

WESTERLEE COMMUNITY NEWS

Westerlee: A Proud Covenant Controlled Community

www.westerleenews.com

Spring 2024



Editor: Pam Jarrell

President's Letter

Dear Neighbors,

Last summer, John Herron took the helm of our neighborhood HOA. He had great ideas and was off to a good start, tackling some of the boards ongoing projects. Unfortunately, this past fall, John had to step down from the board due to health issues. We thank John for his service to the community and wish him and his family all the best during this trying time.

As Vice President, for many years, I have stepped in-to the Presidents position. I feel really blessed to call Westerlee home, my family and I have lived here for 20 years and we love it. I am really looking forward to serving our neighborhood in this new capacity. The Vice Presidents slot is open and will be voted on at our annual meeting.

I hope you will join us for our first in-person Annual Meeting since before COVID. Zoom meetings can never take the place of seeing each other in person. Please join us at Woodbridge Valley Elementary School on Tuesday, April 23, from 7pm-9pm, in the cafeteria. We hope you will all attend to meet, greet, share, and learn about what's going on in Westerlee and Catonsville. (See the attached flyer.)

A few of the topics will be:

- Local elected officials share a brief summary of their year.
- Expert advice on how we prepare our homes to withstand the increase of rain.
- Meet the board and elect a new VP.

We will also be accepting payments for HOA dues at the door.

I really hope that you will be able join us!

Sincerely,

Wanda Richardson



WESTERLEE COMMUNITY, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Wanda Richardson

Vice President: open

Secretary: Chris Goatee

Treasurer: Jacqueline Johnson, send checks to:
2102 Cedar Circle Drive, Catonsville, MD 21228

Directors:

Pam Jarrell, Shanna Strickland, Deborah Cason,
Tanya DeSheilds, Rizwan Mahmoodi.
John Fox & Klaus Philipsen (Past Presidents)

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Pay by April 30, 2024
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reserve your bin.
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AND SO MUCH MORE!

2024 Annual Meeting

April 23, 2024 from 7pm-9pm
Woodbridge Elementary School

- Learn about managing water runoff.
- Pay Annual Dues
- Come and find out what's been going on in Westerlee
- Feel free to share ideas and views
- Refreshments provided



See attached flyer

Get Connected!

Join Nextdoor, our neighborhood blog. Neighbors keep neighbors informed. *News, referrals, events, outages, and much much more!*

To join, email Westerlee:
westerleehoa@gmail.com



Meeting Minutes: Westerlee Community Association, Inc.

Meeting Minutes Virtual Meeting 2/19/2024

Call to Order-Wanda Called the meeting to order @ 6:30pm.

Approval of Minutes – January 22, 2024. Pam made the Motion to approve minutes @6:39pm

Attendees: Wanda, Pam, Jacqui, John F., Rizwan, Tanya, Klaus

Excused: John H., Shanna

VP election deferred until next meeting when Shanna able to attend.

Treasurer's Report- Jacqui has collected ~\$500

Jacqui is having issues with Quick Books. She needs to install Quickbook software on her laptop and this will require a monthly fee. There is an annual fee of <\$300.00, Jacqui will call and see if a direct call will be achieve results. Rizwan has offered to help Jacqui install software. As of 1/3/24 Balance is \$17,947.18

Old Business

Chris: Annual meeting date-April 23rd, 7-9pm, Woodbridge Elementary Cafeteria- we have reserved from 6:30-9:30pm for set up/clean up

Invited speakers: Margaret Stokes, Pat Young, Charles Sydnor, Sheila Ruth, Ofc. Helsenstine

John Fox recommends inviting someone from water department and/or BGE

County officer to present on storm water resiliency efforts. (Klaus feels he could do some research to find a potential speaker)

Potential Topics:

Resilience for homeowners: Klaus discussed: Electricity, Storm water management, solar panels. Storm water drainage, swale, homeowners- when replacing gutters to get 6" gutters vs. traditional 4" to deal with climate change. Commercial vehicles/large trucks parked on the street. Recycling (code enforcement topic): recycling should never be put out in plastic bags. Pam to include stronger language in the newsletter and on the website.

Rezoning- Klaus advocates for local political speakers (Margaret Stokes, Pat Young, Elisa McCassou) because of the current issues re: zoning at Security Mall. WesterleeNews.com should have list of all political figures. Klaus recommends that State political figures: Charles, Sheila, and Elisa come to meet neighbors and not discuss current bills and to allow Pat Young more time to speak about zoning (limited 8 minutes).

Wanda: Annual Meeting Invitation to Public Figures were sent.

Klaus: meeting with Lawyer is working to review land records with a para legal assistance. Looking for original recordation for the Westerlee HOA covenants. Follow up when answers have been given.

Decoration contest winners

New Business

Newsletter: Pam: Article Deadlines- March 11th Submit articles to Pam by 3/11

Pam recommends that Wanda write the President's letter, including acknowledgment of John H. service as the President.

Architecture Committee: Chris and Klaus

Events:

Yard Sale dates: June 15

Need to order more flags for July 4th- Pam will take lead.

Recycle Containers

John F. had researched this previously and Ace Hardware delivered. John H. thought was a good idea with all the new neighbors. Suggestion to place article in Newsletter with direction for interested homeowner's to email the board newsletter. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment- Wanda adjourned the meeting @7:25.

Westerlee's Got New Holiday Spirit!

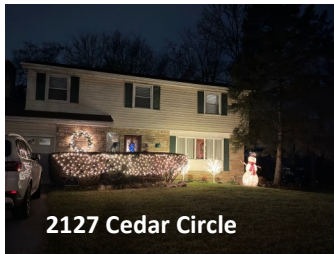
In the spirit of the holidays, the committee was impressed by new enthusiastic decorations from neighbors who have not previously been recognized. All of these homes that special something that caught our eye. We hope that they will continue to display joyful decorations for years to come.



2136 Chantilla



2122 Chantilla



2127 Cedar Circle



2012 Fernglen



Yard Sale Day June 15, 8am-2pm

If the stuff piling up in your house and garage do not "spark joy" than this is the event for you! Its time to declutter and make money and on your own front yard. Balloons will be provided to participants.

Call Wanda Richardson, 410.206.2418 or Jacqui Johnson, 443.629.4593 for details.

HOW TO PAY HOA DUES

Westerlee dues are \$25/year. They must be paid by April 30, after which a \$15 late fee will be assessed.

1) Check

Make out to Westerlee Inc.
Send to Jacqueline Johnson, 2102 Cedar Circle Drive. Catonsville MD 21228.

2) Money Order

3) Cash (Please have exact change)

4) Annual Meeting

We will be accepting payments at the door.

No electronic payment options are available at this time.

Bulk Trash Pick-Up July 25, 2024

Making Changes to your Property?

Our covenants state that all external changes to our homes or lots must be approved by the Board of Directors, in order to maintain the integrity of the architecture and landscaping in Westerlee:

"No garages, outbuildings, fences or other structures shall be erected without prior permission of Westerlee Community, Inc., its successors or assigns, or its duly appointed agent, and no building shall be built closer to the front street than forty (40) feet, no closer to the side street than twenty-five (25) feet." An Architectural Review Committee studies all plans and submits their findings and recommendations to the Board.

That means that you must **plan ahead** if you wish to add an addition, a shed, or even a fence.

Go to westerleenews.com/documents for more info. Send drawings and plans to both westerleehoa@gmail.com and kphilipsen@archplan.com

What's the Deal about Plastic Bags in the Recycling?

Baltimore County recycling machinery uses big rubber cogs to spin the recycling through the sorting process. They work great to take care of the separating of plastic, paper, glass etc... But their nemesis are the lowly plastic bags of any size and other plastic sheeting, like the plastic around the pack of 500 rolls of paper towels that you bought at Costco. These types of things get grabbed and knotted around the rubber cogs and the whole conveyor belt has to be stopped and detangled.

In truth, the trash collectors are not supposed to take plastic bags on recycle day but for reasons, unknown to me, they do. So, let's be kind to our county workers and the environment and make sure we please:

- 1) Don't put plastic bags or sheeting into the recycling.
- 2) Pack our recycle products in a recycle bin or recyclable cardboard box before we haul it to the curb.
- 3) If you don't have a bin, please participate in the Westerlee recycle bin program.



Aging Gracefully

Baltimore County Department of Aging has released the "Community Resources 2024. Available at libraries and Senior Centers or can be ordered from the County at 410-887-2594.



Westerlee Residents Only!

RSVP by June 1, 2024

Westerlee Recycle Bin Program Returns!

Our last offerings of the bins was a great success, having a total of 52 bins make their way to Westerlee homes. We hope that both new residents and those who didn't participate last time will join in.



These 34 gallon, heavy duty cans have wheels and a hinged lid. They are great for the community because you can easily move them, they hold a lot, and the attached lid stops recyclables from escaping.

You pay \$20 toward the can and we will cover the rest, at local stores cans cost up to \$90. A sample will be on display at the

Annual Meeting. Please send an email by June 1st to: westerleehoa@gmail.com include name address and the best number to reach you. Bins will be distributed at the Community Picnic in September.



Life is Great in 21228!

Free Things to do in Catonsville



Music

Lurman Woodland Theater

FREE Musical entertainment every weekend June through August. Check their calendar, pack a picnic and enjoy everything from rock to reggae and big band to bluegrass. www.lurman.com

Frederick Road Fridays Concert Season

FREE Every Friday • June to August. 15 Mellor Avenue 6:30 to 8:30 pm. www.catonsville.org

Farmers Markets

Catonsville Sunday Farmers Market

May through November, RAIN OR SHINE. 15 Mellor Ave. 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. www.catonsville.org

Catonsville Wednesday Farmers Market

The Christian Temple, 5820 Edmondson Avenue, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. www.catonsvillefarmersmarket.com

Activities

Benjamin Banneker Historical Park

300 Oella Ave, Catonsville, MD 21228 FREE Museum, nature activities and hiking. 410.887.1081

Benjamin Banneker Planetarium

CCBC Catonsville, 800 S. Rolling Rd. Math & Science Hall. Free shows Fridays and Saturdays.

Everyone is Invited!

2024 Westerlee Annual Meeting

April 23, 2024 from 7pm-9pm

Woodbridge Elementary School Cafeteria

The Annual meeting is the opportunity to hear about current issues that are specific to our community, meet neighbors, and discuss topics that are important to you. Refreshments will be provided.

Proposed Agenda

1. **Registration and opportunity to pay Dues**
2. **Welcoming elected officials**
3. **Welcoming new residents**
4. **Presentation on Stormwater resiliency in light of increased precipitation. By Beth Denaburg from Baltimore County Public Information Officer, Dept of Engineering & Construction. Focus will be on what homeowners can do to protect homes from flooding, how to direct water flow, have better ground absorption etc...**
5. **Baltimore County Police liaison - Officer Alisha Helphenstine**
6. **Voting for a Vice President**
7. **Treasurer's report**
8. **Westerlee Inc Board committee chairs introduce themselves and talk about upcoming activities**
9. **Current issues**
10. **Questions, answers, discussion.**

Pay your \$25 HOA Dues at the meeting to avoid late fees!

After April 30th a \$15 late fee will be assessed. To pay ahead of time, make checks payable to **Westerlee Inc.** and mail to:

Jacqui Johnson, 2102 Cedar Circle Dr., Catonsville, MD 21228.