

# 2023 BV/S HOA Annual Meeting

## Membership, Constable Liaison, and Communications Reports

### **Membership**

Good evening my name is Don Gutierrez. I am with the HOA Board.

One of my responsibilities is to track the HOA membership. We have a total of 1170 households in Balcones Village and Spicewood Subdivisions. We had 505 HOA members for 2023. However, in 2022 we had 580. Unfortunately, we are down 75 members in 2023. Also, we had 29 properties sold in 2023. We averaged about 60 properties sold yearly per the last 3 years.

As you know we are a voluntary HOA. Our current membership annual fee is \$50. We stretch every dollar, and we try our best to keep annual fees low. We need your support and continued membership. Please talk to your neighbors about joining the HOA.

A second task that I am responsible for is to provide Welcome Folders to newcomers. I couldn't easily do this without the support of Suzie LaPlant and Gail Buckley. In these Welcome folders we include information about our 2 subdivisions, our website, our neighborhood email, and a copy of deed restrictions for that particular property. Please be aware of deed restrictions before making any home improvements and contact the HOA Architectural Committee (ACC) with any questions.

### **Constable Liaison**

The HOA coordinates with the Travis County Constable's Office Precinct 2 on traffic enforcement. Deputy Constable Ben Coe patrols our communities. He averages about 10 traffic violations monthly ranging from expired vehicle registrations, running stop signs, and speeding tickets. We have also asked him to lookout for minors driving golf carts. Our goal is to continue to keep our community streets and roads safe for all of us.

Please continue to support our membership and talk to your neighbors about joining our HOA and maybe even joining our Board. Without your support we could not sponsor any of the activities that we do. Please help us by joining and by volunteering. Remember we are a voluntary HOA. Thank you.

### **Communications**

Hello there, I'm Linda Strickland, your Communications person, and I'm glad to see you all tonight.

At the first of the year, our previous eblast platform made big changes in the free accounts by limiting the number of emails. To continue our Monthly Newsletters, we move to a paid service with Constant Contact. I hope you've been enjoying the newsletters, and if you have any ideas or requests, please send me an email, or reply to any of the newsletters.

Then Weebly, which has been the platform provider for the HOA website for many years, made changes in its service for free accounts. Another search ensued, and we selected Wix as our new home platform.

I want to stop right now and ask you all to join me in thanking Sue Schupbach for the years she managed the website all on her own. It is a lot of work.

Then the real fun began. After experimenting with several formats, I found that only Sue's photo looked right for the opening, and it set the theme for the whole site. We are leaving the Weebly website in place for now to avoid confusion while paying dues and ordering Christmas trees. Between Christmas and New Year's, we will switch the domain name to the new site. It could take up to 48 hours for that to happen. So, if you log on to bvshoa.com and get an error message, try again later.

The new site is operational (under a construction domain), and you can click through it over there on the table. Topics are grouped into major categories such as Recent News, Social Activities, ACC, Trees, Plants, Wildlife, and Library. There are some unsung heroes in this project that include my husband, Mike, as well as several neighbors who participated in rounds of testing. Many thanks to them.

We are rounding out this year by welcoming a new magazine, Stroll, to our neighborhood. It will be focusing on local events and residents. You may have met Tanya Badillo at the front tables earlier this evening. She is looking for interesting stories and interviews, so keep her in mind.

We've been busy this year and are looking forward to more activities in 2024. We will be helping neighbors organize block groups and have block parties. There are several talented neighbors who know how to make a great party happen and are ready to share what they know. Keep a look out in the monthly newsletters for more info.

Thanks for your support and join the HOA tonight to help keep these programs and services going.