



## *Lake Hondah Property Owners Association Newsletter*

September 2020

Hello Everyone,

The Annual Meeting of the Property Owners' Association was held on Sunday June 14, 2020. Draft minutes of that meeting are attached. As is the tradition, these minutes will be presented at next year's annual meeting for revisions and approval.

The Board Members elected at the annual meeting were:

- ***Diane Jacques, President***
- ***Tisha Allen, Secretary***
- ***Kit Lemaire, Board Member***
- ***Veronica Hast, Board Member***
- ***Sandy Roberts, Board Member (resigned 8/18/20)***
  
- ***Desmond Duncker, Vice President/Treasurer (Not a board member)***

As indicated Sandy Roberts has decided to resign from this year's board effective August 18<sup>th</sup>. The Board has decided to continue with its four remaining members for the time being.

The 2019-2020 annual financial report is also attached, with the proposed budget for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

**YELLOW FLOATING HEART LILY PADS:** The yellow flowers all over our waterways have been the bane of Lake Hondah's existence for years now. An invasive species, the lilies grow exponentially and deplete the water of oxygen, killing fish and plants.

For years we have sought an affordable solution to this problem. In the past, pond management companies had advised that the weed couldn't be eliminated, but that they could keep it down to a dull roar if we pay them lots of \$\$ every month. This summer some of us worked hard to physically remove the weeds (Thanks go especially to Don Narup, who has spent many days on this backbreaking task, also to Matt Shumaker and Desmond Duncker).

Luckily, Susan and Don Narup came to the rescue. Susan contacted county and state officials, and Don took plant samples to the County Extension manager. Susan was eventually referred to Jarred Driscoll of the NC Dept. of Agriculture (NCDOA) Mr. Driscoll informed us that the Yellow Floating Heart is a noxious weed on the high priority list for eradication in NC, and that his department is treating as many sites such as ours as they can throughout the state. He promised to ERADICATE the weeds from our lake & pond, at no cost whatsoever to us, and without harming pets or wildlife. YAY!!!

On August 18, the water was treated with ProcellaCOR, a hormone-based treatment that does not affect waterfowl, pets, or fish. Soon afterward, the plants began drying up and disappearing. There will probably be another treatment in the Spring, but once all of the Yellow Floating Heart weeds are gone, it will be much easier to prevent them from being reintroduced than it was to get rid of them. We are also

exploring other avenues of prevention, including raising the water level of the pond, since the weed prefers shallower waters.

**PAVING:** Pisgah Asphalt is due to be patching in late September or at the latest Early October. As you may have noticed, potholes have been marked with yellow paint for this purpose (thanks to Gordie Roberts for undertaking this painstaking task)

**ROADWAY TRIMMING:** We remind everyone during this growth season to watch the bushes beside the roadway and keep them trimmed as necessary to ensure a smooth path for vehicles. While each homeowner is responsible for the bushes on their property, it's always nice when homeowners help each other out in this regard. Additionally, if the shrubbery is not pruned, it is within the authority of the Property Owners Association to have any offending bushes trimmed by our landscaper and bill the homeowner. The recommended clearance is 3 feet from the road and 14 feet in height, to enable emergency vehicles to pass.

**ONE WAY ROADS:** We remind everyone that all Lake Hondah roads are one-way. Cars are often seen driving around the lake in the wrong direction. Please note that homeowners are responsible for letting tenants know about the one-way streets, so they don't overlook the clearly marked signs. The Association has the authority to fine repeat violators, but we hope it does not have to come to that.

**FRONT ENTRANCE DECORATING COMMITTEE:** Thanks go to Kit Lemaire and Veronica Hast for taking the initiative to spruce up our front entrance periodically with plants and decorations. The Board has established a committee for this purpose, and all are very welcome to help out: for information contact Kit at [LakeHondah@gmail.com](mailto:LakeHondah@gmail.com) (Subject Line: Front Decor).

**VOLUNTEERISM:** Lake Hondah is a small, informal neighborhood. Our Board members serve on a purely volunteer basis, and we strive to keep our fees low by spending only what is necessary for the safety and well-being of property owners. Our funds are therefore spent primarily on basic expenses such as paving, snow plowing, groundskeeping, removal of dangerous trees from common areas.

We have been fortunate over the years to benefit from the cooperation of many residents in keeping up the neighborhood and pitching in to help each other out, and hope this will continue. So, if you see a fallen branch in the road and are able to do so, move it out of the way; if your neighbor's bushes are starting to obstruct traffic and you know they're out of town for the summer, give them a trim. If you have an idea for improving our parks or common areas, please feel free to propose it to the Board.

**MAILING LIST:** Thanks for all who responded to our request for contact information.

If you received this via regular USPS mail it is because we do not have an email address for you on file. To receive future newsletters and other info via email please send us a note at [LakeHondah@gmail.com](mailto:LakeHondah@gmail.com)

If you have any additional questions or comments please contact us at [LakeHondah@gmail.com](mailto:LakeHondah@gmail.com).

Thank You

Sincerely

**Lake Hondah Property Owners Association**  
**200 Hondah Blvd**  
**Brevard, NC 28712**  
**[LakeHondah@gmail.com](mailto:LakeHondah@gmail.com)**