



Notes from the President

The last communication from the Board was this Spring. 2020 has delivered much uncertainty and continued to keep us on our toes. As you have already seen, many items were affected by Covid-19. The board continues to monitor the situation and adjust as needed, but it is safe to say that we will try to remain compliant with whatever orders are in place by our various government entities. We've received a lot of support and understanding – Thank you!

Completed Projects:

This year was a big year in executing our 3-year plan. Early spring saw the repair to the swimming pond retention dam and a concrete pad poured in Weymouth park to lock the overflow wall in place and direct water. The basketball court and tennis courts both received facelifts and were used throughout the year. The Weymouth Park storm sewer received a new two stage safety grate that kept the park from flooding the rest of the year. In addition to these more obvious projects, we continue our work on the water issues with both the storm sewer and lake.

Lake – Algae Issues and Dam Inspection:

This year the lake saw an early growth of algae that was expected due to our decision to not chemically treat the lake. We managed the algae via collection as we continued to improve the oxygen levels with hopes of breaking down many of the nutrients that were trapped at the bottom. As we continued to learn throughout the year and explore a few different options, it appears we landed on plan for next year that will rely heavily on pond dye as we continue to try and keep our oxygen levels up.

Our three year dam inspection resulted in an overwhelming list of items that needed to be addressed (last year). We attempted to communicate these requirements, but only a few residents addressed the concerns. Our engineer was out this fall and marked many areas of concern with orange marking tape and wood posts. Our top priority remains woody vegetation and sinkholes. The engineer report will be posted online and we need those residents to work with us to document a plan to return the dam to the required condition prior to the next state inspection. Some of the repairs can be costly, so we are trying to avoid a situation where the state requires someone to take action – a dam failure would be catastrophic to anyone involved. If you had any orange markings, please contact us with a plan of action.

2021 and beyond:

The only remaining long overdue item that we promised to address in our 3 year plan is the playgrounds. Haddon Park has been relatively untouched since it was created and even the “new” equipment at Weymouth Park is approaching 20 years old. The playground flooding issue in Weymouth appears to be solved, but Haddon still has quite a few issues with water (we do have phase 1 of this project identified). This will be a topic of discussion at the next meeting. It would be great if someone wanted to step up and really dig into the playgrounds – I will help guide you through the process. Please contact us if you have a desire to lead the playground project. You only need a willingness to spend some time researching and talking to different folks. Next year will likely be information gathering for a potential project in 2022 or beyond.

There are additional items that still need to be done like replacing our signage and other smaller projects. In addition, the electrical service at the pond has been an issue for years (only designed for lighting, but runs the pond filtration equipment and lake aeration/fountain) and we had damage to the fence during the storm this year.



As our facilities continue to improve, we see increased usage. For the most part, this has been a good thing, but we have seen our share of vandalism, parking issues, and littering. This is likely related to usage by those outside the neighborhood. Each of these events brings about additional inquiries related to security and monitoring.

Closing Thoughts

As I continue to see houses listed for increased values and quick sales, I know that the things we are doing have a tiny little part of that. I continue to see my neighbors improve every aspect of their homes. We've got a great location and it seems that there is an immense pride in ownership.

I hope 2021 brings us the ability to meet more regularly. We still hear requests for updated block chairs and welcome groups, but we just don't get folks volunteering to own these processes. As I welcome our second baby girl in 2021, I know that taking on more than the neighborhood maintenance and upkeep is not likely to happen. We've had a vacant Vice President position for 2 years and many of the project leads have stepped down or moved away. The Annual Meeting will be held February 27, 2021 per the bylaws – mark your calendars now. We will consider any requirements around health and safety as we get closer to the event.

We do our best to juggle the many priorities. The overdue maintenance list is shrinking, hopefully some of your individual priorities have been addressed. I've done my best to be transparent with the items on our list and things that fall outside of that. Timings of the projects are always subject to available resources with time and money being the biggest limiting factors.

Respectfully,

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