the website. It was suggested that the OM newsletter could include a classified ad area for local providers to advertise lawn mowing and similar services. It was also suggested that an expanded resource, perhaps in notebook form, could be developed by and shared among all Village Managers.
- To prepare for revisiting and reintroducing the NEAC recommendations for a Property Evaluation Survey tabled by the Board, NEAC will consult with Harper's Choice about the outcomes of their just-completed PSE. Over the past few years, 50% of Columbia Villages have completed a PSE similar to the one NEAC is considering. In discussing the potential workload involved in addressing compliance issues, complaints should be prioritized for attention, perhaps using the issues CA handles with abandoned properties as a basis.

#### **ACTION STEPS**

- NEAC voted to report to the Board its unanimous opposition to allowing gas storage tanks on residential properties.

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- September 2016: NEAC meeting TBA
- January 7, 2017: *RENEW. REHAB. REPLACE. Universal Design Strategies for Aging in Place*
- April 8, 2017: *RENEW. REHAB. REPLACE. Sustainable Landscaping: Rethinking Columbia's Lawns and Gardens*