



SCHIEVELING PLANTATION NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2005

Next HOA Meeting

Saturday, March 19, 2005

10:00 AM

At the Club House

NOTE: In keeping with a Board decision (at the request of some HOA members), the March meeting is being held on a Saturday.

Announcements

- 1. The election of three members to form a Nominating Committee will be one of the prime business items at the March 19, 2005 HOA Meeting. As stated below, the election must take place "... at the regular meeting preceding the Annual Meeting in May of each Year." This procedure is new to us; it was part of the Bylaw changes approved by the HOA members last year. Please attend this meeting and get involved with Schieveling Plantation's future.**

Article X of our Bylaws states:

Section 2. Prior to an election, a nominating committee of three members of the Association shall be elected at the regular meeting immediately preceding the Annual meeting in May of each year. It shall be the duty of this committee to nominate a candidate, whose consent to serve has been obtained, for each office to be filled. Additional nominations shall be made from the floor, provided the consent of the nominee shall first have been obtained.

Section 3. Officers shall be elected by ballot for a term of one year or until their successors are elected. A majority vote shall elect. If there is only one nominee for any office, the election for that office may be by voice. The term of office shall begin at the close of the annual meeting. No member, except Treasurer, shall serve more than two consecutive terms. However, with a minimum of a one-year break in service, the member will then become eligible for re-election to that office. No member may hold more than one office at a time.

(Over)

2. Douglas Smits, Director of Inspections, City of Charleston spoke at our February 10, 2005 HOA Meeting. Doug is also the Chief of the Building Office, Chief Fire Official and has been employed for the City of Charleston for 24 years. He talked to the members present about his office's responsibilities and the regulations governing any type of construction throughout the City of Charleston. For details regarding his talk, please see the Minutes of the February 10, 2005 HOA Meeting. Best advice to give you is if you are going to do your own work, make sure that you obtain a permit. If you are hiring someone else to complete your project, call Mr. Smits' office (724-7434 or 724-7220) to have credentials verified and provide you a list of state laws. If you are paying someone else to do work, make sure that person obtains the work permit. Any changes made to your home or structure, must have a building permit. There is no fee for projects under \$1000, which includes materials and labor, but you still must have a permit. Other requirements vary depending on type of work planned. Please call his office and ask questions prior to requesting a permit.
3. Those in attendance at the February 10, 2005 HOA Meeting strongly voiced their concern over the actions, or lack thereof, of some of our pet owners. We remind you again, please pick up after your pets. There are some places in Schieveling Plantation that are particularly bad. Health problems, such as spreading hook worms and other parasites, are just some of the results of this ongoing problem.
4. Solicitation There have been several complaints about recent, unwanted solicitations of the door-to-door variety. One example is of a young person purporting to have relatives or is visiting friends in Schieveling Plantation or so-and-so recommended your name to me or other false or misleading information. After gaining access to your home, a sales pitch for a magazine contest or "putting my way through college" ensues. Of course, it is up to you who you let in your home, but these outside solicitors can cause problems. The HOA Board will be looking into the legality (and the aesthetics) of posting No Solicitation signs at the entrance or somewhere on Rhett Butler Drive. Please exercise caution.

Committee Reports

Architectural Review Board (ARB) Committee

Again, we ask HOA members to check with the ARB Committee before starting major projects such as deck, fences, installation of satellite dishes, taking down trees etc. This will eliminate so many problems and hassles down the line.

By-Laws Committee

Nothing to report at this time.

Club House Committee

There have been a few parties/functions held in the past few months. We have turned off the sound emitted when the door opens; this should result in fewer distractions and conversation interruptions.

Compliance Committee

Thanks to those who have heeded our Compliance Request Forms, particularly for the overnight parking. Our narrow streets are safer (in the event of emergency vehicles, etc.) and more aesthetically pleasing for HOA members and guests.

Maintenance and Grounds Committee

- 1) Work continues on revamping and finishing Schieveling Plantation's irrigation system. It is an expensive undertaking with more work to be done. When you attend a function/party at the Club House, please do not park on the grass. There has been some damage to the irrigation system by parked vehicles. Suncoast Irrigation is doing the work.
- 2) The new contractor, Frank Dabney and Sons Lawn Care, has been busy with projects around the community. For example, they have done work on the retention ponds and have removed the plastic runoff fence on Fair Spring Drive, just past Shem Butler Court.
- 3) We are going to organize work parties for pressure washing the Club House and spreading more mulch. Last March's mulch party was very successful with 10 people spreading out the work and the mulch.

Playground Committee (Developing Recommendation for the Board)

Accomplishments:

- To recommend placement of playground in the HOA commons area between Rhett Butler Drive and Shem Butler Court.
- Sign will accompany playground that states hours are dawn to dusk, as well as other important items for liability.
- Met with one vendor about types of equipment (wood, metal or plastic) plan on meeting with 2 other vendors to get the best idea of pricing.
- Collected several catalogs from vendors with playground equipment, everything from slides, swings, benches and even joggling boards.
- Landscape architect has been consulted to help in our planning stage.

Welcoming/Hospitality Committee

Look for further announcements and information regarding a May Garage Sale. Last year's endeavor provided us all with an opportunity to recycle some of our furniture, clothes, sports equipment, books, etc.

(Over)