

ACACIA TIMES

Monthly Newsletter of The Acacia Association

January 2022

Wishing Everyone a Happy & Healthy New Year!!!

What's Inside:

2022 Election Information

Recycling Information

January 2022 Meeting Minutes

Board Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, January 11, 2022

Next Acacia Regular Board Meeting February 8, 2022

Acacia Association 111 Cascade Dr., Indian Head Park, IL 60525

Website: acacia-ihp.org

[Email: acaciaihp@gmail.com](mailto:acaciaihp@gmail.com)

Acacia Office 708-246-2400

Acacia Maintenance Office 708-784-9295

Village of Indian Head Park 708-246-3080

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Important Dates

- **Monday, January 17, 2022 Martin Luther King Day (No School)**
 - **February 22, 2022 Acacia Board of Directors Election**

Dog Waste

The Acacia Association is asking everyone to be respectful of our neighbors and our beautiful neighborhood, and PLEASE clean up after your dogs. It is your responsibility to clean up after your dog. Carry a bag(s) with you and pick up dog waste. It is an IHP Village ordinance and against Acacia Rules to leave it.

If identified you will be fined by Acacia and possibly cited and, or fined by the Village of IHP. Several complaints have come in from residents about dog waste on private property as well as common property, and Blackhawk Park.

Please help keep Acacia clean.

Holiday Decorations

Please note that Christmas decorations must be removed by January 29, 2022.

On January 31 warning letters will be mailed for Christmas items still on display. Items that need to be removed are; colored lights, Santa, reindeer, sleigh, star, nativity, candy canes, tree ornaments, elves.

Please note that seasonal or winter items such as snowflakes, snowmen, shovels, ice skates, etc. are allowed through February but must be removed by March 1.

!!! New Garbage Day Reminder !!!

Just a reminder that since we switched refuse and recycling companies to SBC Waste Solutions, the Acacia Association's new garbage day is Fridays. For more information, please refer to our website www.Acacia-IHP.org

Snow Shoveling

A handful of Acacia Residents have called to see if we have a list of people that would like to be hired to shovel snow from sidewalks or walkways when needed. If you or one of your children are interested, please call the office and leave your name and phone number so we can share it when requests are made.

YEARLY ELECTION ANNOUNCEMENTS

2022 Voting Procedures:

One ballot will be mailed to each owner. There is one vote per unit.
An envelope will be provided to return your ballot in.

ANNUAL MEETING DATE: Tuesday, February 22, 2022 at 8:00 P.M.

LOCATION: The Acacia Association Clubhouse, 111 Cascade Drive, Indian Head Park 60525.

PURPOSE: To elect three (3) for a three-year term. Directors to be elected, not officers. Officers are elected by the Board from among its members.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Chairman Lynda McMillin.

Everyone needs to vote. To have the election be official, we need a quorum of voters.

ABSENTEE VOTING

If you will not be at your home address for the month of February, you may request the ballot to be sent to your out-of-town address by February 1, 2022 from the Acacia Office.
(Form included in January newsletter and on our website)

Please complete your ballot and seal it in the provided BALLOT envelope. Drop it in the mail slot at the clubhouse. Ballots will be put in the ballot box and opened and counted on February 22, 2022.



**THE ACACIA ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL MEETING FEBRUARY 22, 2022
REQUEST FOR ABSENTEE BALLOT**

This request applies **ONLY** if you will be **OUT OF TOWN** during the month of February.

Please mail my ballot with instructions to the OUT-OF-TOWN address below.

NAME _____

OUT OF TOWN ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

Signature _____

Acacia address _____

Date _____

PLEASE NOTE:

This request form must be returned to the office immediately. Ballots will be mailed
after January 24, 2022

Your ballot will be mailed to your OUT-OF-TOWN address **ONLY**. Your ballot must be
returned so we receive it before February 22, 2022 to be counted.

For more information, please call Linda at the Acacia Association Office and she can help
with any questions or concerns.

(708-246-2400)



Holiday Festival in Blackhawk Park

Area residents, including many from Acacia, enjoyed a chilly but sunny day on December 19th at the park.

Lots of fun was had by all – visits with Santa, petting live reindeer, scavenger hunt in the park, ornaments to make for your tree and a food drive sponsored by Kelly Jo Foundation with the donations going to St. Cletus food pantry.

Thanks to all the volunteers that set up and helped throughout the day.



**The Acacia Association Board of Directors Meeting
January 11, 2022**

The Board of Directors meeting of Tuesday, January 11, 2022 was brought to order at 7:02 p.m. by President Eckert.

Directors in attendance were: President Eckert, Vice President Kalinoski, Treasurer Polacek, along with Directors Consolo, Kwiatek, Voyles and McMillin.

Director Boyd was absent, but later joined the meeting.

Approval of Minutes of the December 14, 2021 Board of Directors Meeting.
Polacek, Kalinoski 7/0/1 Motion passed.

Homeowners' comments/questions:

Jack Brandush on Deercrest stated at the previous meeting he had questions about the material used and the aluminum coping used for the sides of units, and wanted a response in writing. Director Boyd had responded that he would look into the inquiry and get back to Mr. Brandush in writing. Resident stated that Director Boyd had not done so. President Eckert said that she will have Director Boyd respond to the inquiry.

Treasurer's Report: John Polacek:

(During Treasurer Polacek's report, Director Boyd joined the meeting.)

For December 2021, the Acacia Association Treasurer's Report shows:

<u>Assessment Collection</u>	<u>\$87,791</u>
<u>Other Sources</u>	<u>\$ 4,069</u>
<u>Total Collection</u>	<u>\$ 91,860</u>
<u>Total Expenses</u>	<u>\$181,321</u>
<u>Net Ordinary Income</u>	<u>\$(90,461)</u>
<u>Capital Reserve Transfer</u>	<u>\$6,000</u>
<u>Net Income</u>	<u>\$(96,461)</u>

We are now spending some of our Operating Reserves to balance the expenditures. We had planned extra spending (coping and increased costs). This was not like a normal year.

As of December 31, 2021, the Accounts Receivable stands at \$11,429.

17 of 387 members have Past Due Accounts. One account has an agreement with the Association to pay down the account. One other account is paying down an agreement

with our attorneys. We continue to do all the law allows to collect the outstanding balances. The previous month, 10 members had late payment fees and/or interest applied.

As of December 31, 2021, 243 members use the ACH, automatic bank withdrawal. ACH insures no late payment fee and no interest charge. ACH also saves the office time and money. Please consider this. 63% of Acacia Homeowners use it. Join the crowd! There really are no dangers. Acacia withdraws only the Assessment on the 20th of the month. If there are other charges, you receive a separate statement. When members do not pay on time, there is a cost of collection. Therefore, a \$25 fee is charged the first time you are late escalating to \$50 thereafter. Avoid those charges with ACH.

Overall, we are in good financial condition.

We have two funds:

<u>Reserve Fund</u>	<u>\$231,211</u>
<u>Operating Fund</u>	<u>\$586,527</u>
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$817,738</u>

Approval of Treasurer's January 11, 2022 Report
Polacek, Kwiatek 8/0/0 Motion passed.

January 11, 2022 – Treasurer's Comments

Past Due Accounts:

Accounts #1 & #2 have made agreements and are being collected.

Account #3 is in the hands of the attorney to file suit.

The total balance due is less than \$10,000

Comments on this year's costs and balance:

Please look at Profit & Loss vs. Actual Report

We knew that the coping project was going to run up a deficit but we did not realize what 2021 was going to be like.

- 6010 Payroll – Adjustment made to compete with other employer's offers payroll increased \$35,000
- 6140 Townhome - Painting increased \$17,425
- 6160 Coping Project - increased \$70,564
- 6403 Lumber - increased \$89,436
- 6406 Paint & Paint Supplies - increased \$15,328
- 6405 Pool Chemicals - increased \$4,600

The budget for 2021 was over \$118,650

The Board will need to raise the Assessment by \$10.00 per month for at least the next 2 years. At that point the Board needs to decide how much we need in the reserve and

then budget accordingly. The reserve grows when we do not spend all that we collect (there is no magic!). Also, overall costs have not decreased in the 14 years that I have been on the Board.

Clubhouse Director's Report: Peggy Rose Kwiatek:

There were 7 clubhouse rentals for the month of December, 2021.

I would like to thank Mary Rose Heffernan, Lyn McMillin and Linda Merrifield for taking down the Christmas Decorations inside the clubhouse. They are so nice to volunteer and truly are appreciated.

Bunco Night was cancelled this month because of a low turnout. We will try again to hold another Bunco night on February 1, 2022 at 6:30pm. Please bring your own beverages and \$5.00 for the prize money. Masks must be worn in the clubhouse at all times.

Recreation Facilities Director's Report: Amy Eckert:

We have received 3 bids for replacing the lights on the courts, around the pool and in the parking lot. There is quite a bit of difference in the final prices, there is also the possibility of incentives from ComEd if lighting is upgraded, one company stills needs to submit a bid for the parking lot and there is also the possibility that some of the wooden poles we currently have will need to be replaced. Jose and Tim will continue to work with the 3 companies so that we have comparable bids. Then we can determine the best one to accept.

The low metal fence near the entrance to the pool was repaired this month. Several sections of the wooden fence near the deep end of the pool were knocked down during our windy weather. Jose and Tim have removed them so they would not fall or knock out the electrical lines to the lights. They said several of the posts were rotted. The repairs will wait until we can obtain bids and most likely be done in the spring.

This morning there was a leak discovered in the sprinkler system in the 4 Season Room. Central States Sprinkler was able to come out this afternoon and replace the leaking sprinkler head.

Grounds Maintenance Director's Report: Joe Consolo:

Since the last Board meeting, we completed 17 grounds service requests. We picked up seasonal needs at Menards and Home Depot. One seasonal employee was called back to pick up leaves at several locations throughout Acacia.

The first snow event of the year was recorded on January 2, 2022. Snow removal was conducted along route number one for this event, and lasted a total of nine hours. We are going to rely on our plowing company to estimate snow fall inches rather than wait to measure so we can get the plows out as early as possible. We would rather err on the side of caution. We want to go out around three inches. If the snow is heavy, we will go down to around 2 ½ inches. We purchased \$154.04 in gas for the truck.

SBC officially started pick up from our residents on January 7, 2022. Things went well for the most part. SBC was getting requests for blue bags before the contract even started, and they went out and delivered them to resident's doors the last week of December. They were under no legal obligation to do so. Please notify them if you have more than one large items. For items such as appliances they send out a separate truck with more than one person. They will notify you the day the truck will come and pick up items such as appliances. There is no fee for this. SBC prefers to be notified by email at residential@sbcwastesolutions.com for blue bags, E-waste and pick-ups for more than one large item. For those without email, you can call them at (312)522-1115.

Acacia has received a \$7,245.00 bid from TrueGreen for fertilizing and weed control for the front and backyards of units, and common grounds.

Motion to accept TrueGreen's \$7245.00 Bid
Consolo, Kwiatek 8/0/0 Motion passed.

Townhome Maintenance Director's Report: Ben Boyd:

In December 2021 there was zero townhome service requests that were completed. We have contacted several local lumber suppliers to inquire about availability and cost for 2022, since due to COVID, supply shortages incurred price inflation.

Village Relations Director's Report: Sharon Kalinoski:

There was no village board meeting since the past Acacia meeting.

Be warned, Covid cases in IHP have skyrocketed the past 2 months. As of Jan. 9, CCDPH reported 638 cases (up from 489 in early December). This figure does not include at-home tests. For the first 9 months of 2021, the average was about 12 per month. The last 2 months, more than 100 per month average. In comparison, at the start of 2021 there were only 238 reported cases.

The village website home page has links to 2 important documents:

1. Cook County Dept. of Public Health order effective Jan. 3, 2022:

A) requires everyone over age 2 to wear a mask covering nose and mouth when indoors in a public place.

B) requires restaurants, bars, and gyms to require everyone age 5 and over to show proof of full Covid vaccination in order to enter the establishment. This also includes event spaces, recreation and entertainment venues if food or drink are served.

2. An open letter to IHP residents signed by medical doctors, explaining the current crisis from the eyes of health care providers and how you can prevent getting infected with and/or spreading Covid.

The Indian Head Park Library is located in the Heritage Center at 6250 S. Wolf Rd. It has a nice selection of books and jigsaw puzzles to check out, as well as low priced sale books and DVD's. It is usually open every Saturday from 10AM to 3pm, and Sundays from noon to 3pm. Since we rely entirely on volunteers, there may be some times when it is closed due to people being out of town. We need a new permanent volunteer to staff the library on the third Saturday of every month from 12:30pm to 3pm.

Architecture and Landscape Director's Report: Diane Voyles:

For the month of December there were 2 requests for new projects and 6 inspections of completed projects.

Christmas decorations must be removed by January 29. On January 31 warning letters will be mailed for Christmas items still on display such as: colored lights, Santa, reindeer, sleigh, star, nativity, candy canes, tree ornaments, elves.

Seasonal or winter items such as snowflakes, snowmen, shovels, ice skates, etc. are allowed through February but must be removed by March 1.

Welcome Baskets: Peggy Rose Kwiatek:

One new welcome basket was delivered to new residents at 161 Cascade Drive. We had a nice visit and our guidelines and amenities were explained. The residents expressed

their appreciation for the basket and are very happy to be living here in Acacia.

Office Report: Amy Eckert:

We hired Linda Merrifield as our new Office Manager and she started work on January 6th. Many residents may recognize her as she worked for the Village of IHP for several years. Stop in and make her feel welcome at Acacia.

I am looking into purchasing a new phone system for the office. Over the past year or so we have had difficulty with the phone in the office – often there is a buzz when using the office phone that is so loud it is hard to hear over it and the phone in the Accounting Room has the tendency to drop calls.

Election Committee Report: Lyn McMillin

There are 3 board positions open. As of now we have no resumes. If we get some, they need to be in the January newsletter.

Request for absentee ballot: if you need one, please request one from the office by January 21. Yearly Election Announcements: The official ballots will be mailed by Feb. 1, 2022, because of Covid we will again mail out the ballots. 1 Ballot per household. Any questions please call the office.

Homeowner Forum:

Jack Brandush on Deercreek asked Director Boyd about his previous inquiries about the materials used for the siding, and aluminum coping used as well. Director Boyd said that he will contact the lumber supplier and find out more information for Mr. Brandush on the LVL wood that was used instead of the Cedar. Mr. Brandush did request his questions be answered in writing.

New, Ongoing, or Other Business:

President Eckert relayed that some residents have called to see if we have a list of people that would like to be hired to shovel snow from sidewalks or walkways when needed. If you or one of your children are interested, please call the office and leave your name and phone number so we can share it when requests are made.

We had a complaint from a homeowner who was cleaning their end of drive and discovered piles of dog waste, that is now frozen to the driveway. We are asking that

EVERYONE, please cleanup after your animal. Whether you are walking them in the street, Blackhawk Park, or common areas, we ask that you pick up after your dog.

Director Boyd wanted to mention how Acacia is being proactive on controlling our escalating costs, due to material shortages and price increases due to COVID, to run the association in the short-term;

- Find alternative wood that is more cost effective to replace rotten cedar for the Phase II of coping. Jose is currently investigating different options.
- We negotiated a new pool management contract for 2020.
- Driveway and resealing proposal in spring is dependent on raw material cost.
- Grounds Director Consolo negotiated a four-year new refuse and recycling contract with SBC Waste, saving Acacia \$12,000.

What can be done to control the costs in the long-term;

- Looking into alternative siding options, stucco is a high-cost maintenance, and the material is hard to source.
- Look into mulch proposal to free up the grounds crew, which would save time and money.

Motion to adjourn to Executive Session

Eckert, Polacek 8/0/0 Motion passed.

Motion to return to Open Session.

Eckert, Kwiatek 8/0/0 Motion passed.

Motion to close Open Session.

Kalinoski, Polacek 8/0/0 Motion passed.

***** The Acacia Attic *****

**Have something to sell?
Looking for something particular?
Post it here for all to see!**
Just send Linda an email at acaciaihp@gmail.com





RECYCLING MADE EASY

RECYCLABLE MATERIALS DO NOT NEED TO BE SEPARATED

Recycling Services... Our Color is Green!

Like you, we want to manage the footprint we leave on our environment, helping to provide clean air and land for our children. Recycling not only conserves our natural resources, it helps to sustain our environment, reduces the need for landfilling and incineration, saves energy and prevents pollution.

We can help customize a recycling program for commercial and industrial, office complex, high-rise, residential curbside, multifamily unit and construction needs so we can all pitch in toward a cleaner tomorrow.

RECYCLE TODAY



PAPER	GLASS	METAL	PLASTIC
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newspaper (with inserts) • Magazines • Catalogs • Telephone Books • Office/School Paper • Junk Mail • Corrugated Cardboard • Paperboard and Chipboard • Kraft Brown Paper Bags 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bottles and Jars ONLY • Brown Glass • Green Glass • Clear Glass 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steel or Tin Cans • Aluminum Cans • Aluminum Foil • Empty Aerosol Cans • Pie Tins • Dry Paint Cans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soda Bottles • Milk Cartons • Water Jugs/Bottles • Juice Bottles • Detergent Bottles • Plastics marked with the following symbols* 

*PET plastic containers with the #1 symbol-screw tops only, without the caps, no black trays

DO NOT RECYCLE Materials NOT acceptable to recycle include but are not limited to:

- Microwave trays
- Bottle caps, jar lids
- Plastic bags
- Porcelain/ceramics
- Household items, i.e., toasters, pots & pans
- Window/auto glass
- Glass cook/bakeware
- Light bulbs
- Mirrors
- Coat hangers
- Drinking glasses
- Containers used to hold hazardous material, i.e., motor oil
- Plastic-coated paper
- Full/partially full aerosol cans
- Plastics, unnumbered

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- ✓ We have satisfied Acacia references to support our work record
- ✓ We stand behind our work with a limited lifetime material warranty and 1 year of at home service labor warranty
- ✓ We provide only the best custom made vinyl and wooden windows
- ✓ And all this at a great price!



Interior
Wood
Grain
Dark
Oak



Interior
Wood
Grain
Light
Oak



Exterior Bronze



Other color combinations
available upon request

Exterior Cocoa



Actual Acacia Project
Photos





FOR SALE BY OWNER:

End Unit Dearborn,

1726 sq. ft.

3Bedrooms

2.5 Baths

Many Extras!

Call for more info:

John Kiverts Phone:

708-705-4102



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**How well do you know your
neighborhood?**

How many homes are in Acacia?

Be the first homeowner to contact the office
with the correct answer and win a local gift
card.

Thank you for reading the Acacia Times.



**Downsizing? Upsizing? Relocating?
Contact me for a free market analysis!**

**I have a buyer seeking a reasonably priced
townhome in Acacia now. Please call
me if you are thinking of selling.**

Sharon Kalinoski, Broker

Indian Head Park (Acacia) resident

1-708-805-0675

herculesUS@yahoo.com

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**In-home appointments starting January 28.
Face coverings required for all meetings.**

**Call Sharon for appt. 1-708-805-0675
herculesUS@yahoo.com**

