



ORCHARD HILLS-MAPLEWOOD HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

www.ohmha.org

OHMHA NEWSLETTER

May 2022

OHMHA General Meeting and Election

**Guest Speaker: Milton Dohoney Jr.,
City Administrator**

Wednesday, June 8 at 7:00 pm

In-Person at OHAC Pool*

Program:

- Overview of OHMHA's activities
- Election of next year's Board members and approval of OHMHA's annual budget
- Milton Dohoney Jr. speaks on his role and plans as City Administrator, followed by an opportunity for discussion.



** In case of bad weather, watch your emails for a Zoom link.*

**Neighborhood
Garage Sale
Saturday, June 11, 2022
Starting 9am**



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OHMHA Proposed 2022-2023 Budget

	Balances as of 4-19-2022
General Fund	\$9,398
Legal Fund	\$3,834
Total Assets	\$13,232

	Budget 2021-2022	Expenses 2021-2022 (as of 4-19-2022)	Proposed Budget 2022-2023
Transfer from General Fund to Georgetown Entrance Fund	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$0
Income	\$4,200	\$3,849	\$4,200
Interest	\$0	\$0	\$0
Annual Dues and Contributions	\$4,200	\$3,849	\$4,200
General Expenses	\$5,140	\$584	\$5,840
Grounds Maintenance	\$200	\$70	\$200
Neighborhood Social Events	\$2,800	\$0	\$2,800
Newsletter Expenses	\$900	\$0	\$900
Garage Sale	\$300	\$205	\$300
Organizational Fee	\$25	\$0	\$25
Website Fees	\$200	\$309	\$200
Donation for Park Improvements	\$500	\$0	\$1,000
Room Rentals for School use	\$15	\$0	\$15
Candidates Night	\$200	\$0	\$400
Liability from Previous Year	\$0	\$0	\$0

Vote in OHMHA Annual Election

WHO:

You are eligible to vote if you have paid your 2021-2022 dues. Not a member but want to vote? Simply pay your 2021-2022 dues and then cast your ballot!

DEADLINE: June 8, 2022

HOW:

See instructions on page 7.

DUES:

After June 8, we will be accepting dues (\$20) for the 2022-23 fiscal year (6/1-5/31).

WHY JOIN OHMHA?

Your dues directly support our neighborhood by financing such projects as entryway landscaping and signage, newsletters, website costs, garage sale publicity, Fall Festival, and more. ■

Join us at OHAC Pools

- by Bo Bunnell

The Orchard Hills Athletic Club (OHAC) is a separate organization from Orchard Hills Maplewood Homeowners Association (OHMHA). Pool news is included here as a neighborhood courtesy.

OHAC is getting ready for 2022 and looking forward to a great summer season at both of our neighborhood pools- OHAC (2300 Yorktown) and Dolfin (2050 Prairie)! We hope you neighbors will consider enjoying our improving facilities and the many programs that our pools have to offer. Free programs (included with membership) include lap swimming and yoga on the Dolfin lawn. Other programs are offered to members at a reduced rate, including swim and dive team, group swim lessons, and introduction to water polo. And, of course, hours and hours of open swim each day! We also have a busier social calendar planned this summer, with food trucks and Wine-Down Wednesday, among others.



Five types of memberships can now be purchased online at our website- www.ohacpool.org. All memberships purchased before May 15 will be granted an early-bird discount! Members also have the opportunity to rent our pools for private parties- often popular for children's birthday events. We are grateful for so many people that have already purchased memberships in the first 10 days they were offered. We appreciate your understanding of our difficult decision to raise membership fees to reflect our need to remain competitive with other Ann Arbor pools (including the City) for lifeguard pay. We simply cannot run the pools without lifeguards and labor represents one of the largest expenses in our annual budget.

We look forward to seeing you Opening Day on Saturday, May 28 of Memorial Day weekend!■



Question:

How do I get on the OHMHA neighborhood email list so I can stay up to date on what's happening in the neighborhood?

Solution:

Go to www.ohmha.org/contact

Enriching Our Parks

By Jane Klingsten

Thurston Nature Center Antietam Native Plant Gardening

Cub Scout Pack 3123 will be doing a service project planting native plants for the Thurston Nature Center in May near the Antietam Drive stairway entrance. All kids in grades Y5-5 are welcome to connect if they're interested in cub scouting or in the event. Email Jane Klingsten, j@coldstripe.com.

For more **Thurston Nature Center News**, please visit their website at <https://thurstonnaturecenter.info/>. To see the March and April 2022 newsletters, go to <https://thurstonnaturecenter.info/newsletters/>

Pollinator Garden Project

The Adopt-A-Park program met with an OHMHA representative in developing a small Pollinator garden design for Sugarbush Park near the basketball court entrance. Watch for an upcoming planting day this summer. Please email gardening@a2gov.org if you are interested in participating.

Sugarbush Park

At the recent Community Forum, concerns were raised about the condition of Sugarbush Park. Major renovations of the Park in the City's Parks and Open Space maintenance plan have been delayed by the COVID crisis. Despite stopgap measures done last summer, OHMHA residents asked Council Member Kathy Griswold for help getting play equipment fixed so it's safer.

OHMHA is also working on facilitating the renovation of the picnic table in poor condition at Sugarbush Park, and a donation to add a short segment sidewalk access for strollers and wheelchairs. The picnic table (see photos) is by the smaller playscape, commonly used by younger families in the neighborhood. ■

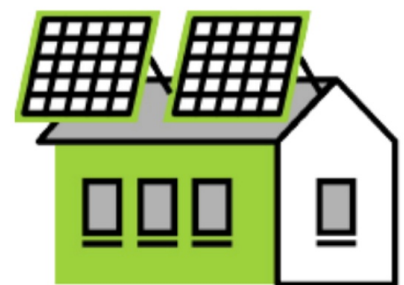


Time to rennovate this Sugarbush Park picnic table.

Solarize!

by Jane Klingsten

Are you interested in solar energy for your home? OHMHA hosted a successful Solar webinar in August 2021. We've had a few requests for additional info sharing on the topic. If you would like to attend an information session on Solar hosted by OHMHA Board member Jane Klingsten, please email Wendy Carman at wjcarman@umich.edu ■



Upcoming 2022 Candidates Forums

By Peter Mooney

Ann Arbor's first mayor, George Sedgwick, was elected in 1851 as a member of the Whig Party. The Whigs are no more, but there will be elections for mayor and city council this year. The Orchard Hills Maplewood Homeowners Association (OHMHA) has organized forums in contested city elections for decades, typically for the 2nd Ward, where all of the homes in OHMHA are situated, but also for mayoral races.

It initially appeared that there would be a contested Democratic primary for one of the two 2nd Ward city council seats, between incumbent Kathy Griswold and challenger Chris Watson. However, Griswold dropped out of the race in April, leaving Watson the only candidate in the August 2 primary.



An OHMHA-sponsored candidates forum in 2017

That said, there will be a mayoral Democratic primary featuring incumbent mayor Christopher Taylor and former 1st ward councilmember

Anne Bannister. Both candidates have expressed interest in taking part in an OHMHA-sponsored forum. Our hope is to schedule that forum in late June or early July. We'll provide additional detail regarding the time, date and format via our listserv and Facebook page as those issues are worked out.■

Welcome to the Neighborhood Initiative

OHMHA's "Welcome to the Neighborhood" initiative makes it easier for new families to find out information about our neighborhood and to feel at home. The way it works is that an OHMHA Board member or other neighbor stops by with a page of helpful information and website links.

If you are aware of new neighbors moving in, please contact OHMHA Board member Jerry Schulte (schulte6@comcast.net) with a street address so that we can be sure to welcome them. ■



Community Gathers on Zoom for Annual Forum

by Wendy Carman

The Community Forum was held Sunday March 20, 2022 on Zoom. The purpose of this event is to build bridges between community organizations.

A few highlights:

- **OHMHA** board president Wendy Carman presented slides of the history of the Homeowners' Association starting with the early 1960's, the 1980's letters of incorporation, including by-laws that currently set out the association's purposes (see OHMHA.org/by-laws).
- Praveena Ramaswami, representing the **Bromley neighborhood** reported on the upgrade to Bromley Park, that included the installation of the City's first Dual swing.
- The **OHAC and Dolfen Pools** were represented by Bo Bunnell, the president of the OHAC. The pools offer open swim, swim and dive teams, and likely water polo and water yoga.
- Sandy Rao represented the **Clague Middle School PTO**. Clague is seeking a new principal as the former principal, Mr. Che Carter, was promoted to be principal to Huron High.
- **Thurston Elementary School PTO** president Grace Chae reported that they have been looking for volunteers to be playground monitors at lunch time. Neighborhood residents who are interested in contributing to the PTO can do so through programs at Kroger, Busch's, and Amazon where a small percent of the purchases would be donated to the PTO.
- The **Thurston Players** have been putting on plays for 48 years. Their president, Praveena Ramaswami, reported that they are experiencing serious challenges. They have had a hiatus of 3 years because of COVID and now planned construction at Clague means they may not be able to find space to put on any play next year.
- It was announced that the **Thurston Nature Center (TNC)** Committee Chair, Elizabeth Morehead, is stepping down and the TNC is looking for new volunteers.
- Wendy Carman discussed planning efforts for **Sugarbush Park** improvements.

Many thanks to all the speakers and all the neighbors who tuned in and participated. ■



Mural at Clague Middle School

Stuart Baggaley - In Memoriam

On March 19, 2022, Stuart Baggaley passed away at 96. Stuart was a long-time resident of neighborhood, and a valued member of the OHMHA board from 2005-2010. Stuart leaves behind his widow Amy Seetoo, who currently serves on the OHMHA board. Stuart was a wonderful neighbor, friend and board member, and we send our condolences to Amy and his family. A more detailed obituary is found on the OHMHA website <http://www.ohmha.org/stuart-baggaley.html>. ■

OHMHA 2022 Election

All residents who are paid members for the 2021-2022 fiscal year are eligible to vote, one vote per household.

OHMHA BOARD MEMBERS: The following candidates have been nominated for board membership, and would serve a two-year term (2022-2024). Please vote for up to six candidates.

_____ Jack Cederquist
_____ Brad Pritts
_____ Steve Stancroff
_____ Joe Trulik
_____ write-in _____
_____ write-in _____

If submitting **write-in candidates**, please make sure they are eligible for board membership (that is, they are current OHMHA members, and you have their permission to submit their name).

If you are interested in becoming a board member yourself, please contact Wendy Carman at wjcarman@umich.edu. We are actively recruiting new board members!

PROPOSED BUDGET for 2022-2023 (see page 2)

_____ Approve _____ Do not approve

HOW TO VOTE (by June 8, 2022)

- Vote online at <http://www.ohmha.org/ballot.html>
- Drop off or mail to Dave Hibbs, 3196 Lexington, Ann Arbor, MI 48105

ORCHARD HILLS - MAPLEWOOD HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR June 1, 2022 - May 31, 2023

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Amt Paid _____

Email _____ ☐ Please remove me from email list

Dues are \$20 yearly. Additional Donations welcome. We also welcome suggestions and/or offers to volunteer on OHMHA projects.

TO PAY DUES: Mail or deliver dues to:

Dave Hibbs, OHMHA Board Member, 3196 Lexington, 48105

or

Pay OHMHA dues online via Paypal, see www.ohmha.org

OHMHA BOARD MEMBERS

Wendy Carman	2340 Georgetown	761-8693	President (wjcarman@umich.edu)
Greg Jagst	2080 Yorktown	846-6332	Vice President
Dave Hibbs	3196 Lexington	205-8993	Treasurer
Peter Mooney	3352 Yellowstone	213-0440	Secretary
Emily Eisbruch	2561 Bunker Hill	665-0533	Newsletter (eisbruchs@gmail.com)
Anne Karabakal	2405 Bunker Hill	669-2084	Webmaster
Jerry Schulte	3334 Yellowstone	668-2590	Welcome to Neighborhood Coordinator
Amy Seetoo	3111 Cedarbrook	332-0390	
Joe Trulik	2529 Bunker Hill	761-5561	
Jane Klingsten	2750 Georgetown	369-2348	
Jack Cederquist	2145 Ardenne	665-2282	

ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

Christopher Taylor (Mayor)	794-6165	CTaylor@a2gov.org
Kathy Griswold (Council Member, Ward 2)	657-7900	KGriswold@a2gov.org
Linh Song (Council Member, Ward 2)	210-1396	LSong@a2gov.org

How do I get on the neighborhood email list? go to www.ohmha.org/contact

How to "like" the OHMHA Facebook page? <https://www.facebook.com/ohmhaneighborhood/>

OHMHA
2340 Georgetown
Ann Arbor, MI 48105
www.ohmha.org

**Thank you to everyone
who supported us in
2021-2022. Pay your
2022-2023 dues today
via the dues form in
this newsletter or via
paypal
(paypal.me/OHMHA)**



NEWSLETTER

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