

ACACIA TIMES

Monthly Newsletter of The Acacia Association

November 2021

What's Inside:

Upcoming Events

Important Reminders

2022 Assessment Information

Board Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, November 9, 2021
Next Acacia Regular Board Meeting December 14, 2021

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

Website: acacia-ihp.org

Email: acaciaihp@gmail.com

Acacia Office 708-246-2400

Acacia Maintenance Office 708-784-9295

Village of Indian Head Park 708-246-3080

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Events:

- Sunday, December 19th – Winter/Holiday Festival in Blackhawk Park - 11:00 - 1:00
- Friday, December 24th and Friday, December 31st – Office and Maintenance closed

Reminders:

Holiday Decoration Rules

Fall decorations should be removed by the end of Thanksgiving weekend. Christmas/winter decorations can be put up starting Thanksgiving weekend. If you would like to put up ONLY lights, sooner while the weather is still good, that is allowed if you DO NOT TURN THEM ON until November 25 or after.

The Acacia Office and Maintenance will be closed Thursday, November 25th and Friday, November 26th for Thanksgiving.

New Opportunity:

If you are interested in making extra money shoveling snow, please email the office your contact information. We will compile a list of people willing to shovel and share it with residents willing to hire someone to shovel. All arrangements are to be made between the homeowner and shoveler.

Acacia Office Hours:

Monday-Friday 8:30-11:45, 12:15-3:30

ALCC forms and Service Request forms are available on the Acacia website.

Next Acacia Board Meeting is Tuesday, December 14, 2021 at 7pm in the clubhouse.

**The Acacia Association Board of Directors Meeting
November 9, 2021**

The Board of Directors meeting of Tuesday, November 9, 2021 was brought to order at 7:01 p.m. by President Eckert.

Directors in attendance were: Pres. Eckert, V.P. Kalinoski, Polacek, Boyd, Consolo, Kwiatek, and Voyles.

Directors absent: McMillin

Approval of Minutes of the October 12, 2021 Board of Directors Meeting. Polacek, Boyd 7/0/1 Motion passed.

Homeowners' comments/questions: Maureen from Cascade thanked the board for volunteering their time.

Treasurer's Report: John Polacek: For October 2021, the Acacia Association Treasurer's Report shows:

Assessment Collection	\$88,689		
Other Sources	\$1,044	Total Collection	\$ 89,733
Total Expenses			\$115,160
Net Ordinary Income			\$ (25,427)
Capital Reserve Transfer			\$ 6,000
Net Income			\$ (31,427)

We are now spending some of our Operating Reserves to balance the expenditures. This is normal every year.

As of October 31, 2021, the Accounts Receivable stands at \$10,513.

19 of 387 members have Past Due Accounts. Two members are with our attorneys for collection and may be taken to court. Those 2 members represent \$ 5,800 of our pat due accounts. We continue to do all the law allows to collect the outstanding balances. The previous month, 13 members had late payment fees and/or interest applied.

As of October 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 –	Reserve Fund	\$219,032
	Operating Fund	<u>\$550,798</u>
	Total	\$769,830

I move that we accept the Treasurer’s Report as presented. Polacek, Boyd 7/0/1 Motion passed.

During the next month, we should have some small group meetings to discuss and correct our 2022 Budget. I will be contacting you individually for these discussions. The groups cannot exceed me and 3 Board members.

There will be a meeting of the committee creating the formal payment plan. The payment plan will be voted on at the December board meeting.

John proposed a \$10.00 increase to the monthly assessment for 2022. This is due in part to help offset the unexpected increase in materials since the pandemic began.

Motion to increase the assessment \$10.00 a month to \$240.00 for 2022. Polacek, Boyd 7/0/1 Motion passed. Roll call taken.

Board members met with the only candidate that chose to bid when we were searching for new auditor services.

Motion to accept the bid from Mugnolo & Associates, Ltd. Certified Public Accountants for auditor services. Polacek, Kwiatek 7/0/1 Motion passed.

Clubhouse Director’s Report: Peggy Rose Kwiatek: There were 2 clubhouse rentals in the month of October.

This month's Bunco Night was held on Tuesday, Nov. 2nd. We had a good turn out and everyone had a nice time. Three players won money prizes. All were wearing masks and following safety guidelines of the CDC. Our next Bunco night will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 7th. All are invited to come and play. If you are new to Bunco and don't know how to play, we will gladly teach you. Remember to bring your own beverage and \$5 for the prize money.

Acacia held its 2nd Food Drive on Friday, Nov. 5th. Two large tables were filled with food and paper products, along with the area under the tables. Thank you to the many Acacia

residents who donated food for the needy. It is greatly appreciated.

This year, we will again be joining the Village of Indian Head Park in celebrating the Christmas season in Blackhawk Park. Acacia will be offering a craft for the children to do.

Recreation Facilities Director's Report: Amy Eckert: We received a new contract from Chicagoland Pool for the 2022 Pool Season. The contract is for Memorial Day through Labor Day. Hours are 11:00 – 7:00 Monday thru Thursday, 11:00 – 8:00 on Fridays and 10:00 - 8:00 on weekends and holidays. Shorter hours when school opens in August – pool will open at 4:00 Monday thru Friday. We also increased the number of guards on duty for weekends and holidays – adding 1 guard from 1:00 – 4:00. The total cost of the contract proposed is \$47,807.

Motion: I move that we accept the proposal from Chicagoland Pool Management in the amount of \$47,807 for the 2022 pool season. Eckert, Boyd 7/0/1 Motion passed. Roll call taken.

We have received 1 bid from Imperial Lighting in Chicago for replacing the lighting fixtures on the courts and swimming pool with LED fixtures. They will also be submitting a bid for the parking lot light fixtures. Still expecting other bids for this work before we make a decision.

Grounds Maintenance Director's Report: Joe Consolo: Since the last Board meeting, we completed 33 grounds service requests. We picked up seasonal needs at Menards and Home Depot. We started leaf blowing. True Green treated the lawns for weeds and winter feeding.

We purchased \$538.76 in gas for the mowers and carts, and we purchased \$94.87 in gas for the truck.

4 new tires are needed for the Acacia truck. This is a Capital Expense. Motion to purchase 4 new tires not to exceed \$1,400.00, Consolo, Kalinoski 7/0/1 Motion passed. Roll call taken.

4 large trees need to be removed in Acacia. The board accepted the proposal from Family Tree to remove 4 trees for the amount of \$4,365.00. This is a budgeted expense.

We received a proposal from Schwartz to renew our snow removal services for next year. They are raising their hourly rate \$4 an hour. They usually raise it \$5 per hour yearly. We will ask to change the date on the proposal so it reads from November 1, 2021 to November 1, 2022. We will also work on the determination of when Schwartz will come out during snowfalls. Motion to accept the proposal from Schwartz for snow removal services. Consolo, Boyd 7/0/1 Motion passed.

I am presenting the proposal from SBC for waste removal for a four-year term, with no price increases should we agree. They are proposing a monthly flat rate that would save us at least \$12,000 a year. Their proposal includes that we are part of the village franchise for greater savings. The proposal includes the following: a recycling program (they pick up tv's and computers from your driveway for free and they will pick up yard waste placed in biodegradable bags), pick up of plastic bags no need to use containers, an eight-yard dumpster that allows mixed use waste, the village leaf program, blue bags will be provided, they will pick up large items, and we will not have to use stickers. We would pay more if we are not part of the franchise and we would not get the free recycling program or the leaf program. Pick up would be moved to Fridays since that is when the rest of the Village is picked up.

Groot said they would keep prices the same but they never sent the proposal they promised to send. Another company would not even bid because we do not use totes and do not have separate dumpsters for different types of waste.

All communications with SBC are in writing. Anything they promised orally was followed up by with a written email verifying same. They have been told everything will have to be in writing as part of the proposal.

Motion to contract with SBC starting in January of 2022. Consolo, Boyd 7/0/1 Motion passed.

Townhome Maintenance Director's Report: Ben Boyd:

- Completed 33 townhome service requests.
- The carpenters are finished with the buildings on the paint cycle.
- The stucco crew is finished with the buildings on the paint cycle.
- Oversaw the continuation of the paint cycle. Painters are currently at 15-33 Stonehearth. There are currently two crews dedicated to completion of the project and they will be working some weekend hours to complete the painting.
- Parking lot seal coating was completed
- As of 11/5/21 all the carpenters have left for the season
- The aluminum capping project began on 11/2/21 on the recently painted buildings on Elmwood.

Village Relations Director's Report: Sharon Kalinoski: According to the Cook County Dept. of Public Health website, there has been a huge jump in Covid cases here since Oct. 11, going from 344 to 433 as of Nov. 7. Up 40% in the past 2 weeks. More than 10% of residents have tested positive since the start of the pandemic.

Village Board meeting notes from Oct. 14, 2021:

The video recording of the meeting had captions for the first time, which was very helpful. The mayor stated that the Acacia Drive south sidewalk section should be completed by Nov. 1, with landscaping to be done next year. Wolf road alternative plans should be ready by early 2022.

Communications committee proposed increasing Smoke Signals budget by 28K, to publish village newsletter every month instead of quarterly. Also, they want to only publish it online, not mailed, beginning in mid-2022. The mayor made the tie breaking vote in favor of this proposal.

Lengthy discussion of security cameras; 3 vendors are providing samples and software for evaluation.

Public Works is getting samples for replacing some street signs. It was not mentioned which ones would be replaced.

For the record, all Board Members were wearing masks as required, but all 4 of the people who spoke at the podium addressing the board during the meeting did not wear masks while speaking.

Amy stated that residents need to get involved now while the village is in the beginning stages of planning the Wolf Road project. Many homes in Acacia along Wolf Road will be impacted by this project. It is better to attend village meetings and make your opinion known now, rather than after the plans are set in place. We will give updates as they are available.

Architecture and Landscape Director's Report: Diane Voyles: For the month of October there were 9 requests for new projects and 8 inspections of completed projects, Two warning letters were sent.

Reminder for holiday decoration rules:

Fall decorations should be removed by the end of Thanksgiving weekend.

Christmas/winter decorations can be put up starting Thanksgiving weekend. If you would like to put up ONLY lights, sooner while the weather is still good, that is allowed if you DO NOT TURN THEM ON until November 25 or after.

Joe stated that residents who place decorations on common ground need to be aware their decorations are in the way of the crew doing their work before they leave for the season. Please don't place decorations on common ground while the crew is still cutting grass and gathering leaves.

Welcome Baskets: Peggy Rose Kwiatek: No welcome baskets were delivered this month. If you have recently moved to Acacia and have not received a welcome basket, please call Peggy Rose at 708 505-4733.

Office Report: Amy Eckert: Now that the new assessment has been determined, we need to have coupon books printed and mailed to owners that use personal checks each month to pay the assessment. When mailing coupon books out – should we include the 12 return envelopes? Doing so costs us at least \$66.00 to purchase the envelopes and it doubles the cost of mailing the coupon book to residents that pay by check.

The Board decided that we will not be sending return envelopes with coupon books.

This may encourage more people to use ACH which saves us money each month.

Homeowner Forum: No comments.

New, Ongoing, or Other Business: Board Election – We need someone to chair the committee that handles notices for election in February 2022. Those running for election are not eligible for this. Terms end in 2022 for John, Ben and Jack's open position so we will have 3 openings for 3-year terms to fill in February.

The board decided that we will ask Lyn to chair the Election Committee again this year.

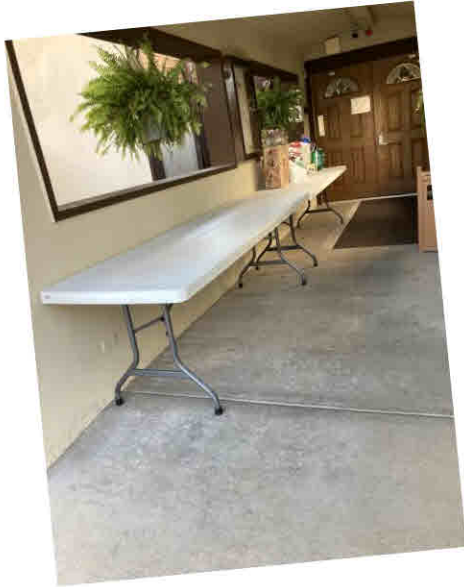
Motion to adjourn to Executive Session: Eckert, Kalinoski 7/0/1 Motion passed.

Board returned to Open Session: Peggy Rose wanted to mention that at the Seniors Breakfast with village officials, it was asked if the village would consider a dog run in one of the parks. The response was that it would need to be addressed at a Village Board Meeting and if residents were interested in having one, they should let the village know. The way to do that is to email them at admin@indianheadpark.il.gov and let them know you would like to see a dog park.

Diane suggested that we add a contest to our newsletters a few times each year – with a gift card prize for the winner. Watch upcoming newsletters for an Acacia related question and be the first to email the correct answer to the office – acaciaihp@gmail.com.

Motion to close Open Session: Eckert, Kalinoski 7/0/1 Motion passed.

POSITIVE VIBES



Thanks to everyone who donated food and paper products for the SHARE FOOD SHARE LOVE food pantry. It was a great success and will benefit many needy people in our area.



Disclaimer

The inclusion of any advertising in this newsletter does not constitute an endorsement or recommendation of any advertiser by The Acacia Association.



Sharon Kalinoski CPA, Broker

FOR SALE :

LaGrange Park 4 BR house w/ 3 full baths + fam room + office + sunroom. 3 car garage, beautiful 1/3 acre corner lot. LTHS district. BEST PRICED home of this size in all of LaGrange Park! 838 Beach Ave. \$409,000



Please call me for a free market analysis if you are thinking of moving. I've participated in more than 30 transactions in Indian Head Park helping buyers + sellers.

**Sharon Kalinoski CPA, Broker *Indian Head Park (Acacia) resident* 1-708-805-0675
ASAP Realty Inc. main office Lockport IL herculesUS@yahoo.com**



Mark's Tile & Installation

*Upgrading Acacia
Townhomes Since 1995*

- **Kitchen & Bath Remodeling ● Tile**
- **Electrical ● Painting ● Carpentry**

- **Reasonable Rates ● Reliable Estimates**
- **References Available**

For a no-obligation estimate, contact:

**Mark Gill, President ☎708-299-9964
7000 S. Wolf Road, Indian Head Park
e-mail: mark.gill@att.net**

Planning a move to Florida?
Real Estate Broker for over 24 yrs
Licensed in IL and FL
Rose Mary Woodley, ABR, CNS
Direct 708-977-5298



Serving the Acacia Community Casey Window

(773)392-5569

Window & Door Installation

- ✓ Quick, Free, no hassle estimates
- ✓ We offer window craftsmanship at its best, that exceeds Acacia window replacement requirements
- ✓ 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

