

VILLAGE GREEN

NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK

HIGHLIGHTS

A Monthly Publication of the VGOA

January 2018

Board of Directors Dec. Meeting News

By Lucy Fried

After two homeowner comments, the Board considered 16 business items, correspondence, DRC recommendations and reports.

Actions included:

Inspectors of 2018 Board Election...

Appointed Rob Creighton chief inspector and approved his appointments of inspectors Mickey Fielding and Heide Oglesby and alternate Michael Schodorf. Former chief inspector Betty Harris was approved as mentor.

Meet the Candidates... Agreed to ask the Court Council to organize "Meet the Candidates" events on January 16 and 20.

Electrical System... Discussed a management proposal for an electrical power grid survey by a licensed electrical engineering firm to determine our existing capacities.

West Circle Oak Tree... Approved a Tree Committee proposal to replace the Oak tree that fell during last winter's storms.

CC&R's... Approved a resolution adding a form to buyers' escrow packages acknowledging they have read and will comply with our CC&R's.

Air Conditioners... Approved a resolution to ask the DRC to recommend specifications and standards for unit air conditioners.

Annual Meeting... Board President Allyn announced that the Annual Meeting will feature a special "Salute to Village Green's Committees" and asked committees to prepare their reports. □

December Manager's Report

By Sherri Giles, Operations Manager

New Maintenance Employee

Management is pleased to announce the hiring of Arthur Lackey. Arthur is forklift-certified and has a background in maintenance. He is cross-training in Village Green procedures and should be a valuable addition to the maintenance team.

Digital Work Order System

Staff will start entering paper work orders into the system to further assess its requirements and processes. The goal is for all owners and renters who so desire to be able to submit electronic work orders by the middle of 2018.



Sherri Giles,
Operations Manager

Blowers

Greencrew is completing a switch from gasoline-powered to battery-operated blowers and is testing their effectiveness and efficiency. This change removes the air pollution caused by the gas blowers. Unfortunately, the decibel level of the electric blowers is not significantly lower than that of the gas blowers. Management continues to work with the vendor to improve training in correct blowing technique.

Residential Painting and Water Lines Re-Piping

Ten buildings were painted in 2017, and nine buildings were re-piped. Building 66 re-piping starts January 3. The re-piping project is expected to extend through March. Replacement of Court 14's exterior water supply lines is scheduled for early next year. Rain could delay the start. Residents and owners will be notified when the schedule is set. □



Best wishes from the Communication Committee for a happy and healthy new year in a peaceful world.

Highlights will not publish in February. Please look for the February-March issue in early March, with coverage of the Board elections and Annual Meeting, including the president, treasurer, and manager's reports.

Public Security Report

Edited by Jordan Deglise Moore

November 10 -December 8, 2017

- Nov 17 VEHICLES VANDALIZED. West Circle, 7:15am.**
Officer discovered three vehicles parked on Rodeo Lane with shattered passenger-side windows. Nothing was taken, and no suspect was seen in the area.
- Nov 17 SOLICITING MONEY. Courts 11-3, 6:35pm.**
Resident reported three male juveniles walking the property and asking for money. Officer asked them to leave, which they did.
- Nov 21 VG PROPERTY DAMAGE. Management office, 7:15pm.** Someone threw a rock through the office window.
- Nov 22 OFFENSIVE ODOR. Court 7, 10:30am.**
Resident reported a foul odor whose source could not be identified.
- Nov 22 BURGLARY FROM VEHICLE. West Circle, time unknown.** Passerby notified officer that all the tires had been stolen from a vehicle.
- Nov 21 Nov 27 SUSPICIOUS PERSON East Circle, 7:34am.**
A resident reported a barefoot man, possibly intoxicated, trying to access her mailbox. An officer found the suspect near the security office and escorted him off the property. □

Foot Beat Schedule

January-March 2018

January

- Saturday, 1/9, 7:00pm:** Meet at Court 6 entrance, walk west section of the Green.
- Friday, 1/12, 10:00am:** Meet at Court 6 entrance, walk central section of the Green.
- Thursday, 1/18, 8:00pm:** Meet at Court 1 entrance, walk east section of the Green.
- Wednesday, 1/24, 9:00am:** Meet at corner of Hauser and Rodeo Road, walk west section of the Green.
- Tuesday, 1/30, 7:00pm:** Meet at Clubhouse, walk central section of the Green.

February & Early March

- Monday, 2/5, 9:00am:** Meet at Clubhouse, walk east section of the Green.
- Tuesday, 2/13, 7:30pm:** Meet at Court 14 entrance, walk west part of the Green.
- Wednesday, 2/21, 9:00am:** Meet at Court 4 entrance, walk central section of Green.
- Thursday, 3/1, 7:00pm:** Meet at Court 4 entrance, walk east section of the Green.
- Friday, 3/9, 10:00am:** Meet at Court 7 entrance, walk west section of the Green. □



ADVISORIES

For things you don't want anymore...

Recycle or Garbage Landfill?

Not sure what goes where? See the big sign posted on the outside wall of your trash area. Please be sure any employees you may have also know.

The blue bin is for recycling; the black one is for garbage.

For more info: www.recyclebycity.com/los-angeles/guide.

Boxes

Be considerate of others using the recycling bin. Please flatten boxes before putting them in.

Stomping on them is fun and flattens boxes easily.



Christmas Trees

Please don't dump your tree in the trash area or anywhere else! Use the bin provided by Maintenance on Rodeo Place near the office until January 9th. □



Armed Robbery at Rodeo and Hauser Prompts Letters, LAPD Response

By Carrie Malcom Tench

A Village Green resident was knocked down and robbed at gunpoint about 7pm, November 28th while walking on Rodeo Road west of Hauser Blvd.

The incident prompted several residents to write letters to LAPD Sergeant Anthony Verret requesting the quick appointment of a new Senior Lead Officer (SLO) for our community. (Our previous SLO was promoted in October, and we have been without one since then.)

On December 14, Safety Committee Chair John Howell was contacted by LAPD Sergeant Verret who said the application period had closed and interviews were beginning. This is a welcome development, since the safety of Village Green and neighboring areas requires a dedicated SLO responsive to community concerns. □

Living with Coyotes *By Lucy Fried and Kelly Wilson Samojlik; photos by Melanee Newkirk*



Los Angeles Animal Services
Officer Hoang Dinh.

Village Green is experiencing a dramatic increase in coyote sightings as these wild animals adapt to their shrinking habitat. Residents have been awakened at night by horrific sounds as smaller animals became prey, and the mutilated remains of up to 10 cats have been reported.

Most importantly, coyotes are showing less fear of humans here. In several interactions this autumn, they ignored human attempts to scare them away, or they left but returned minutes later. In at least one instance, coyotes attacked a leashed dog despite walkers' attempts to repel them. The coyotes retreated only after Public Security arrived and intervened.

Must we live with coyotes? If so, how can we continue to enjoy our grounds freely? To address these questions, Court Council invited Animal Services Officer Hoang Dinh (L.A. Angeles Department of Animal Services) to speak at an information meeting last November.

How to Live with Coyotes

Officer Dinh said that local, state, and federal governments are not required (or not permitted) to kill or trap and resettle coyotes, but that private citizens and businesses can hire trappers. With residents' opinions on trapping varied, unless something changes, we must learn how to live with coyotes, as people in other parts of Los Angeles are doing.

The key to living with coyotes, Dinh stressed, is to keep them afraid of humans.

"Don't leave food or water outside... Coyotes are naturally afraid of humans. When you see a bold coyote, it means someone is feeding it... Feeding them makes them unnaturally bold and results in conflicts that usually end in harm or even death.

Feeding a coyote is the worst thing you can do. Coyotes are wild animals, omnivorous and very opportunistic predators. They have a place in nature as wild animals, and we need to keep them wild.... There is a penalty of \$1,000 for feeding a wild mammal predator."

How Each of Us Can Help When Outside

Dinh gave the following advice when going outside with or without a pet:

- Be prepared - bring a long stick or umbrella and something that makes noise; gather some stones or sticks;
- If you see a coyote, don't ignore it or turn away - follow and even chase it;
- Make the coyote uncomfortable - use the stick or umbrella to make yourself look taller; throw the sticks and stones;
- Make noise - yell for people to come out of their buildings and join you; bang something, jingle keys, etc.;
- Remember, there is dominance in numbers;
- Don't stop the hazing until the coyote has left the Green.

Protecting the Kids, Walking the Dog, Letting the Cat Out

Toddlers are vulnerable to coyote attacks. "Small children should never be left alone outside," said Officer Dinh, and added that older children should be taught the same "hazing" techniques mentioned above.

Many coyote sightings have been reported by residents walking their dogs. Dinh's advice: don't let dogs off-leash; don't use leashes longer than six feet; vary the routine so the coyotes can't "plan ahead."

Dinh urged cat owners to keep their pets in at all times or walk them on a short leash. Coyotes can smell food a mile away and are learning that fewer people are around during the day.

We must adapt to the reality of today's coyotes at Village Green. If we don't take the steps Officer Dinh advised, he said, "we are 'training' these animals not to be scared of us."



VGOA Events Calendar

Owners, January and February are the most important months in your HOA's calendar. Exercise your basic rights and responsibilities as an owner by voting in the Board election and attending the February 3rd Annual Meeting.

If you haven't yet received your information packet by mail, please check with the office.

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

2018

January Board Meeting:

Tuesday, January 23, 7:00pm - Clubhouse

Meet the Candidates Forums:

Tuesday, January 16th, 6:30pm - Clubhouse

Saturday, January 20th, 10:00am - Clubhouse

Last chance to turn board election ballots in to office:

Friday, February 2nd, 5:00pm sharp - Office or Office Mail Slot.
Ballots brought later than 5:00pm will not be counted.

Annual Meeting: Saturday, February 3rd, 10:00am - Baldwin Hills Elementary School Auditorium

Election Ballots may be brought to the school until noon.

Envelope opening and counting will take place in early afternoon at the Clubhouse. □

Good Times at 2017 Holiday Party



Photos by Melanee Newkirk

Brr... Bring on the Heat!

By Lucy Fried, with appreciation to Facilities Engineer Martin Breit

Is Your Condo Cold? Furnace Pilot Light Out?

Many furnaces (heaters) in Village Green are powered by gas and require a manually lit pilot light. Maintenance has received several work orders from residents to have their furnace pilot lights lit. Southern California Gas Company performs this service and does not charge for it.



Before lighting the furnace, the Gas Company technician will inspect it to be sure it is working properly and safely. Among other things, they will look at the combustion fuel control and vent drafting, which is responsible for carrying off the carbon monoxide from spent fuel. If the condition of the furnace is not approved, they will not light the pilot. You may need to contact a licensed and certified electrician if you are in this situation.

Buying a New Furnace?

When purchasing a new furnace, consider carefully *before* choosing a "high efficiency" model. The industry recommendation for residences in our climate zone is 35-40 BTU's per square foot of living space, i.e., 35,000 - 40,000 BTU's for a 1,000 square foot home.

Many but not all contractors do installations as well as repairs.

If your new furnace is a direct replacement for your old one, it will not be necessary to submit an application to the Design Review Committee. A "like for like" furnace will attach to the existing fuel supply, venting and duct/plenum connections.

If your new furnace is not a direct replacement, you will need to submit it to the DRC for review, and you will need a permit. Expect to wait at least two months until all approvals are granted.

Please contact Martin Breit, our facilities engineer, for suggestions if you are experiencing issues with a non-working furnace and are confused about how to replace it. □

Thanks, Cultural Affairs Committee and Drinks on the Green!

