

Saddlebrook

Homeowners  Association

October 22, 2020

Dear Neighbor,

As we approach the end of a very difficult 2020, I want to update you about a few upcoming issues as we get ready for 2021. We are all hopeful for a more “normal” year ahead, but recognize that flexibility is the name of the game and has been for some time now. We are grateful to live here in Saddlebrook and hope that everyone stays healthy and safe.

Annual Homeowners’ Dues Increase

At the 2020 Annual Meeting in February, the board discussed with residents the need to raise our annual dues. The discussion garnered broad support from residents and the board. Our CC&Rs require a board vote to approve any dues increase. In March 2020 the board voted to increase our homeowner dues to \$400.00 per household per year, and defer implementation until January 1, 2021 due to the global pandemic. The dues increase will help us cover the ever increasing cost of maintenance, grounds beautification, increased expense for water, electricity, CPA fees and occasional legal fees, as well as maintain an adequate “rainy day fund” in our Savings account. Because our board is a 100 percent volunteer organization we have been able to keep our HOA dues historically low. After the increase, our neighborhood will still enjoy the second lowest dues of any neighborhood in the city. We work hard to stay on budget and maintain the standards of beauty, safety and social connection which we all enjoy as residents. The dues increase will be noted on your next invoice in January 2021. If you have any questions regarding this increase, please email treasurer@saddlebrookhoa.org. We are happy to speak with you regarding the increase.

Proposed Trail System

On September 10th, Jerry Ducay our City Manager, Adrienne Lothery our Assistant City Manager, and Ray Reyes, the Director of Public Works attended a meeting at the Wallace’s home to update us on a proposed trail system that would run along Bear Creek behind our community. Nearly 50 residents were in attendance. A full video copy of the meeting is available and the board is working to have a transcript made of the meeting for residents’ review. **The most important takeaway from the meeting was the trail is in the early planning stage, and likely will not occur for at least two years.** Surveying has not yet been completed, and the city has not yet received approval for any grant funding. City Manager Ducay also informed residents of parallel projects needed to improve the bridge on Bedford Road along with some sort of pedestrian walkway near or on the bridge itself. The bridge project is also at least two years out from 2020. As we hear about proposed city projects that affect residents we will advise you. We need volunteers! Anyone interested in attending council meetings or committee meetings with the city please reach out to president@saddlebrookhoa.org for more information.

Website and Directory Update

Finally, we have updated our neighborhood website www.saddlebrookhoa.org and encourage all residents to check the site often for neighborhood and city updates. For your convenience the website also allows you to pay dues online when your January invoice arrives. A searchable electronic neighborhood directory is now available on the website. Additionally, an up to date printable PDF version of the directory is located in the library section. A new up to date printed directory will be available at the Annual Meeting for pick up. Please help us keep your information up to date by either registering on our website or updating your information on the website. You can update your info at any time on the website.

Annual Meeting

Our annual meeting in 2021 will feature both virtual and in person attendance options, so mark your calendars for **February 4, 2021**. The location will be announced closer to the date of the meeting.

Attachments

Attached to this mailing you will find additional announcements regarding a future visit from Santa Claus to Saddlebrook in December as well as a Holiday Yard Décor contest. These socially distant activities have been cleared to proceed as we can maintain county and state wide health mandates while celebrating the holidays and end of the year. The Board will not sponsor the Ladies Holiday Social this year, but we hope everyone has a chance to celebrate safely with their neighbors and loved ones. We look forward to more social events next year if feasible and hope everyone continues to stay safe, healthy and well the rest of this year.

As always, it is an honor and blessing to serve as your Board President. I look forward to seeing everyone out and about in the cooler weather. Stay safe and Happy Fall!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Candace Sandifer', written in a cursive style.

Candace Sandifer

President, Saddlebrook Homeowners Assoc.