

JANUARY 2024

Parkwood Press

The Parkwood Association Neighborhood Newsletter



Parkwood Homeowner Dues for 2024 are \$250

Payments are due January 1, 2024

Dues not paid by March 31st will have an additional late fee applied on April 1st.

How to pay:

Mail a check:

Parkwood Association
c/o Professional Property Management, Inc
PO Box 97006
Raleigh, NC 27624

Pay Online:

Visit parkwoodnc.org
Use yellow "Make a Payment" button
to login and submit your payment.

If you cannot pay your entire assessment, please contact PPM
to set up a payment plan to avoid additional fees.

Claudia Mellette | cmellette@ppmral.com | 919-848-4911

Parkwood Board

2023 - 2024

Marsha Brooks, President, Dist.7
Lawrence Engleman, Vice Pres. Dist. 8
Vickie Wheeler, Secretary, Dist. 2
Marie Dean, Treasurer, Dist. 8

Dist 1: Diane Wright	Dist 4: Janie Long
Dist 1: Felipe Rodriguez*	Dist 5: Olga Rodriguez
Dist 2: Chris Classen*	Dist 5: Andrew Hunter
Dist 3: Richard Evert	Dist 6: Mary Mertz
Dist 3: Dennis Sharp	Dist 6: OPEN
Dist 4: Tracee Hester	Dist 7: Julia Maron

*Serving At-Large

The PA Board meets
on the 2nd Thursday of the month
at 7 pm via Zoom

Parkwood Office

Parkwood Association
1417 Seaton Road
Durham, NC 27713

Phone: (919) 544-2161
Email: pa.office@parkwoodnc.org
Website: parkwoodnc.org

Office Hours: Wednesday 2:30 - 5:00 pm

Laura Denny, our office administrator,
is available by email or phone.
Please allow 24 hours for a reply.

Notes from the Parkwood Community Garden

By Susan Costa

Is it too early to think about Spring? Heck, no! Despite the chilly temps, we've kept a few things going in the winter garden – mostly greens-- and are already starting seeds. We're not ready to pop those tomato and basil seeds in just yet, but it's definitely time to start the cool weather crops like broccoli, onions, kale, chard, and radishes. Even though we think of peppers and eggplant as warm weather vegetables, the end of January is the perfect time to get them started indoors, since they take a while to get big enough for transplanting in April. Our cold frame is going to be very busy over the next couple of months! We don't direct-seed anything until March except for peas, which usually go in around Valentine's Day.



All these new planting plans mean that it's also time for budding Parkwood gardeners – maybe that's you? If so, we have 4' x 8' raised garden beds available to "borrow" again this year. The garden is located next to our community center, at 1417 Seaton Road.

In your email, please let us know which one is you:

- a. "I've got a lot of experience, and I'd like a place to plant and grow a few things BUT I'm not comfortable providing advice to others." (That's totally okay! Some days I only want to talk to plants, too.)
- b. "I've got a lot of experience and I'd love to share it! I can wax poetic about about things like mycorrhizae and nematodes and nutrient absorption... but only if you want me to. I'd also like a bed of my own."
- c. "I'm not an expert, but I know the difference between hummus and humus – LOL. I'd like my own bed and I'm also willing to give advice to new gardeners" (and hopefully us old gardeners too.)
- d. "I'm a newbie, but you gotta start somewhere! I'd like my own bed and some help and advice along the way. "
- e. "I don't want my own bed, but I'd like to help out occasionally in a general way, either in the vegetable garden or the pollinator garden."
- f. "I'm not much of a gardener but I can help you build stuff sometimes." (Yes! We need you, too!)

We don't have a lot of restrictions, mainly you'd have to agree that you won't plant anything invasive or likely to encroach on your neighbor's plot; you won't use commercial pesticides; you won't amend the soil in your bed without having a discussion with us (we test the soil regularly and amend the beds accordingly); you agree to maintain your bed throughout the growing season and clean it up at the end of the growing season (usually November).

We will provide you with a prepped, weed-free bed at the start of the season (March/April). We have an assortment of seeds, but if you want something very specific or exotic, you'd need to provide your own. We also provide tools for your use while you're at the garden, additional compost for your bed if you need it, and regular drip-irrigation watering beginning after last frost, and up until the first frost the following fall. Please send an email to parkwoodcg@gmail.com if you're interested.

Summary of Minutes from December 14, 2023 Board Meeting

Call to Order 7:08 pm

Attendance: Felipe Rodriguez, Vickie Wheeler, Richard Evert, Dennis Sharp, Andrew Hunter, Mary Mertz, Marsha Brooks, Marie Dean

Committee Roundtable

Executive Committee - M. Brooks

Executive Committee Minutes 11 Dec. 2023

Marsha Brooks, President
Lawrence Engleman, Vice President
Vickie Wheeler, Secretary
Marie Dean, Treasurer

1. Next EC meeting will be on 9 Jan 24 at 7:30.
2. PPM Representatives. We will arrange for another meeting with PPM for the February EC meeting.
3. Maintenance for Office/Community Center. Two bids received. We are waiting on two more bids to come in.
4. Gunshots on Blanchard... Vickie spoke with Lt Garcia at DPD District 4 to get details on this incident. This was the same home as the first shooting 24 Aug 22, on Blanchard. We are sharing this information with Board members. No complaints were received from any Parkwood homeowner.
5. Policies and documentation.
 - a. We have a spreadsheet that tracks complaints, requests and issues received from homeowners available to all Board members.
 - b. Is anyone aware of any other policies that need to be posted and/or updated?
6. Dead deer. Lessons learned. New vendor, W9, net terms, payment method. How did DOT determine it was too far back from the road?

Minutes approved.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Finance Committee - M. Dean

Nov. 30, 2023 Finance Committee Meeting

The Finance Committee of the PHA held their monthly virtual meeting on Nov. 30, 2023 from 7:00 - 7:25. Attending were Marie Dean, Olga Rodriguez, Marsha Brooks, & Felipe Rodriguez.

The committee reviewed the August report from PPM. Of the 18 accounts that were reported last month who had not paid their 2023 dues, there are 14 remaining past due.

Ganley's office reported there was a filing in September which VCAP codes as "other." To know what the contents of that filing he will go pull the physical file at the Durham County Courthouse and report back to us. The hearing on the motion to stay the foreclosure sale is on Monday December 11.

FC requests the board enter into executive session.

Submitted by: Marie Dean, Treasurer



Tony and Zondra Miller
Owner/Broker
919-616-5212
FrontPorchRealEstateNC.com

**Parkwood Residents
since 1997.
We love working
with our neighbors.**



Parks and Lawns Committee Report - M. Mertz

Minutes for December 4, 2023 PL&BF Committee Meeting

Start Time: 7:05 pm End Time: 8:18 pm
 Attendees: Bill Mitchell, Mike Brooks, Ray Dean, Rob Shoaf, Chris Classen, Mary Mertz, Marie Dean, Andrew Hunter

1. Grounds Maintenance Contract Report (Bill M.)

After extensive discussion, the committee reached a consensus on the common areas it wants Rescue Lawn Care to service in 2024 under Option 2 of the contract. The committee estimated that the additional services it wants done consist of more aggressive control of invasive plants and treating additional areas to control fire ants which will increase the cost of the 2024 contract by approximately \$2,350 over 2023. If this cost estimate is correct, the 2024 contract will probably cost about \$69,000 but certainly less than \$70,000. Bill Mitchell agreed to prepare a Scope of Work for the 2024 contract to reflect the decisions made by the committee and send it to Rescue Lawn Care for its review and a price quote. Bill then introduced the following motion to submit to the Board for approval at its December 2023 meeting:

MOTION: To approve exercising Option 2 of the grounds maintenance contract with Rescue Lawn Care at a cost not to exceed \$70,000 using GL-00531. Seconded. Motion passed.

2. Plantings Maintenance Contract Report (Chris C.)

The committee discussed how to identify who dumped the two piles of wood chips on Travis Circle without HOA approval and how to get the wood chip piles removed. Chris Classen volunteered to follow up. Plantings. Chris reported many dead pansies. Chris will contact Jay Hardy and ask for replacements of dead pansies. Time to clean up day lilies, too. Bushes around our

Parkwood sign need trimming. Chris will follow up,

3. Waterbody Maintenance Contract Report (payment schedule issue resolved)
 Under the contract, Dragonfly Pond Works treats the four water bodies monthly from April to September to remove trash and control algae blooms and other potentially harmful microorganism blooms in the four Parkwood water bodies. Dragonfly Pond Works has proposed to do the 6 monthly waterbody treatments for \$4,162 which represents a 4% increase over 2023. After discussion, Bill Mitchell made the following motion to submit to the Board for approval at its December 2023 meeting:

MOTION: To approve the waterbody maintenance contract with Dragonfly Pond Works for 2024 at a cost of \$4,162 using GL-05072. Seconded. Motion passes.
4. Trail Maintenance Contract (Steven B.)
 Gravel Trails grass takeover management. Bill says Steven is working on it.
5. Tree Removal (Bill M.)
 Bill Mitchell reported that Donald Allen has removed the dead trees behind 106 and 110 Wicklow Lane and is currently removing the brush and trees from the three areas at the dam approved by the Board at its November 2023 meeting. He also identified five other common areas where he has asked Donald to evaluate the condition of one or more trees and to recommend if any need to be removed. Bill reported that the committee has authorized spending \$13,600 of the \$20,000 budget for hazardous tree removal in 2023.
6. Treating White Ash Tree to Prevent Emerald Ash Borer Damage (B. Mitchell)
 - a. Board approved \$636 for Leaf and Limb to treat the tree in February 2024 using 2024 funds.
 - b. Judgment from the arborist is that the tree is healthy.

7. Status Report on Sedwick Park Parking Lot Barriers (Completed November 11, 2023)
Mike thanked the volunteers who helped him install the parking blocks. Mike says he'll add handicap signs.

8. Status Report on Bridge for Crossing Spillway (Durham Planning Review Comments on Second Submittal, Due 12-4-2023)
a. Mike reports the city has changed its pin number system. So plans submitted with the Site Plan Approval application to the City must be resubmitted. Other requested changes are also to be addressed in Third Submittal.
b. Getting close.

9. Status of Sinkhole Repair at 8 Shelter Cove Dragonfly Pond Works plans to make the repair on December 21-22, 2023.
Update: This work is now scheduled for January 8.

10. Old Business:
a. Clogged Drainage Ditch (Sedwick Parking Lot). DOT partially cleaned out. Agreed to let the State take responsibility for keeping it clear.
b. Bill reported that the Board approved Leaf and Limbs' proposal to have their arborist visually inspect all the trees in the 1.8 acre, wooded common area at 4907 Revere Rd and submit a written report to the committee identifying all existing hazardous and potentially hazardous trees and branches at a cost of \$1,200.

11. New Business
a. Status Selection of a Committee Chairperson. Mary has agreed to be "chair."
b. Replace Railroad Ties, Clermont Lake access. Bill says they are functional but badly worn. New project needed.
c. Mike added we need to consider handicap access. Mike will follow up.

Playgrounds Committee - M. Dean

Dec 7, 2023 Playground Committee Meeting

The committee met from 7:00 - 7:45 on December 7. Attending this month's meeting were Ray Dean, Rob Shoaf, Christy Classen, and Marie Dean.

HIDDEN PLAYGROUND: Tether Ball has been replaced & Volley Ball net mended. New Volleyball Net will be put up in the spring.

EUCLID POND PARK: The P&L Committee will have D Allen estimate to clear downed trees visible along the trail from Euclid Pond to Hidden Park Playground.

TOT LOT: The P&L Committee will have D Allen estimate the cost to clear trees that have been cut down and accumulated on the backside of the fence. RLC will clear the holly bushes that are growing back in the flowerbed along the fence before the growth gets out of control.
SEDWICK ROAD PARK: Tether Ball has been replaced.

Motion: The playground committee requests the board approval to hire Precise Paving to remove existing concrete basketball court (30x40), haul away concrete, install concrete forms, and compact base for new basketball court. We'll use the balance remaining from GL Code 00553-00, \$9141.95 and ask the board for the difference from the general fund. (\$758.05) Seconded. Motion passes.

Our January 2024 meeting will be held at 7:00 on Thursday, January 4. Please contact the office administrator for the zoom link if you'd like to attend. (919) 544-2161 or pa.office@parkwoodnc.org

Garden Committee - C. Classen

The garden ended the month with 10.5 volunteer hours. Cleaning up the yard waste continued during the month. Collards are planted. We planted Swiss Chard and red romaine which turned out to be a treat for some critter.

They are now under our winter covers and are coming back. Diane, Debbie, Susan and Chris raked up pine needles from Chris's neighbors yard and spread them in the garden paths. Thinking of what seeds to buy for the spring is next.

Parkwood Press & Social Media - L. Denny

Reminder, the deadline for the next issue of Parkwood Press is the 15th of the month.

Parkwood on Social Media

Our Facebook presence stands at 630 Followers and 548 Likes. Our posts reached 329 people and we had 206 page visits in the past 28 days. There were 2 posts during this time.

ParkwoodNC Google Group

Our group has 879 members. There have been 21 new posts/conversations since our November Board of Directors meeting.

Parkwood on NextDoor

Effective December 14, 2023 the Parkwood

HOA account has been permanently suspended due to not being registered to a real person's name.

Parkland Planning Committee - M. Brooks

Parkland Planning Committee

Minutes for Tuesday, Nov. 21, 2023, 7pm via Zoom

Attendees: Mike Brooks (Chair); Chris Classen, Pete Eisenmann, Steven Berkowitz, Janie Long, Andrew Hunter, Marie Dean, Rob Shoaf

1. Sedwick Park Bridge Updates:
 - a. Extensive revisions to plan documents, per Durham City/County Planning Dept., completed & submitted 10/28.
 - b. UPDATE: Supplemental requirements received 12/4, Zoom meeting held 12/7, revisions completed as of 12/12; also awaiting official sign-off on site plan from Development Services division of the Planning Department and from Building Inspections Department.
 - c. New Parkwood entry signage. Revised designs and support framework discussed; final sign design & structures approved. Pete will investigate permitting requirements and costs, Brooks will obtain price estimates. Committee approved design and structure, and will approach the Board with costs and number of signs at its next meeting.
2. Pelham Rd. Kayak Dock launch assist:
 - a. Board approved purchase at 10/12 meeting; contractor expects to buy and install the device (on the north side of the dock) by the end of December.
3. Old Growth Trail Interpretive Signage project:
 - a. Proposal discussed and accepted; project will begin nearer the springtime with a survey to gain community input. Survey will be made available to trail users and via the Parkwood Press.
4. NEW BUSINESS: Repair of railroad tie steps at N. end of Lake: committee recommends informing the Parks & Lawns Committee.

IS 2024 YOUR Year to Buy or Sell a Home?



5.0 ★★★★★



Mary Garrison, Realtor and Parkwood Neighbor
Block and Associates Realty

919-717-9500 call or text

maryg@blockrealty.com

5. Next meeting: Tuesday, Dec. 19, 7pm via Zoom.

Adjournment at 8:20pm

Events Committee - V. Wheeler

Events Committee Minutes 7 December 2023

The meeting was held virtually through Zoom on 7 Dec 23 from 7:30 - 8:30 pm. Attending were Olga Rodriguez, Tracee Hester and Vickie Wheeler. Initial planning for the next two events were discussed.

The 2024 Easter Egg Hunt will be held 24 March 2024 from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Ideas for activities to be included as well as the need for more volunteers this year was discussed. Olga will create and send a layout to Laura, to be included in the January Parkwood Press. Tracee will provide the cost of expenses of last year's event for planning purposes.

The Spring Flea Market target date is 4 May 2024. This date is tentative pending approval of the Mosque to use their parking lot.

New Business

Minutes Approval

Motion to approve the minutes. Seconded.

Motion passes.

Meeting adjournment

Motion to adjourn. Seconded.

Motion passes.

Board Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Minutes from Parkwood Association board meetings are archived and available on our website. parkwoodnc.org

The next meeting of the Parkwood Association Board of Directors is scheduled for January 11, 2024 at 7:00 pm via Zoom

If you would like to attend as a guest, please email the office, pa.office@parkwoodnc.org no later than January 9.



Contact Our Board and Committees

All Board Members: board@parkwoodnc.org
 President & Officers: executive@parkwoodnc.org
 District Reps: district1@parkwoodnc.org
(be sure to use your district number)



Events Committee: events@parkwoodnc.org
 Finance Committee: finance@parkwoodnc.org
 Garden Committee: garden@parkwoodnc.org
 Meets in the Garden, Sundays 10am
 Parkland Planning: possibilities@parkwoodnc.org
 Meets 3rd Tuesday, 7pm
 Parks, Lawns & Ballfield: parksandlawns@parkwoodnc.org
 Meets 1st Monday, 7pm
 Playgrounds Committee: playgrounds@parkwoodnc.org
 Meets 1st Thursday, 7pm

January 2024

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i> 7pm Playgrounds Committee Mtg	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>7</i> 10am Community Garden Mtg	<i>8</i> 7 pm Parks & Lawns Committee	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i> 7 pm Parkwood BoD Meeting	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>14</i> 10am Community Garden Mtg	<i>15</i> Deadline for Feb Parkwood Press	<i>16</i> 7 pm Parkland Planning Mtg.	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>21</i> 10am Community Garden Mtg	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>
<i>28</i> 10am Community Garden Mtg	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>31</i>			