

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

June 2023

Meeting Calendar

Meetings are open to all residents

Architectural Review Board

Wednesday, June 14 – 4:00pm

Maintenance Committee

Tuesday, June 13 – 4:00pm

Resident Activities Committee

Wednesday, June 14 – 5:00pm

Finance Committee

Wednesday, June 21 – 3:00pm

Board of Directors

Tuesday, June 27 – 6:30pm

Amenities Committee

Monday, June 26 – 1:00pm

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

Website Focus Group

The Board of Directors invites you to be part of a focus group to review and to provide suggestions to improve the Tamarack Trails website. The sessions are open to anyone interested in offering suggestions. We would also welcome anyone who has had experience in designing a website or served as a webmaster.

In person: Monday, June 19 at 6:30 pm in the upper level of the Clubhouse.

Zoom: Monday, June 26 at 6:30 pm.

There are 2 requirements:

1) that you look at the current website prior to the focus group (<https://www.tamaracktrails.com>) and also login to the Resident Dashboard (<https://www.tamaracktrails.com/dashboard>) and view those pages

2) for either session, we ask that you register by sending an email to James Steinbach at jsteinb@gmail.com. For the Zoom session, registrants will receive a link.

If you're unable to attend, you can also send your thoughts to the same email address.

Clubhouse Fees

Tamarack currently charges \$40 to rent the clubhouse for private events which include non-residents. Several groups use the clubhouse for recurring events such as card clubs, book clubs or fitness classes. In lieu of the full \$40 fee, it has been Tamarack's practice to allow free use if the group is comprised only of Tamarack residents, but to charge each participant \$1 if any non-residents attend. The \$1 fee was established when the full rental fee was \$25. This practice has generated several recent complaints.

At its April meeting, the Board of Directors asked the Amenities Committee to review the practice and recommend any changes they believed were necessary. Amenities has recommended a change and the Board will discuss and vote on that recommendation at its June 27 meeting. As always, residents are invited to attend and present comments.

The Amenities Committee has recommended a written policy to charge each non-resident participant in recurring events a user fee of \$3 per event, with no charge for participating residents. The total charged to any group for a single event would not exceed the clubhouse rental fee of \$40. The rationale for the change is that residents already pay for clubhouse maintenance through their assessments and a modest user fee is appropriate for non-residents.

Activities and Events

Tamarack Water Aerobics Classes for 2023 Season

It is never too early to think about making a Big Splash and gaining some health benefits* while exercising with your Tamarack neighbors right here at the Tamarack Pool.

*Hours of Fun * Increased Range of Motion * Stronger Muscles * Improved Physical Health*
 * Improved Mental Health * Better Heart Rate * Time Spent Outside *
 * Getting Some Vitamin D * Getting to Know Your New Neighbors*

Morning Classes

9:00 - 9:50 a.m.
 Monday, Wednesday, and
 Friday

For dates and details contact:
 Jean
jean.hilgers@tamarack.com or
 Patti psponem@gmail.com
 608-279-3149



Evening Classes

5:30 - 6:30 p.m.
 Monday, Tuesday, and
 Thursday

For dates and details contact:
 Pat pjmaddox1@charter.net or
 Teri teriedman@yahoo.com

New and Returning Participants always Welcome!

* In season



TAM Talk Thank You

The Residents Activity Committee would like to thank the members of the Tamarack Ad-hoc Committee on Solar Panels for presenting information on solar energy and their personal experiences with solar panels on their homes. Their talk was informative and answered many of the residents' questions about solar energy. It also encouraged many of us to think about the possibility of using this technology in our own homes. Thank you again for showing us another way to be more green.

Seasonal Reminders & Projects

Updated Tamarack Directory

A new updated Tamarack directory is complete. If you would like a copy, please stop by the Tamarack office.

Join Facebook Fun!

The Tamarack Trails Neighbors Facebook Group Welcomes Tamarack residents looking for camaraderie and neighborly advice. The group's 83 members offer items for free or for sale, share photos of events in the neighborhood, provide a forum for help finding an escaped pet, and give each other tips. Members can create an invitation to an event that all others can see and put on their calendars. It's a lot of fun!

This Facebook Group is **not run by the Tamarack Trails Community Services Association** (the board and the staff) and the Facebook posts and event listings are strictly the work of fellow volunteer neighbors. None of the opinions or posts represent those of the association. The group is closed and only accepts members who are residents of Tamarack Trails. Our group is private, which means only members can see who belongs and what they talk about. If you are a Facebook member, joining the Tamarack Trails Group is simple. You can [click here](#) for instructions to join the Tamarack Trails Neighbors the Facebook Group. The name you tap is **Tamarack Trails Neighbors**. Then tap **Join Group** when you get to the page.

A resident moderator will verify your residence in Tamarack and approve your membership for the group within a day or so.

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 RetiredGal Sam. You will need to submit a working email to verify for Facebook that you are not a bot. 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 our **Tamarack Trails Neighbors** Facebook Group.

For questions, you can still contact neighbor Ellen Foley, creator of the group, at ellen.madaline@gmail.com or call/text her at 608.444.7065. She is transitioning out of the role of moderator/admin to accommodate her busy personal schedule.

Everything is Going Swimmingly!!!

The pool has opened with a couple of hiccups with equipment and lifeguard schedules. But that won't stop us. Join your neighbors at the pool.

If you are a new resident, you can purchase an access card from the office. *Ditto for the key for the tennis/pickle ball courts.* To ensure an enjoyable season for everyone, here are some reminders.

-The lifeguards are in charge and have the FINAL SAY in all safety matters. *They are not babysitters.*

-As a member, it is your responsibility to make sure that you and your guests know the rules. If you are inviting a large group (eight or more people) to the pool, please notify the office or the lifeguard in advance.

-Noodles, kickboards, toys are available for use by anyone. Please make sure that you put them away and do not leave them in the water or on the deck.

-Lap lanes are for lap swimming only. When there is a waiting line, please restrict your time to 30 minutes.

--Yes, food is allowed on the pool deck. No alcohol or breakable containers and nothing in the water.

Let's get wet!

Board and Committee Business

Board Notes for 5/23/23 meeting

The Board of Directors met in-person and by Zoom on May 23, 2023. 6 Directors and Association Manager Stacey Haberman were present, as were 23 residents. Director Jesien was excused. Treasurer Larry White presented Tamarack's financial report and President Dean Ryerson addressed several topics. The major discussion topics were the annual audit, swale maintenance and clubhouse use fees. Several residents brought forward issues:

- Janet Hirsch and Rosemary Stenback made comments about the proposed new policy regarding non-resident clubhouse use fees. Janet expressed concern that there had been no advance notice of possible Board action on this matter. The Board moved to refer this matter to the June agenda to give more time for resident input. (See additional note in this issue of the Good Life.)

Association Manager Stacey Haberman reported on several items including staffing and maintenance. Major points:

- We have 4 new full-time / short-term employees that started this week, 3 of them are working on the Grounds Team, and one is working with the Maintenance Team.
- The new Maintenance Superintendent will be joining our Team on June 5th. His name is Rollie Remhof. He has great skills and experience that will be a great asset to our team.
- There are 9 lifeguards for the season. Sophie will be our Head Lifeguard.
- The Tamarack Trails Community Directory has been updated.
- Ryerson requested an update on the swale. A primary concern is erosion at the far end. Haberman reported that there has been some animal damage; and some plants need to be planted deeper. There was board discussion about what would be covered by the Frank organization. Haberman and Frank are negotiating these issues.

Treasurer White reported that Tamarack finances are in good shape. The draft annual audit has been received and we have a clean report. The auditor complimented Tamarack's financial controls. The audit is available for review at the Office. The Reserve Fund Balance is estimated to be approximately \$720,900, an increase of \$47,400 from the February 28, 2023, balance. The Board approved a Finance Committee recommendation to continue the current asset mix and allow more flexibility for the portfolio manager to make adjustments. It was noted that the returns on investment in 2022 were lower than 2021, in keeping with the overall stock market.

The Board set June 20 as the date to vote on a revision of Policy IV-400, based on the revised BoS. (For more detail, see notes from the April and May meetings).

In another action, Paul Skidmore noted that George Meyer has created a summary of proposed changes to the Bylaws, mostly consisting of updates. This will be available to residents for

review. Bev Mazur was approved as a member of the Resident Activities Committee. Beth Goulette was approved as a member of the Amenities Committee. Volunteers are needed to help set up and take down for the Summer Kick-off Party at the pool on June 11. Let the office know if you're interested.

The next monthly Board Meeting is June 27 at 6:30, in person and on Zoom. Watch for the Resident Notice to be distributed regarding Policy IV-400 changes. We will then schedule the required Special Board Meeting 30 days after notice is sent out.

Finance Committee on Summer Schedule

Through September, the Finance Committee meetings will be held at 3:00pm on the third Wednesday of the month. Tamarack committee meetings are open to all residents.