

MINUTES  
STRATFORD GARDENS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
January 24, 2024

The Board of Directors of Stratford Gardens Homes Association met at 6:00 p.m. on January 24, 2024 at the home of Courtney Fadler.

Directors in attendance: Scott Cordes, Courtney Fadler, Kristin Kratofil, Benny Lee, Mary Martin and Tom Suther, Fred Wolferman

Directors absent: Maggie Shine and Steven Nestor

Tom Suther, as Vice President, led the meeting in Maggie's absence. The meeting was called to order at 6:10.

There was a discussion about snow removal. The Board agreed that Beerman Lawn Service has done a very good job of plowing and salting during this recent winter weather to maintain safe streets for the drivers. It was noted that invoices are sent to Tom and that he will forward them to Maggie and Fred so they can be included in our financials. It was suggested that we ensure we are getting detailed reports of the snowfall and what exactly is being paid to help with annual budgeting.

Mary discussed our contract with Suburban Lawn which will continue this year. We pay a flat rate for services and it was requested that we review the scope of services at the upcoming meeting. Several mentioned that the Christmas trees at the ends of the streets were noted and well received by many of our neighbors. Mary noted that there is a substantial repair needed for the fountain on 63rd Street and she is having a hard time finding someone to do the work. It will require both plumbing and masonry repairs. Tom agreed to reach out to someone who may be able to assist and will report back.

There was a discussion about bringing back the yard of the month. After some discussion about the logistics and what type of yard decorating would be rewarded, it was suggested that a "Blue Ribbon" yard sign could be presented randomly on occasion for those who go above and beyond to beautify their lawn.

The need to promote what the HOA does for the neighborhood was discussed. Fred noted that since our dues are higher than some other neighborhoods it is important to emphasize the services and benefits neighbors receive. It was generally agreed that we ensure we communicate these things in our newsletters.

There was a general desire to promote a more neighborly atmosphere. Benny suggested having smaller get togethers with close neighbors to get to know each other more. It was also recommended that Fred write a column in the newsletter entitled "Meet Your Neighbor."

The meeting concluded by setting a date for the Annual Meeting. The date of May 8, 2024 was proposed. Mary will secure Carriage Club for the meeting and Tom will ask our City council member, Andrea Bough to speak at the meeting. Someone for law enforcement could also be present for questions and general information.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:51.