

The Quaker Hill Quill

February 2021

Newly Elected Board of Directors

Quaker Hill Board officers were elected at the January 28, 2019 Association meeting. They are:

President: Mary Beth Cockerham

Vice President: Marjorie Stein

Secretary: Lennin Lopez (ARHA)

Treasurer: Rose Gillespie

Director: Stephen Stine

Pool Renovation Update

The pool renovation is well underway, but not without its snags. High Sierra Pools discovered that the bond beam was not level and set too low and in need of correction. The bond beam is the top horizontal element along the perimeter of an inground pool. Typically, it's about 12 inches wide and reinforced with extra steel rebar to provide more support.

This corrective action requires additional demolition, pinning and tying the steel bar at the proper elevation, and follow-on concrete work. Once completed and the concrete is cured, the contractor will proceed with the installation of the tile and coping stones around the pool. High Sierra Pools informed the Board at the January meeting that they anticipate pool construction will be completed prior to the pool season, barring no further complications.

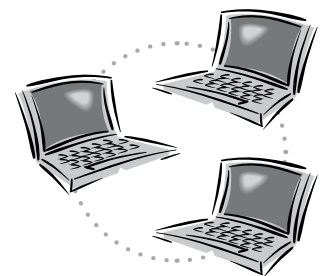
Annual QHCA Meeting Highlights from the Board President

The Quaker Hill Community Association (QHCA) annual meeting was held on December 1, 2020. The annual meeting was held virtually due to the ongoing pandemic and was well attended. The Board recognized the impact that COVID has had on the Community and thanked all residents for their continued vigilance. The Board reviewed several of the significant issues addressed in 2020: selection of a new pool management company, High Sierra Pools, in February, the delay and eventual cancellation of the pool season, and the subsequent decision to undertake major reconstruction of the pool prior to the 2021 season. The Board also continued to address drainage and erosion issues in the community. The Treasurer reiterated the stable financial position of the community, but also noted that the major investment in the pool reconstruction and the need to rebuild financial reserves prompted the Board to institute increases in the monthly HOA dues for 2021. The Members Forum included a lively discussion of several topics, including covenants inspection, guest parking and continued adherence to COVID guidelines.

How to Attend Virtual Board Meetings

All Quaker Hill residents are encouraged to attend Association meetings held via teleconference on the fourth Thursday of every month at 7:00 p.m. If you wish to participate, please email Northern Virginia Management (NVM) at nvm@northernvirginiamanagement.com before 5 p.m. on the day of the meeting to get call-in information. Questions, concerns, and comments may be emailed to NVM by noon on the day before the meeting.

The email notification list is another way to get call-in information for upcoming Board meetings. This is a particularly important communication tool because of the need to conduct virtual Board meetings during the pandemic and to inform residents of time-sensitive information and announcements. Please email NVM at nvm@northernvirginiamanagement.com if you'd like to be added to the notification list.





Trash Disposal

Residents of single-family detached homes and townhomes are reminded that trash containers may not be placed outside earlier than 5:00 p.m. on the evening before collection and must be returned to storage not later than 7:00 p.m. on the day of collection. Please put your trash can out of view on non-pick up days.

The regular trash collection day is Tuesday. During a week when Monday or Tuesday is a holiday, you may call the City's Office of Solid Waste at 703-746-4410 or check the city of Alexandria website at <http://ci.alexandria.va.us> for information on trash collection.

TMP

The City of Alexandria requires Quaker Hill to participate in the city-wide Transportation Management Program (TMP) that promotes the use of mass transit. Part of our monthly assessment fee funds this program. As a bona fide resident of Quaker Hill, you are eligible to purchase certain mass transit media at a reduced price. The TMP offers:



ITEM	COST TO YOU
50% off Metrorail fare	
Amount to be specified by resident per SmarTrip card	
Maximum benefit per household, per month is \$250	\$125.00
SmarTrip Card	\$ 1.00
Alexandria DASH pass (1 month unlimited rides)	\$ 22.50

How to Place an Order for SmarTrip cards or Alexandria DASH passes:

1. Call Northern Virginia Management at (703) 941-9002 and leave a message.
2. Email Northern Virginia Management at nvm@northernvirginiamanagement.com.

Please note that all orders must be paid in full in advance before NVM will send your media. Make checks payable to Quaker Hill Community Association.

How to Add fare to your SmarTrip card:

1. Register your SmarTrip card with NVM. A maximum of four cards may be registered with the NVM.
2. The \$250 maximum benefit may be split among the four registered cards. You cannot register cards issued by an employer through an employee benefits program.
3. Mail your payment in advance to:
Northern Virginia Management
4306 Evergreen Lane, Suite 101
Annandale, Virginia 22003
4. If the household has registered multiple cards with NVM, the card number must be noted, along with the amount to be added per card.

Cards and benefits may not be sold or transferred to others. Misuse may result in the temporary or permanent loss of TMP benefits.

Quaker Hill Community Association Information

Board of Directors

Mary Beth Cockerham, President, mbcockerham@comcast.net
 Marjorie Stine, Vice President
 Lennin Lopez, Secretary
 Rose Gillespie, Treasurer & Newsletter
 Stephen Stein, Director

Clubhouse Telephone

703-823-1911/1912

Northern Virginia Management

703-941-9002
nvm@northernvirginiamanagement.com
 4306 Evergreen Lane, Suite 101
 Annandale, Virginia 22003

The Quaker Hill Community Association Board of Directors meets via teleconference at 7:00 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of every month. If you wish to participate, email NVM at

nvm@northernvirginiamanagement.com before 5 p.m. on the day of the meeting or subscribe to the email notification list at the above address to get call-in information. Questions, concerns, and comments may be emailed to NVM by noon on the day before the meeting.

Quaker Hill Condominium Association

Management Company: First Service Residential, 703-385-1133
 Association President: John Sesler, jsesler@comcast.net

Important Numbers to Remember

Police—Fire—Medical Emergency*	911
Police Non-Emergency	703-746-4444
Police Non-Emergency TDD line	703-838-4896
Online Crime Reporting	www.alexandriava.gov/police
National Poison Control Center	800-222-1222
Animal Control	703-746-4774

*The Alexandria Police Department is located at 3600 Wheeler Ave.; the closest fire station (#207) is located at 3301 Duke Street.

www.QHCA.org



Mulch Mowing

In preparation for the spring season, Chapel Valley mulch mowed Quaker Hill common areas in December. Mulch mowing is important for several reasons: it enhances the health and growth of turf by reducing moisture evaporation, adds nutrients to the soil, and keeps grass clippings out of landfills. EPA reports that yard clippings make up about 13 percent (or 28 million tons) of the national waste stream, and grass clippings account for roughly two-thirds of all yard waste. According to Adrian Higgins, the Washington Post horticulturist, “Leaves are too precious a soil amendment to bundle, bag and discard.”



Homeowner Construction Work

With Spring just around the corner, home renovation projects are sure to follow. According to Alexandria’s noise ordinance [Sec. 11-5-4(b)10], homeowners are exempt from the construction hours provision of the Noise Code. This exemption does not apply when work involves use of power equipment, nor does it apply when the homeowner is acting as a general contractor and/or working for commercial purpose. Homeowners may engage in construction operations at their residences during the following permitted hours:

- Monday – Friday: 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- Saturday & Sunday: 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.



Visitor Parking Reminder

QHCA policy governs the use of visitor parking spaces in our community. Parking spaces marked “Visitor” are reserved for guests of residents living on Quaker Hill Court, Quaker Hill Drive, and Ellsworth Street. Residents may not use visitor spaces as supplemental parking.

Moreover, visitors may not use visitor parking for more than a total of seven days in 30 days. Any vehicle parked in violation of the seven-day limit shall be subject to towing. If you think you have an exceptional circumstance or a temporary situation that may require the use of a visitor space beyond the 7-day limit, please contact NVM for approval.

Other Upcoming Projects

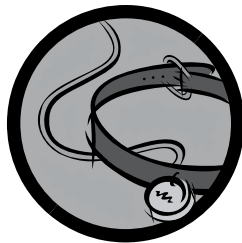
The initial Grasscrete paving/drainage installation completed last spring worked well and the proposal to extend the Grasscrete area behind the townhomes in the 1214-1218 block of Quaker Hill Drive was approved. While reviewing the site prior to installation, it was determined that a French drain also may be needed, extending the project timeline. The project will be completed as weather allows, but it is hoped to be in by spring.

Free COVID-19 Testing Sites

The City and Alexandria Health Department launched three free kiosk-based COVID-19 testing sites in an effort to expand access to testing. The kiosks, operated by Curative, provide self-administered testing swabs under the supervision of a Curative worker from inside a kiosk. All tests are free regardless of insurance or immigration status, and do not require government identification. Participants will be asked for insurance information if available so that insurance providers can be billed, but no co-pay from participants will be required. Walk-up testing is available, although appointments are encouraged and may be made at [Curative.com](https://www.curative.com). Curative testing kiosks are open at the following locations and times:

- ✓ Leonard “Chick” Armstrong Recreation Center, 25 W. Reed Avenue
Monday through Friday, 3 to 8 p.m.
Saturday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- ✓ Ben Brenman Park, 4800 Brenman Park Drive
Monday through Sunday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- ✓ Charles Houston Recreation Center, 901 Wythe Street
Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Saturday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Visit alexandriava.gov/coronavirus for more information about COVID-19 testing options.



City Animal Ordinances

In recent weeks the Board has received complaints about pet owners who do not use leashes to control their dogs while walking in the community, particularly around the pond. Pet owners are reminded that QHCA adheres to the City’s animal ordinances. Alexandria Animal Ordinance, Section 5-7 (32-35), specifically requires that all dogs must be controlled by a physical leash when walking in public. The ordinance also prohibits the use of electronic collars and similar devices as a form of physical restraint for dogs in public areas. However, electronic collars may be used for training purposes at city dog parks, at sanctioned obedience training classes and field trials, and on private property.

The 2012 ordinance was supported by the Alexandria Animal Welfare League as a way to preserve public safety. In supporting this law, the League noted that our public areas are shared spaces to be enjoyed by everyone, and a physical leash indicates that a dog is under control by a capable handler.



Stormwater Utility Fees

Alexandria City Council will decide on February 20, 2021 whether to accept the City Manager’s proposed plan to double the stormwater utility fee to upgrade the City’s storm sewer capacity. If accepted, the proposed stormwater utility fee increase would double current annual fees per billing unit: a condo owner would pay an additional \$39 annually, a townhouse owner an additional \$58, a small single-family homeowner an additional \$140, and a large single-family homeowner an additional \$233. This increase will bring in an additional \$8.5 million annually to accelerate investments in stormwater capacity projects as well as spot improvements and maintenance in fiscal years 2022-2031. The proposed increases have gotten significant pushback from the City Sheriff and Del Ray residents.

The Council voted in December to create a new community advisory committee to provide guidance to the City Council on the execution of a new stormwater infrastructure plan.

Landmark Mall Redevelopment Update

The City of Alexandria recently announced new plans for redeveloping the former Landmark Mall site. The redevelopment plan includes a new Inova hospital complex, consisting of two seven-story in-patient buildings, a cancer center, and a medical office building. Both below- and above ground parking will be provided and a helipad is in the offing. The current hospital will stay in operation during the design and construction of the new hospital. The site plan also includes residences, retail establishments, parks, and a new fire station.

A local Maryland developer, Foulger-Pratt, will lead the joint venture in partnership with the Howard Hughes Corporation, which owns the mall site, and Seritage Growth Properties, which owns the Sears site. Alexandria will purchase the future hospital site to lease back to Inova and finance some of the required infrastructure improvements. The City manager indicated that Alexandria will use tax revenues generated from the project to pay for its \$130 million investment: \$76 million for roads, sewers, parks and other infrastructure, and \$54 million to purchase the land. Inova's proceeds from selling its existing hospital site, located on Seminary Road, will pay for expenses related to the move. The joint partnership anticipates occupancy at the new hospital in 2028.

Planning efforts are also moving forward on another expansion of Inova healthcare services in Alexandria. The HealthPlex will be located on a 13-acre parcel of land between Route 1 and the northern part of Del Ray, across from the Potomac Yard shopping area.

**NO HAND HELD
CELL PHONE USE
WHILE DRIVING**



Ban on Handheld Communications Devices

Effective January 1, 2021, holding a cellphone while driving a motor vehicle on Virginia highways is a primary offense, which means law enforcement officers can pull over drivers for the offense. First-time offenders will be fined \$125. Additional offenses will result in a doubling of the fine. Exceptions relate to emergency vehicle operators engaged in the performance of official duties. It is also not illegal for a driver to use a handheld device while lawfully parked. According to the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration, distracted driving caused 2,841 fatalities in 2018. Among those killed: 1,730 drivers, 605 passengers, 400 pedestrians and 77 bicyclists.



Remember: If you're not hands-free, stay off the phone or get off the road!

ALXnow

Check out ALXnow.com for the latest news on local government, community issues, weather and traffic, and business openings and closings. ALXnow also provides suggestions for things to do around the City and features real estate information. Launched in October 2019, the service is free.



Did you Know?

One lap around the pond equals one-fifth mile. Walking around the pond is an easy way to stay in shape and enjoy the scenery. The Board encourages residents to wear a mask while walking in the community and maintain at least 10 feet of distance from each other. A mask is one of the simplest and most effective ways to help stop the spread of COVID-19.



Quaker Hill Community Association

c/o Northern Virginia Management
4306 Evergreen Lane, Suite 101
Annandale, Virginia 22003

