

Bush Prairie News

March 2015

Our mission, as the Bush Prairie Homeowners Association, is to enhance the value and desirability of all real property within the association and promote the health, safety and welfare of our residents, while fostering a friendly and neighborly community.

Board Members

President

Stephen Manning 350-9816

Vice President

Chris Meyers 515-0168

Board Members

Roger Fish 753-7100

Karina Murphy 943-0603

Richard Daniels 943-0603

Officers

Secretary

Terry Kirkpatrick 943-3293

Treasurer

Bill Moneer 870-9745

Committees

Architectural Control Committee

Richard Daniels 943-0603

Emergency Preparedness Comm.

Alida Abbott 705-0461

Landscape & Maintenance

Steve Regester 515-0695

Mailbox Committee

Roger Fish 753-7100

Newsletter Committee

Bill Moneer

Recreation Committee

Karina Murphy 943-0603

Webmaster

Dave Phillipone

Welcoming Committee

Jeanne Kirkpatrick 943-3293

Tammy Greenwell 570-2205

<http://www.bushprairie.com>

BUSH PRAIRIE ANNEXATION INTO CITY OF TUMWATER

The Bush Prairie Homeowners Association Board of Directors has appointed a liaison committee for the Annexation and the related issue of the Trails End Stables property which the city has purchased. This is the committee's first report.....**TENTATIVE DATE FOR ANNEXATION**---January 1, 2016.

TAXES---The full effect of the annexation on taxes has not been determined. While it is expected to be minimal the committee will not speculate on this issue until firmer information is available. The cost to individual owners will vary with the assessed valuation of their properties. Additional information will be promulgated upon receipt.....**POLICE PROTECTION**—The ratio of manpower per population is approximately double that of the county so police protection should be increased.....**FIRE PROTECTION**—There is a high degree of mutual support among local fire-fighting organizations. This will continue and the change will not be noticeable to BP residents. Tumwater will assume the role of "Incident Commander" for fires within Bush Prairie. Outside fires will be banned or restricted.....**PARKS**—Bush Prairie will continue to own and operate the Bowl, the Meadow and the Forrest Walk Trail. These will not become city parks.....**TRAILS END STABLE AREA**—The city intends to move its public works shops into this area. However, this will use only a small portion of the property. The existing buildings will probably be torn down. Among the ideas under consideration for the area are (a) a park 'n ride facility, (b) a meeting room available to the public for organizations such as the Bush Prairie Homeowners Association, and (c) a city park on a portion of the property.....**SEWER HOOKUP**—This will not be required. Existing septic systems can continue in use.

WHAT ARE YOUR IDEAS?—If you have concerns or suggestions related to the annexation or the development of the stable area, please send them to Frank Hensley at his email frankhens2@comcast.net.

Easter Egg Hunt-Hop Right Down to The Meadow!

The Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be on **Saturday, April 4, 2015 starting at NOON Sharp in The Meadow near 1739 Arab Drive**. The Easter Hunt will be held RAIN OR SHINE! The Easter Egg Hunt is open to children up to 10 years old. Bring a basket for your eggs and prizes. Pizza, drinks, and cookies will be served. There will be a separate Easter Hunt area for children 4 years and under. Additionally, there will be an egg toss, egg/spoon relay, bunny hop, bean bag toss, and a small duck pond. Please be prompt as the Easter Egg Hunt kicks off right at noon! The Easter Bunny and the Recreation Chairman are looking for kind-hearted neighbors (adult or teenager) to help where possible. Egg Hunt volunteer meeting will be on Friday, March 13 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. **If you can help, please contact Karina Murphy-Daniels 253-820-8746 as soon as possible.**

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HOA Treasurer to be filled by Management Company:

Last year, the Board sent out a letter to all Bush Prairie residents asking for applicants to fill the seat of Treasurer. Current treasurer, Bill Moneer, is seeking to step down after his many years of dedicated service. Although we did get some interest in the position, we were not able to find anyone to make the time commitment necessary to fill Bill's position. The duties that Bill did for the Board are too numerous to list in this article, but some of his duties include: invoicing and collecting HOA dues from homeowners; tracking, assessing finance charges and seeking to collect on delinquent accounts; preparing monthly financial reports for HOA meetings; attending monthly HOA meeting and updating the Board on the financial position of the HOA; preparing yearly budgets; working with title and escrow companies when Bush Prairie properties sell; and tracking and paying vendor expenses. The Board has looked into various ways to fill these important duties. Having found no Bush Prairie residents to fill this role, we explored hiring a non-profit bookkeeper, but found many of Bill's duties would go unmet. Right now, the Board will likely hire an independent HOA management company to take over this role. Our preliminary research indicates that a property management company can fill many of the duties that we are seeking and can improve upon the processes that we currently have. Some of these companies have secure websites that each homeowner would have to track their HOA dues and payments. These companies can greatly streamline the HOA dues collection process for us and manage third party vendor payments. These companies do come at an increased cost over and above what we had been used to paying in the past for Bill's services. However, Given the Board's extensive search over the past six months, we feel that hiring a management company is the best option available to us. If you have questions or concerns, please call Stephen Manning at 350-9816.

December 2014 Meeting:

Stephen Manning was elected President and Chris Meyers was elected Vice President at the December 2014 meeting. They will each serve during the 2015 year. Board meetings are held on a monthly basis usually on the second Thursday of each month. Come join us! Each month we go over the budget, various committee reports, and other business that affects you and your neighbors.

The date, time and location of each board meeting will be updated each month on the Bush Prairie HOA website as well as on Facebook. Have you been to the website yet? Go to bushprairie.com if not. One of the Board's goals this year is to update this website to make it more current and useful. Still, the current website has useful information such as past board meeting minutes, covenants, past newsletters and a calendar. Ever wondered when recycling will be collected or how to contact the ACC for approval for your next construction project? The website will answer those questions for you. Check it out and let us know how we can make the website better for you!

Mark your calendars for BPHA 2015 Events

Easter Egg Hunt - April 4th
Garage Sale - June 5th & 6th
Summer Picnic - TBD

