



## March 2024 Newsletter

This edition of the newsletter contains a wealth of opportunities for volunteerism, a reminder, information about the annual garage sale, and an interview with Doug Haden our Treasurer.

**Reminder:** Deck and porch furniture cannot be put out until April 1. As tempting as it is with the warm weather we have been having, we can still get snow, so keep those porches clear.

**Requests for volunteers:** there are many opportunities to get involved here at Waterway Pines. Some involve occasional work; some are ongoing. Some require physical effort; others can be done at your desk. Here's what we are looking for now, and in the near future.

- Building inspections. The annual building inspection will kick off on May 18th in Wayne Terpstra's garage at 1321 Timber Crossing. You don't need special skills: Wayne will show you what to look for. It's a job that can be done on your own schedule over a week or two. If you are interested in helping out, please email him at [wmpetra@gmail.com](mailto:wmpetra@gmail.com). It's a good way to meet your neighbors.
- Grounds clean-up. Volunteers are needed to pull up weeds, clean out trash, and generally spruce up the property. Meet on Saturday, May 18, at 9:00 at the bridge. There might be donuts afterwards. Mark your calendars.
- Serving on the board. Three board members are in their final year of service. If you are even the teeniest bit interested, talk to a board member. Talking with us does not commit you to serving, and we are more than happy to share what we know about our responsibilities.

**Annual garage sale:** This year's garage sale will be on **June 1st**. If you plan to hold a garage sale, it's time to start gathering things. The garage sale policy (posted on the website under Rules and Regulations (Board Policies) is based on our existing policy regarding estate sales. Here it is:

**Garage sales are permitted at WPCA during the association's sanctioned community sale during one Saturday in May of each year. Co-owners are responsible for following these guidelines:**

**1. Signs may be placed at the Waterway Pines entrances (Lakewood Ave. and James St.) only on the day of the sale. One sign may be placed in front of the co-owner's unit on the day of the sale.**



**2. Flags or markers must be placed by the Co-owner on both sides of the street along the grass in front of the participating unit and adjacent units to protect sprinkler heads and to maintain access to mailboxes. The co-owner conducting the sale is responsible for all damage done to common areas as a result of the sale.**

**3. Any publicity for the sale is the responsibility of the co-owner.**

**4. Each year, the board will announce the date of the sale, help to put participating co-owners in touch with each other, and make available entrance signs and flags for co-owners' use.**

If you are interested in doing a garage sale this June 1st, contact the secretary (jaballard80@gmail.com) who will put you in touch with other interested co-owners. That way, you can generate digital, print, or social media advertising, and coordinate picking up the signs from a board member.

#### **Board Member Profiles:**

**Q: Why are the WWPC newsletters profiling board volunteers?**

**A: The board has two hopes:**

- First, that all co-owners will better understand what the board does.
- Second, that several of you will discover that our board volunteers are ordinary folks--some retired, some not--who bring ordinary working/parenting/adulting/home-owning experiences to running the association.

We hope that these profiles will encourage you to step up and take your turn volunteering for the board. Remember, ***we need at least three volunteers to step up by mid-summer*** before the election in October.

Previous newsletters profiled our president, Dan Ward; building and maintenance supervisor Wayne Terpstra; and roads/driveways/plowing supervisor Jim Rohrer.

**This month's profile is of our treasurer, Doug Hayden.**

**Hi, Doug. Let's start by having you describe what the board treasurer does.**

As treasurer, I

- manage the approval and payment of invoices,



- monitor the collection of monthly dues,
- review monthly financial reporting (from our accountant, Waveland),
- manage the association's insurance,
- manage our reserve fund CD's and bank accounts,
- build the initial annual budget, working individually with other board members,
- pull together the slideshow presentation for the annual meeting, and
- answer questions from mortgage and title companies when properties change hands.

**That sounds like a lot! What skills did you bring to this job? What's your background?**

I don't have a background in accounting, but I was trained by the treasurer I replaced. I have an Informational Technology (IT) background, and am proficient in Excel and PowerPoint. I was, at one point early in my career, a math teacher. I am quite comfortable working with numbers—in fact, I enjoy them. I'm comfortable working with PC's and the internet. I often find myself on the web exploring governmental and public utilities sites to gather financial information as treasurer.

I've worked with third party contractors/consultants in my job as IT manager at Herman Miller, and know the importance of good, open communication, and being frank when issues arise. I also enjoy working on a team with others.

**It sounds like there are a lot of pieces to your job. How much time do you spend on board work?**

Most of the year I spend a couple hours a week processing invoices. I spend 4-8 hours each month reviewing monthly financial reports, and in monthly board meetings. Larger amounts of time are required to put together the annual budget, or to get quotes and negotiate contracts for insurance or other services. Most of my work can be done wherever I have internet and phone access, so scheduling travel or vacations has never been an issue. We now use ZOOM for our monthly board meetings in the winter.

Because I was interested in doing it, I have the responsibility of managing WWPC's ZOOM subscription, and scheduling and hosting our online board meetings. Always fun to learn a new app. (Note, however, that any board member could assume this responsibility.)

**Have you enjoyed your time on the board?**

I have really enjoyed it! The other board members are a great group of individuals, and I enjoy spending time with them. We work well together as a team—each respecting the gifts



the others bring to the table, and the work they put into their area of responsibility. I have made some good friends.

**Any further reflections for those who might be thinking about volunteering for the board?**

You learn a lot, and it feels good to give back to the association, knowing so many others before me have volunteered to make Waterway Pines a great place to live.

\*\*\*\*\*

So, are you thinking about volunteering for the board? Do you have questions? Do you need more information? Remember, without a volunteer board going forward, the current board will have to make significant changes in how the association operates. That likely means hiring a management company, which will entail additional costs (in dues), a layer of bureaucracy between co-owners and vendors, and the likely change of some of our vendors.

**We need you!**

To volunteer for the board, beginning in January 2025, contact Julie Ballard at [jaballard80@gmail.com](mailto:jaballard80@gmail.com). Julie can also answer questions or put you in touch with people who can give you more information.