

The Good Life...

--- Published by Tamarack Trails Community Services Association ---
(608) 833-1615 – www.tamaracktrails.com / Office Hours M - F 9 am- 4 pm, or by Appointment

February 2023

Meeting Calendar

Meetings are open to all residents

Architectural Review Board
Wednesday, February 8 – 4:00pm

Maintenance Committee
Tuesday, February 14 – 4:00pm

Resident Activities Committee
Wednesday, February 15 – 5:00pm

Finance Committee
Wednesday, February 15 – 4:00pm

Board of Directors
Tuesday, February 28 – 6:30pm

Amenities Committee
Tuesday, April 11, 2023 – 10:30am

Event Calendar
(Please mark your calendars)

OFFICE HOURS
Monday- Friday
9 am – 4 pm
Or by appointment

Stacey Haberman
Association Manager
Stacey.Haberman@tamaracktrails.com

Jean Hilgers,
Office Manager
Jean.hilgers@tamaracktrails.com

Current News

Ease winter isolation and keep up on neighbors' news if you are away: Join the Facebook Group!

The **Tamarack Trails Neighbors** Facebook Group welcomes new members with camaraderie and neighborly advice. In recent weeks, there have been photos from the holiday party, plant exchanges, items for sale or for free, new contractor and handyman services announced, and news on city actions that could change our quality of life.

If you are a Facebook member, joining the Group is simple. You can [click here](#) for instructions to join the Tamarack Trails Neighbors Facebook Group. The name you tap is **Tamarack Trails Neighbors**. Then tap **Join Group** when you get to the page.

Neighbors, who are moderators, will verify your residence in Tamarack and approve your membership in the group within a day or so. Our group is private, which means only members can see who belongs and what they talk about.

If you are not yet a Facebook member, [click here](#) for easy instructions to join Facebook. You will need to share your name and your email. You can make up a pseudonym such as Joseph Robert or Retired Gal Sam. You will need to submit a working email. You do not have to fill out a profile or give Facebook any additional information to join the Group. Once you are a member, [Click here](#) to get instructions on how to join a group. The name you tap is **Tamarack Trails Neighbors**.

For questions, contact Ellen Foley at ellen.madaline@gmail.com or 608-444-7065.

Update Your Contact Information for the Office and 2023 Tamarack Directory

We would like to update both our phone number and email contact information for all residents. An information update form appears at the end of this newsletter. If you are a new Tamarack resident or recently changed your phone number or email address, please fill out the form and return it to the Tamarack office by February 10th. Your name and contact information can also be submitted via email to: jean.hilgers@tamaracktrails.com. **Email addresses are not published** and are used only for Tamarack internal communications.

Board and Committee Business

Board Notes for 1/24/23 meeting.

The Board of Directors met in-person and by Zoom on January 24. All directors and Association Manager Stacey Haberman were present, as were 22 residents. The Treasurer reviewed Tamarack's financial report and President Ryerson addressed several topics. This month the major discussion topics centered on the revised Book of Standards, IT issues, and city zoning/regulations that may affect Tamarack.

Tamarack's Treasurer, Larry White, and board liaison George Jesien discussed the latest financial report. The operating expenses for 2022 were \$125,000 under budget primarily due to staff vacancies and lower insurance costs. Reserve funds are below the target minimum due to this year's stock market performance, but we expect our long-term investment strategy and HOA fees will accommodate the downturn. The funds transferred to Edward Jones for investment in various instruments are expected to earn about \$700 monthly.

Stacey Haberman, Association Manager, reported on several issues including very positive meetings with residents, her orientation to Tamarack, and a review of all contracts. In addition, 78 residents have signed up for chimney inspection/cleaning. She also presented a proposal for flying squirrel exclusion from a property. Flying squirrels are a protected species so this requires specific measures. The proposal was approved by the board.

Jacobs reported that the Architectural Review Board (ARB) is ready to present revisions to the Book of Standards. Informational meetings are scheduled for January 27, 28, and 30, and notices will be sent to residents. A full public hearing and review is scheduled for February 16 and 18. Jacobs also noted that the ARB is seeking more members. Ryerson added that multiple Tamarack committees need more members, and there will be a notice in The Good Life for how to get involved.

Steinbach moved for board approval of Kendra Gurnee and Denise Merkin as new members of the Welcoming Committee. This was passed.

President Ryerson suggested a review of rental policies for Tamarack facilities including the Clubhouse, pool and courts, and Tamarack rental agreements. The primary concern is to ensure that the system is fair to residents. Janet Hirsch suggested the creation of an ad hoc group of residents to review. To general agreement, several board and audience members urged that we do not get too deep in the weeds with this, and to be very clear what problem is being solved. Ryerson tasked Haberman, White, Jacobs and Meyer to work on this issue.

President Ryerson noted that on Thursday he will get an update from the Solar Panel Ad Hoc Committee about what Tamarack has done to date and what we might do as individuals and as an association.

There was discussion of a report and proposal for updated IT technology, including web services, from Nathan Wielgosh, WildDesign Studios, LLC (they are currently managing our IT services). Meyer and others agreed with much of the report but noted that there is some dissatisfaction with the web site, there are many companies that do this work, and we should look broadly for vendors. Resident attendees noted that "communications" has been a concern for over a decade, and that Tamarack should pay closer because new, younger residents have high expectations of technology, web, etc. Steinbach noted there has been some work done over the past few years but little result to date. There was general agreement that technology and communications are a critical and rapidly moving area. Ryerson tasked Haberman, Jesien and Steinbach, with additional resident input, to work on this issue.

Meyer noted that the city is making zoning and other changes that may affect Tamarack. Conversion to rental properties is an example, and we need to look at current bylaws and seek counsel if needed. President Ryerson tasked Meyer to compile a list of topics/issues.

President Ryerson noted that there is a public forum about the city West Side plan on February 9. An announcement will be sent to Tamarack residents. In the future Haberman will sign up for city messages and updates.

Steinbach and Jesien reported that a resident listening session will be held on February 9, 2023.

The meeting adjourned at 7:25. The next board meeting will be at 6:30 pm on February 28.


Committee Members Needed

Be engaged in enhancing “The Good Life” by joining one of Tamarack’s Committees. Vacancies now exist on the Finance, Resident Activities, and Human Resources committees and also on the Architectural Review Board. If you are interested in serving on any of these teams, please submit your interest and a brief biography to the Association Office on or before February 10.

If you have any questions about the work of the committees, feel free to contact the Association Office or committee chairs: Finance –Tom Ferris; Resident Activities-Board Liaison James Steinbach; Human Resources-Dean Ryerson; Architectural Review Board- Christina Finet.

Help Wanted

The Board of Directors has appreciated more resident attendance at Board meetings following the decision to allow residents to attend the meetings either on-line or in-person. However, managing the Zoom meeting is currently handled by members of the Board, which can be a distraction to them when conducting Board business. The Board is seeking residents who will handle the Zoom and camera functions during Board meetings. If you are interested, please contact the Association office.

	<h2>Mark Your Calendars!</h2> <h3>ARB Book of Standards Public Hearings</h3>
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REMINDER: The two Public Hearings for the rewrite of the Book of Standards will be held on two separate days to accommodate resident schedules. These presentations will include more detail than the three mini sessions held in late January.

You choose to attend one:

Zoom from the comfort of your home on Thurs. Feb. 16 beginning at 6:30 pm).

Attend an in-person presentation at the Clubhouse on Sat. Feb. 18 beginning at 1:30 pm).

A Zoom invite will be emailed prior to the meeting along with any attachments. Questions?, contact Jean MacCubbin (citizenjean2@gmail.com) or Christina Finet (cfinet3@gmail.com).

Consider Gardening in 2023

Think warmer weather. Before you know it spring will be here, and if it is spring it means gardening is just around the corner. The Tamarack Garden Committee extends an invitation to all residents to consider gardening in 2023. Why? Many benefits! In addition to watching something grow, there is nothing like enjoying fresh vegetables. — lettuce, onion, tomato, radishes, beans, peas, beets, and much more. Give it some thought. A flyer with specifics on gardening will be available in March and you can sign up then.

Activites and Events



Tam Talk Thank You

The Residents Activities Committee would like to thank Dean Ryerson (right) for sharing his travel experiences to Poland with the residents of Tamarack. Dean traveled to Poland with the Rotary International Friendship Exchange Program and learned about their culture, history, food, and drink first-hand, while staying with families. He also discussed the plight of Ukrainian refugees and the impact they are having on Poland. It was awesome to learn more about Poland from his unique perspective!

Thanks again, Dean

The 2022-2023 Tam Talks Series

The Mystery of DARK MATTER

Wayne Koska, Ph.D.

Have you seen news stories about searches for Dark Matter and wondered ‘What are they talking about?’ or ‘Why should I care?’. Scientists are confident that Dark Matter exists but despite over 40 years of experimental searching have not been able to determine what it is. In this talk I will try to explain in simple terms the evidence for the existence of Dark Matter, what scientists are doing to figure out what it is, and why it is important.



When: Thursday, February 9

Time: 7 PM - 8 PM

Where: Tamarack Clubhouse

Sponsored by Tamarack Resident Activities Committee

Power comes not from knowledge kept but from knowledge shared.

Bill Gates

(Reminder: Tam Talks are loosely patterned on Ted Talks. It gives Tamarack residents an opportunity to share personal areas of knowledge or experience that is of interest to their neighbors. The talks can vary in length from 15 minutes to 60 minute

Seasonal Reminders & Projects

Residential Outdoor Post Lights

Does your outdoor residential post light stay on during the day? If so, this increases your monthly electricity bill, and wastes energy. Your post light may need the light sensor changed so it turns off during the day. Please put in a work order in Appfolio, or contact the Tamarack office at 608-833-1615 and ask to have the light sensor replaced. This could not only save you some money, but it saves energy too.

Tamarack Trails Directory & Email Update Form

*For new residents and any changes to existing listings.
Return completed form to the Tamarack office by February 10th*

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Name(s): _____

(as you wish it to appear in the 2022 Directory):

Cell phone numbers and email addresses are for internal office communication with residents. They will not be sold or published.

	Name	Cell Phone	Email
1			
2			
3			
4			

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Tamarack Trails Ice Melt Order Form

Please submit this form along with your payment to the Tamarack office. The ice melt will be delivered to your doorstep the following day.

Address _____

Qty _____ 20 lb. Bag(s) @ \$6.00 = \$_____