

STONEBRIDGE NEWS

Contacting the Board Requests must be made in writing to 54A Muirfield Ct. or Stonebridgehomeowner98@gmail.com.

The Board meets monthly to review issues/requests. The minutes in the newsletter show the date of the next meeting. After the meeting, you will be notified. Please, **only** call the Board if you have an **emergency**

Volume 27, Issue 4

April 1, 2023



Welcome to Bob and Kathy Bentley, the new owners of #67 Muirfield Ct. We wish them many happy years in the Stonebridge community!

Geese Update



At the beginning of March, 100 % through donations, we purchased 2 Laser-based goose deterrers. We put them to use immediately and found the laser to be a noxious stimulus to the birds without doing them harm. Pointing the beam at the feet of the lead (alpha) birds initiated the fleeing of the flock. So far, we have limited the number of volunteers using the lasers to get a good sense of effectiveness of the process. We are now ready to solicit other volunteers to share the load.. Learning to use the laser effectively and safely is easy, even if just off your deck. If interested in helping, Email StonebridgeHomeowner98@gmail.com.

We may consider adding a third laser to our toolbox but want to get more experience before doing so. The lasers are more expensive than those you would buy online due to the high charge of the laser beam. The green laser is 400 milliwatts (mW) and is able to target geese throughout the daylight hours, not just dawn and dusk as a weaker beam would provide. The purchase included consultation with the sales agent who has been responsive and helpful.

As you drive through the community, the population appears to be considerably less. We are cautiously optimistic. We feel that decreasing the population dramatically is a great start. We plan to aggressively scatter the birds through the spring and during mating season. We expect we may need to be vigilant each year at this time. Again, time and experience will tell.

Thank you again for all who donated and who have volunteered to assist. As they say, it takes a village! Remember, feel free to have your dog pester the geese. If you live along the ponds be aware that the geese are feeding on the droppings from your bird-feeders and **PLEASE DO NOT FEED THE GEESE!**

Roadwork



BTM started work on Turnberry Ct's road by cutting some of the roadway. They will continue their work as weather permits. While they have the curbs and road torn up, BTM will install conduits for wiring for future streetlights. They will be redoing Birkdale's curbs and road after Turnberry Ct is completed.

Weather permitting, Black Top Maintenance (BTM) will begin their roadwork the week of April 10th . We will communicate through email the precise location of their work and the homes which will be affected. Typically they will begin their work at the south end of Turnberry . The most intrusive portion of the work is when they do the curbing, which occurs in increments over several weeks. They cut away and build new curbing in sections, typically affecting 4-6 townhouses at a time (1-2 buildings). When your building is being worked on, you will be reminded to move your car to available guest or free driveways.

Typically your cars will be displaced for about 3-4 days. When the curbing is cut and poured, there is no access to your driveway. Janet Ellsworth, as Corresponding Secretary will send an email to all residents specifying which units will be inaccessible and which parking spaces are available as an alternative. Margery Groten and Linda Shekita will contact homeowners on Turnberry who do not use email. Donna Thompson and Brenda Goldstein will help as well. Updates will be posted on the mailbox bulletin board.

If you have 2 driveways and only use one, please send a note to Stonebridgehomeowner98@gmail.com or call Janet Ellsworth so we can share its availability. The final step of blacktop is relatively minor in comparison. It occurs over one day and is drivable by the next day. Liaisons To BTM include Donna Augustine, and Martin Charwat.



Stonebridge Book Club

Book: The Venice Sketchbook by Rhys Bowen

When: Thursday, April 20th

NOTE CHANGE IN HOSTESS

Where: 19 Prestwick Ct.

RSVP: Donna Augustine, 845-454-1264

Reading Ahead: Fellowship Point by Alice Dark

We are limiting the group to 12 people. For our meetings, we ask that you call to reserve after first receiving your Newsletter. To keep it fair, no reservations will be accepted beforehand.

Behind the Scenes- It Takes A Village



Thank you to Peter Rae for taking over the important job of acting as the liaison between the Stonebridge Community and our landscapers, LCS.



Board Announcements/Reminders

A note was received from the Ethyl Tierney family thanking us for the donation of \$25.00 given to St Jude Children's Hospital.



From April through September, on the third Thursday of each month, our pest control company (Pestech) will be at Stonebridge to take care of our bees and wasp's problems. If anyone has a problem, please let Edie Stout know before they arrive so extra attention can be given to that area.

Minutes of Stonebridge Homeowners Board Meeting



The meeting was convened at 3:10 PM. on 3/14/2023 at 88 Turnberry Ct. The following members of the Board were present: Donna Augustine, President; Martin Charwat, (via zoom), Vice-President; Steve Bartlett, Treasurer; Janet Ellsworth, Corresponding Secretary; Edie Stout, Recording Secretary; Brenda

Berry, Member-at Large and John Weisman (via zoom), Member-at-Large. Donna Augustine proposed and Edie Stout seconded a motion to accept the minutes of the February meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Steve Bartlett presented the financial report for the month of February 2023. Income for the month was \$45,240.00. Regular recurring expenditures for February included: \$446.47 to Central Hudson for Gas and Electricity; \$15,287.44 to LCS Landscapes NY for Landscaping and Snow removal; \$16.40 to Verizon for Telephone; \$2,238.16 to Royal Carting for Refuse. Other expenses were: \$1,187.00 to RBT CPAs, LLP for Accounting Services (Preparation of IRS 1096/1099 for 2022 tax return); \$360.00 to Industrial Appraisal Company (Completion of annual appraisal and report); \$16,876.57 to Travelers for Site Insurance (4th Quarter payment); \$183.50 to Etts Plumbing & Heating Inc. (#59-#60 clean and repair runoff drains) and \$25.00 to St Jude Children's Hospital in Memory of Ethel Tierney. As of February 28, 2023 the balance of the checking Account was \$87,877.11. The total in Reserve Accounts was \$183,769.37. The total in checking/savings was \$271,646.48. Donna Augustine made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report and Janet Ellsworth seconded it.

Corresponding Secretary Report

The board reviewed the status of the current Action Items presented by Janet Ellsworth. We received a request to replace the trees that were removed on Turnberry Ct. Edie Stout will consult with Adams to determine the proper trees for that space.

Also there was a question as to when a tree will be planted in memory of Mike Painter. Mike Painter was our tree service person since the beginning of Stonebridge and his son Shawn has taken over the tree business.

There was a concern about the lower pond 's (at the end of the Muirfield Ct.) rising water level. Martin Charwat with the help of Linda Yun removed some debris from the pipe that allows some water to drain out. It was determined that there is no concern of the water getting too high in the pond because there is a low area at the end of the pond that will allow more to drain out if necessary.

A piece of siding that had pulled away from house #61, will be repaired by Joey Lapolla. A motion was proposed for the HOA Board to increase the donation given to a charity in memory of a passing member of Stonebridge community. The vote of the HOA Board was unanimous in favor of increasing the donation from \$25.00 to \$50.00.

Brenda Berry is securing the many documents needed for a Reserve Study, which will determine the appropriate amount of funds to be maintained in our reserve accounts.

In April members of the HOA board will assess the common grounds, exterior of buildings, and homeowner decks. Each condo owner is responsible for the maintenance of his or her front garden and back decks.

The next meeting of the HOA board will be on 4/4/2023 at #19 Prestwick Ct. at 3:00 PM.

The Board meeting was adjourned at 4:15 by Brenda Berry and seconded by Steve Bartlett.

Respectfully Submitted,
Edie Stout, Recording Secretary

If you prefer to receive your newsletter via e-mail contact: lshekita@gmail.com