

Vines Community Association

Newsletter March 2008

Reminder

The annual members meeting of the VCA will be on **Monday, March 24, at 9 a.m.** in the Perry Room at Estero Country Club. All are invited.

Perimeter Lighting

Ideas are still being floated regarding improving the street lighting around Vintage Trace Circle. As you know, two examples are placed before the railroad crossing for your viewing. Another sample is a coach light style attached to the existing post; this is placed directly across from the gatehouse as you enter. The post was painted to match the fixture. This is a project that is still in the working process. All new lighting is quite expensive, but could be done over a period of time. Repairing the old posts is problematic, because of the need to repair and/or replace some of the posts. We will keep you up-to-date as to what decisions might be made.

Holiday Lighting

The holiday lighting has been left up to enhance the entrance and because some residents found it hard to find The Vines in the dark. It was discovered that two flood lights were out, so that may have been part of the problem. Palm trees that line US 41 block the view of the entrance until you are quite close to it. These palms are not on our property and we cannot remove them. The lights will come down closer to the end of day light savings time when the evenings are longer.

Street Parking

It is the desire to have a uniform parking code within The Vines, however, each neighborhood is somewhat different and you will have to look to your leaders for advice. It still is imperative that **cars not block emergency vehicles** at any time. When you have visitors, please see that their automobiles are off the street or carefully parked after dark. Large parties can be a real hazard and we ask the hosts to be aware of the parking situation they have created.

Architectural Review Requests

We thank those residents who have become aware that an architectural request must be filled out before making any changes to your property. Many of you have been very good about getting these requests to us in a timely manner. The board has the responsibility to review these requests and make decisions that will benefit the community. Therefore, we ask that you hand in these requests in good time (30-45 days in advance) so that the proper decision will result. This board has tried to be conscientious toward the community and not let things slide. One person breaking the rules just creates an atmosphere for others to do the same. We appreciate your cooperation

Solicitations

We ask that you do not allow or suggest that your service people, i.e., house cleaners, house watchers, painters or whatever drop off their advertising at your neighbors' homes. Solicitations of this sort are discouraged. Some of this type of solicitation has even come through the mail from our own address directories that residents have "lent" to their helpers. Please discourage this. The board is considering an amendment to our Rules and Regulations to define this more clearly.

Security

Please remember the speed limit within the community. Respect the walkers, joggers and golf carts and drive 23 MPH. The spring holidays are coming soon and we often see young children driving golf carts without an adult. We all know how much they enjoy driving the golf carts, but please have an adult on board. The kids don't always know what the rules are or where they should not drive.

The guardhouse will have their access door refitted with a window so that they can attend to the drivers, but not always have to have the door open, especially during the "buggy" season.

Once again, a reminder about the railroad tracks, STOP, LOOK AND LISTEN. We presume that the crossing will be done during the low season now. We have not been given a definite date for the repair.

Come to the annual meeting on March 24th at 9 a.m. and meet your new officers.