

The Good Life...

--- Published by Tamarack Trails Community Services Association ---
(608) 833-1615 – www.tamaracktrails.com / Office Hours M - F 9 am- 4 pm, or by Appointment

June 2024

Meeting Calendar

Meetings are open to all residents.

Amenities Committee

Scheduled date TBD

Architectural Review Board

Wednesday, June 12 – 4:00pm

Board of Directors

Tuesday, June 25 – 6:30pm

Finance Committee

Wednesday, June 19 – 3:00pm

Garden Committee

Scheduled date TBD

Maintenance Committee

Tuesday, June 11 – 4:00pm

Resident Activities Committee

Wednesday, June 12– 5:00pm

Welcome Committee

Scheduled date TBD

Event Calendar

OFFICE HOURS

Monday- Friday
9 am – 4 pm

Or by appointment

Stacey Haberman
Association Manager
Stacey.Haberman@tamaracktrails.com

Jean Hilgers,
Office Manager
Jean.Hilgers@tamaracktrails.com

Window Washing for Tamarack Residents

FISH Window Washing will be offering a group discount for window washing.

Pricing will remain the same as last year.

Prices are as follows:

Inside and out window washing - \$5.00 per pane

Outside Only washing - \$3.00 per pane

Screens - \$1.00 per screen

**Billing will be done individually with owner

**Work will be completed June 19th and 20th

If you are interested in this group cleaning, please contact Jean Hilgers at jean.hilgers@tamaracktrails.com or call 608-833-1615.

DEADLINE for signing up is June 12th

We need your help!

Our annual Spring Potluck is coming up, and we need a little help with setup and grilling. We could use about 6 folks who would be able to help set up tables and chairs before the event. Also, we need 3 folks to grill brats and burgers.

We are renting a grill this year, so no one needs to provide theirs - just show up with your best apron and show off your grilling chops! In both cases, please report to the clubhouse area at 3:00 on Sunday, June 30 to join in the fun. If you're willing and able to help, please confirm by email to Diane Jungblut at swissdmj@gmail.com. Thanks!



Exterior Painting Project to Start June 10th

Our exterior painting project for Cedar Creek is scheduled to start on June 10th. Please be aware of the contractor in the area. If you have any questions, please contact the office.

Activities and Events

Pool Update

As you may know, the Board of Directors held a special meeting on June 4 to address issues with the existing pool. In addition to the Board and Association Manager Stacey Haberman, 50 residents participated in person and on Zoom.

In brief: The Board has regrettably decided not to open the pool this season. Stacey and her staff have worked diligently on the opening of the pool, but Badger Pools has recommended this based on a range of problems that have surfaced in recent days including significant water leakage (100-200 gallons/hour) and debris from an unknown source. The potential safety hazard, cost of water and chemicals, and the possibility of eroding the soil under the pool bed necessitated the decision.

We had all hoped to make it through this season, like we did last year, and like you, we are very disappointed.

Here are some of the questions we've received:

Q. If I can't use the pool this summer, will Tamarack refund that portion of my monthly assessment?

A. No, because the new pool is going to cost over \$1 million and there's no surplus money in the reserve fund. The Finance Committee is currently evaluating the need for a loan or line of credit to help pay for the new pool.

Q. Will Tamarack subsidize a short-term membership for me at another pool?

A. No, but the RAC is looking into options such as discounted membership for individuals at other pools.

Q. Will we still be able to use the pool deck for socializing and RAC-sponsored events?

A. No, according to the directions from our insurance company, once the pool is empty the gates need to be locked and no one is to access the area, unless authorized. For safety reasons.

Q. Can Badger Swim Pools start our pool project sooner?

A. Badger constructed the pool 50 years ago and has been very responsive to our day-to-day maintenance needs. It has projects scheduled out three years into the future. It's considering whether it might be able to begin our project sooner. However, we expect to finance the project over two budget years: pool deconstruction in 2024 and new construction in 2025. The new pool will not be built until 2025.

The Board will have additional community briefings/meetings as necessary to provide info or answer questions on finances as we get information.

Please continue to send your questions, comments and concerns to the office.

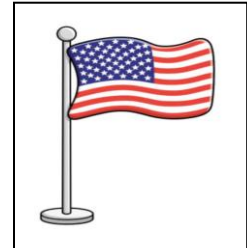


June 14, 2024

The Day Tamarack Celebrates 50 years!

Mark your calendars now for Friday, June 14th as we celebrate 50 years of community and official registration with the State of Wisconsin as a non-stock corporation, Tamarack Trails Community Services Association, Inc.

In addition, this day is also Flag Day, and the celebration includes a flag-raising of a U.S. flag at the circle in the clubhouse parking lot. This new flag was flown over the U.S. Capitol and the ceremony includes a bugler who will play "To the Color," the traditional flag-raising song. Two Tamarack residents who are 1969 West Point graduates and Army veterans will also lower and fold the faded, tattered old flag and assure proper disposal.



We are expecting a nice calm, sunny June day, planning for a goodly number of residents to be in attendance as well as some invited guests and dignitaries. The program's Master of Ceremonies, Board President James Steinbach, will preside over the reading of proclamations, recognition of residents who serve in the community, introduction of a few "Pioneers". Association Manager Stacey Haberman will recognize members of the Board (past and present) and the 50th Anniversary Planning Committee. The program will end with some light refreshments, an original sing along, and group and Committee photos.

Fundraising Merchandise Pre-orders

Thanks to all who ordered 50th Anniversary items! You may pick up your pre-paid items at this event or we can accommodate an earlier schedule. We plan to have a limited number of items available for purchase on the 14th. **Reminder:** Every purchase adds to the available funds for the committee to plan and implement these year-long events.

Many, Many Opportunities to Volunteer

If you are available to volunteer a few hours before, during or after the event; please contact us.

Watch for Email Blasts on the Event Program and 2024 Calendar of Events; see NEWS TODAY.

50th Anniversary Planning Committee

Christina Finet, Co-Chair; Jean MacCubbin, Co-Chair; Ginny White, Board Liaison
Marge Anderson; Ellen Foley; Don Haas; Chris Harper; Lynn Hirsch; Cristie Jacobs; George Jesien; Rosemary Stenback; Caryl Terrell

A Night at the Photo Gallery

Ric, Michael, Greg, Bev, Annie and Stacey would like to send a warm **Thank You** to all those who attended the meet and greet reception that was held on Sat., May 18.

Over 40 of you came out to enjoy a little wine, sparkling cider and snacks while taking in the photography displayed in the lower level of the clubhouse. It was a wonderful evening. **THANK YOU** for your interest and support!

The photo gallery will continue to be on display through the end of June. Many pieces are available for purchase, so please reach out if interested.



With gratitude,

Ric Genthe - ricgenthe@gmail.com
Michael Turner - mgtdesign@tds.net
Stacey Campbell - s.condit@verizon.net
Annie Brusnell - Cactusinbloom@yahoo.com
Bev Mazur - bevmazur@gmail.com
Greg Mickells - gmickells@gmail.com

Pickleball at Tamarack

Pickleball is alive and well at Tamarack. If you wanted to learn to play the game, you more than likely are one of the twenty who've signed up for the novice classes facilitated by Tamarack's own tournament winners George Jesien and Linnie Clemens. And if you already know the game, you are more than likely one of the twenty-two players using Tamarack's own communication mechanism (TeamReach) and who play together many Saturday or Sunday mornings.

This is an open invitation to those who play, to join in the fun when many of us play on Saturday and Sunday mornings. Communication amongst current players is through the TeamReach app. If you would like to have access to the Tamarack TeamReach app so you are updated and can easily join in the fun on the courts, please email: Les Mirkin at lesmirkin@gmail.com. You can of course come play without needing access to the app.

Stay tuned for details to follow about the Tamarack Pickleball tournament as part of the 50th anniversary celebration scheduled for September 21 and 22.



Board and Committee Business

Board Meeting Notes – May 28, 2024

This is an informal report about the regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors. Official minutes will be posted on the Tamarack website after approval by the Board.

Board members Steinbach, Jesien, Larson, White, Foley, Meyer, and Association Manager Haberman were present. Findley attended by Zoom. Thirty-seven residents attended in person or by Zoom.

Stacey reported:

- The focus of trim repair and replacement has been on Cedar Creek.
- Damaged light posts and electrical wires are being replaced.
- Board members and committee chairs now have Tamarack email addresses
- Resident directory has been updated and copies are available for pickup at club house.
- Installation of benches along walking paths is on hold while maintenance staff complete higher priority jobs.
- Still recruiting for Maintenance Technician.

Board of Directors approved:

- Contract with Viktor's Painting to paint trim on 46 units on Cedar Creek.
- Contract with H. J. Pertzborn Plumbing to replace leaking fire hydrant on Oak Creek.
- Sending proposed change in court reservation policy to residents for 30-day review.
- Sending draft energy policy to residents for 30-day review.
- Sending Pool Working Group letter to Tamarack attorney for opinion on financing loan or line of credit for new swimming pool.

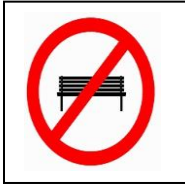
Other:

- As of March 31, operating fund balance was \$260,000 in cash and money market. Reserve fund balance was \$1,183,000, an increase of \$63,000 from February balance.
- Audit results were "unmodified" (clean) and no recommendations were made for additional internal controls. This exceptional outcome was due to Tamarack's sound financial management and excellent stewardship by Stacey Haberman and Jean Hilgers.
- Residents are reminded to check dryer vents because clogged vents can be a fire hazard.

Next monthly Board Meeting: Tuesday, June 25, 2024, at 6:30 PM.

Amenities Committee

Pool Furniture: Did you ever wonder who or what group “tends” to the pool furniture? Well, it is the Amenities Committee! Last year’s budget included the purchase of some new chairs for the pool deck; yes, those old, well-worn white ones found their way to the street terrace where passersby seemed to want to give them new homes. Meanwhile, the Rohr’s assembled the new chairs and a number of AC members washed the existing furniture inventory for this pool season! Please thank them. And the other old and worn items-- the AC approved to spend up to \$100 to purchase pool appropriate toys/noodles. Also, residents are reminded that the pool rules specify that the guard on duty is in charge. If situations occur at the pool residents are to talk to the lifeguard on duty.



Community Benches: The AC 2024 budget includes \$500 for up to 4 benches; due to pressing priorities relating to budgets and staffing (pool, wood rot and vacancies, etc.). The AC moved to suspend discussion on benches until further notice.

AC Recommendations on Policies Referred to the AC: The AC reviewed a number of items: the Committee’s Terms of Reference, the Proposed Energy Efficiency Policy, and the Summer 2024 Recreation Policy. The first two items were approved without changes and forwarded to the Board. The Summer 2024 Recreation Policy was discussed in detail regarding the use and scheduling of the Tennis (pickle ball) Courts. The AC moved to revise text in the Policies to allow for reservations for court use which could be arranged for on an annual basis; i.e. such as a regular set date/time throughout the season. Specific language under item 5. was forwarded to the Board for their consideration.

Update from the ARB

The annual ARB ‘walkaround’ of all Tamarack living units is complete! First, we’d like to thank our community volunteers who helped with the walkaround this year – Brian Shore, Christina Finet and Dave Larson, the ARB BOD Liaison. **THANK YOU** Brian, Christina and Dave for helping us accomplish this huge task!

Now we face the daunting challenge of making sure our many pages of notes are legible so they can be transcribed into spreadsheets. The final step is to compile the spreadsheet data into the annual ARB walkaround report. The report data is organized by categories such as safety, window, door, fence, railing, landscape and other issues so it can be referenced by the office and maintenance staff.

The ARB hopes to continue to do the annual walkaround in the spring or early summer. We enjoy getting to see our neighbors and chatting with you. Please be aware of some important safety issues we have observed: many dryer vents that need to be cleared of lint and debris; unsafe outside steps; and unsafe railings on steps or decks.

On one of these beautiful days why not go out and take a walk around the perimeter of your unit so you can see if your gutters are overflowing with debris or if you have woodpecker or rodent damage on your trim or fascia boards. You can submit a work order request through the office to have these issues addressed.



News from Neighbors for a Greener Tamarack

Mow less, spray less, plant more natives

Earth Day Volunteer Work Day

We would like to thank the 15 volunteers who came out to lend a hand at beautifying Tamarack in honor of Earth Day on April 22. We had a great crew who assisted in sprucing up the swale near the clubhouse and helped remove invasive plants in Pine Ridge wooded area. Your efforts to help keep our community beautiful are so appreciated!



“No Spray” Reminder



There are currently over 120 units participating in the No Spray program. The next spray date is set for sometime around July 4th. Watch for an email blast from the office as to the exact date. If you would like to opt out of having your area sprayed, we recommend you put a few red flags out before that next spraying date.

If you have not yet signed up for the No Spray list, you can do that by contacting Jean Hilgers in the Tamarack Office at 608-833-1615 or Jean.Hilgers@tamaracktrails.com. (Note: If you would like to continue to receive fertilizer treatments, but would like to discontinue herbicide treatments, you may request that when you sign up.)

When herbicides are not used, the flowers that feed pollinators such as bees and butterflies have a chance to grow. By reducing our use of chemicals, we lower the risk of long-term negative health and environment impacts on our Tamarack and Madison communities.

For the Love of Wildflowers



On May 6, a group of 16 individuals took advantage of the beautiful weather and went for a stroll through the Sauk Creek Woods to enjoy the many wonderful wildflowers that bloom there in the springtime. Some 25 species of native wildflowers were identified. Si Widstrand, former conservation supervisor and planning manager for Madison Parks, joined the group to share information about woodland ecology and the threat posed by invasive species including garlic mustard, dames rocket, buckthorn, and honeysuckle.

No Mow/Low Mow May

As we wrap up another successful No Mow May season, we wanted to say thank you to the 71 units who participated this year. Four sites opted to be Low Mow this year, including Red Maple, Mountain Ash, Pin Oak and a portion of Oak Creek. That means these sites were mowed once in mid-May, a method adopted by the City of Madison and Dane County. By letting the grass and wildflowers grow, we provide food sources and habitat for pollinators. In combination with the No Spray and No Blow programs, this really helps create a healthier natural environment for our emerging pollinators in early spring. If you would like more information or would like to participate next May, reach out to Scot Butler (botscutler@gmail.com), Paulette Harder (pauletteangt@gmail.com) or Jim Waeffler (jim.waeffler@gmail.com).



KNOW YOUR TAMARACK NEIGHBOR — STACEY CAMPBELL

This month's vivacious, involved, interesting Tamarack neighbor is Stacey Campbell of 31 Red Maple. Stacey has only lived here for 1 ½ years, but already she is making her mark on our Communication Committee, and the Neighbors for a Greener Tamarack Committee. The first committee is revamping Tamarack's website while the second one deals with environmental issues.

Stacey was born & raised in Lake Hopatcong, New Jersey. She went to High School in 8larstown, N.J. finishing there even after her family had moved to Florida. A job move by her father necessitated this situation. She went to college at Florida International University in Miami, and it was in Florida that she met her husband.

A marriage to Doug Campbell in 1996, whose job took them to Seattle & then Dallas, brought three daughters, Meghan, Cassandra & Keely. Unfortunately, Doug became ill with Lymphoma when they lived in Texas and died in 2015 after a 15- year cancer battle.

Besides her children, she has two brothers — one who is a whistle-blower lawyer in D.C., and one who is a realtor in Florida. Her parents have passed.

Stacey's education led her to work with non-profit organizations. She founded two nonprofits, Hands on Miami in Florida, and Greater Lewisville Cares in Texas. She currently works from home as a grant writer for Hearts for Homes, an organization that provides free home repairs for low-income seniors in Texas. She is also involved with the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS).

This part German, part Lithuanian resident was trying to decide where to move when she was going to leave Texas. Her oldest daughter, Meghan, who is getting her PhD here at UW Madison suggested that her mother move up here. It seems to be a good fit as she lists the following reason for liking Madison:

1. It has four seasons which makes her feel like she is back in New Jersey.
2. It is environmentally friendly.
3. It has a small- town feeling — it is quaint.
4. It has a variety of foods & festivals.
5. It is beautiful & there is a lot to do particularly outdoor things. She likes Tamarack Trails Condo Assoc. because:
 1. It is a friendly community.
 2. It has a community feel.
 3. It is self-governed.
 4. It has many educated people living here.

Stacey has several interesting hobbies. Hiking, travel & photography top that list. She also has a blog about widowhood, she has been singing since she was a child, (now just for her own benefit), and she does love to read mainly biographies, memoirs & self-help books.

We Tamarack residents are indeed lucky that when she was looking all around Madison for her Wisconsin home, she chose us.

Joyce Hasselman Waldorf, 11 White Pine Trail