

# The Good Life...

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

February 2026

## Meeting Calendar

*Meetings are open to all residents*

**Amenities Committee**  
TBD

**Architectural Review Board**  
Wednesday, March 11 - 4:30

**Board of Directors**  
Tuesday, February 24 - 6:30pm

**Finance Committee**  
Thursday, March 12 - 4:00pm

**Maintenance Committee**  
Tuesday, March 10 - 4:00pm

**Resident Activities Committee**  
Wednesday, March 11 - 5:00pm

**Welcoming Committee**  
TBD

## OFFICE HOURS

Monday- Friday  
9 am – 4 pm  
Or by appointment

Stacey Haberman  
Association Manager  
[Stacey@tamaracktrails.com](mailto:Stacey@tamaracktrails.com)

Jean Hilgers,  
Office Manager  
[Jean.Hilgers@tamaracktrails.com](mailto:Jean.Hilgers@tamaracktrails.com)

## OPEN MEETING - COURT RENOVATION PROJECT

**MARCH 11, 2026 – 7:00 PM**

Please join us at the clubhouse for an open meeting to discuss the renovation of the Tamarack courts which is projected for 2027. The Board of Directors has approved a subcommittee to make recommendations for the design, composition, and potential contractors to complete the project. This subcommittee has six members ... Debra Martinez, Rise Fetterer, Lynn Clemens, George Jesien, Les Mirkin, and Anne Rohr. The BOD liaison is Michael Boggs.

The tennis courts (now with lines for pickleball) have long been a valued amenity at Tamarack both for the community they build as well as the enhancement of our property values. They have deteriorated over time and occasional repairs haven't been sufficient to provide a good playing surface. The courts now appear to be a serious safety issue with deep cracks and deformities. While renovations have been needed for a while, they have been pushed back on the schedule for several years due to other pressing issues for Tamarack.

The working group members are anxious to get input from all Tamarack residents regarding this project. If you can't attend the meeting on March 11<sup>th</sup>, we encourage you to email the office at ([jean.hilgers@tamaracktrails.com](mailto:jean.hilgers@tamaracktrails.com)) with your comments and suggestions.

Given the fact that we have tennis players as well as many pickleball players living at Tamarack, resurfaced courts will encourage more play and will draw more residents to Tamarack. So, give us your ideas. For example ...

How many tennis courts and how many pickleball courts should we have?

How much space should we use?

Should we have viewing space?

Other ideas?

Please join us on March 4<sup>th</sup> or email the office at [jean.hilgers@tamaracktrails.com](mailto:jean.hilgers@tamaracktrails.com)

## **Formation of Ad Hoc Reserve Fund Workgroup**

The 30-year reserve spreadsheet used to develop Tamarack's annual reserve budget assumes that the next roof replacement will begin in 2029 and finish in 2033. This is three years earlier than was originally budgeted in the 2025 30-year reserve spreadsheet. This is also after replacing the swimming pool ten years earlier than expected. To have enough money in the reserve fund at the end of 2033 to achieve the Tamarack self-imposed minimum balance or cushion recommended by Reserve Advisors in their 2019 and 2024 Reserve Studies, monthly reserve assessments will need to increase by just under \$33 each year from 2029 through 2033. This is an average yearly increase of 5.3%. While this is well below the maximum allowed average increase of 10%, it may make the AMA unaffordable for some owners. Currently, the reserve AMA is \$202, and the overall AMA is \$524.

At its January meeting, the Board unanimously approved a motion to authorize the establishment of an Ad Hoc Reserve Fund Workgroup under the Finance Committee. The goal of this work group is to draft a list of recommendations to fund necessary reserve withdrawals while keeping reserve assessments under control. The initial ad hoc committee will include Don Haasl, Larry White, Wayne Koska, Sharon Genthe, Janet Hirsch, Barb Hughes, Tom Ferris and Stacey Haberman. Currently, meetings are scheduled for Tuesday, February 24<sup>th</sup>, March 10<sup>th</sup>, and March 17<sup>th</sup>.

If anyone has any recommendations to fund necessary reserve withdrawals while keeping reserve assessments under control, please submit them to Stacey at [stacey@tamaracktrails.com](mailto:stacey@tamaracktrails.com). All recommendations and comments will be considered by the ad hoc work group. At the conclusion of the work group's meetings, the intent is to hold one or more community meetings.

## **Neighborhood Safety & Security Meeting – Resident Feedback Requested**

The Tamarack Trails Maintenance, Safety and Security Committee is asking Tamarack residents for their help in identifying safety and security concerns in and around our community.

The Committee is honored to welcome Captain Dan Nale and Officer Hunter Lisko of the Madison Police Department and Madison 9<sup>th</sup> District Alder Joanne Pritchett as our speakers. We will be hosting a **Neighborhood Safety & Security Meeting on Tuesday March 17, 2026, at 4:00pm at the Tamarack Clubhouse and on Zoom.**

They will be addressing recent safety and security concerns in our neighborhood, answer questions and provide us with valuable safety tips. This presentation is part of a continuing discussion about the potential purchase of security camera system to enhance surveillance and deter criminal activity.

We are inviting all residents to share their specific issues, questions or concerns that you would like to have addressed, please submit them to [stacey@tamaracktrails.com](mailto:stacey@tamaracktrails.com) or deliver them to the Tamarack office by Friday March 6<sup>th</sup>. The meeting agenda will be finalized at the March 10<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Committee Meeting.

We encourage everyone to attend, stay informed and participate in this important conversation.

## Activities And Events



### Tamarack Forever Fit (Fitness class) Let's Get Moving Fun Fitness



Location: Tamarack Clubhouse

Dates: JAN 2 - MAY 22

M W F M/W 3:00-3:45 Fri 10:00

NO class Jan. 9 -16, Feb. 23- Mar. 2 April 14

A gentle warmup, with light cardio, muscle toning, flexibility, and balance, using hand weights, resistance bands, Yoga mats.

Please call Patti Sponem 608-279-3149 or email [psponem@gmail.com](mailto:psponem@gmail.com)

### **Save the Date! TAM Talk: February 25, 6:30 PM**

#### **Living in a Legacy: The Sea Ranch DNA in Tamarack Trails**

Our community didn't happen by accident. Discover how the revolutionary design principles of Sea Ranch—a bold 1960s modernist architecture—shaped everything from the way our homes nestle into the landscape to the This Tam Talk will be presented by Tamarack resident Henrik Rydberg

### **Mark Your Calendars: Special Program, March 19**

Jonathan Jarosinski, Director of Loss Prevention, UW Credit Union, has been invited by the Residents' Activities Committee (RAC) to deliver a special program on cyber security to help you take proactive steps to protect yourself and your accounts.

#### **Financial Crimes: Awareness and Prevention**

- Credit and debit card fraud, identity theft and phishing scams
- Precautions to take
- Protecting your computer
- Steps to take if you become a victim
- Educational and informational resources

**Date:** March 19, 2026

**Time:** 2:00 – 3:00 pm

**Place:** Tamarack Trails Clubhouse

## **Mark Your Calendars: March 25 Tam Talk: There Are Many Roads to Santiago**

For more than 1,000 years, pilgrims have walked to Santiago de Compostela in northwestern Spain, where the remains of the Apostle St. James are believed to have been buried beneath the Romanesque Arch cathedral Basilica. Pilgrims walk to Santiago for many different reasons, often combining spiritual, personal, and practical motivations. Traditionally, the Camino de Santiago has been a religious pilgrimage, undertaken as an act of faith, reflection, or gratitude at the shrine of St. James. Today, many people also walk for personal renewal — to slow down, gain clarity, mark a life transition, or challenge themselves physically and mentally. The simplicity of walking day after day, meeting fellow pilgrims, and focusing on the journey rather than the destination creates a powerful sense of connection, purpose, and accomplishment.

There are many different Camino routes. Last year, Stacey Campbell walked the Camino Inglés, and Christina Finet and James Steinbach walked part of the Camino Francés. On March 25, they will be sharing their experiences and photographic journeys along the Camino.

**This program will begin at 6:30 PM in the Clubhouse with access also available on Zoom.**

## **Tamarack News and Tidbits**

### **Ice Melt**

Ice No More (a calcium/potassium chloride blend of ice melt) can be purchased through the Tamarack office. The ice melt is available in 20-pound bags at a cost of \$6.00 each. Please use the form located at the end of this newsletter to order your ice melt. We keep the salt on hand for sale throughout the winter.

## **Board and Committee Business**

### **ARB News and Updates & Reminders**

**Elections** of Officers for one-year terms took place at the first meeting of the New Year — Co-chairs Jean MacCubbin and Barrett Karabis; Barb Hughes as Recording Secretary. Jean will continue as Corresponding Secretary with Deborah Powers as backup. Our Board Liaison this year is Ric Genthe.

**Welcome New Member**— Gabe Rotberg of 64 Oak Creek Trail

**House Numbers** — Have you ever walked around and looked at unit house numbers? Placement, size, font, etc. and wondered by there isn't consistency? At our January meeting we embarked on such a discussion; stay tuned!

**Reminders**— Meetings and Due Dates

<b>Meeting Dates (Weds. 4:30 pm Clubhouse)</b>	<b>Completed Requests Due Dates</b>	<b>Meeting Dates (Weds. 4:30 pm Clubhouse)</b>	<b>Completed Requests Due Dates</b>
March 11	February 25	August 12	July 29
*April 15	March 30	September 9	August 26
May 13	April 29	October 14	September 30
June 10	May 27	November 11	October 28
July 8	June 24	<b>No December</b>	<b>Meeting</b>

\*April date moved to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Weds. due to the April General Election.

## **Board Meeting Notes – January 27, 2026**

*This is an informal report about the regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors. Official minutes will be posted on the Tamarack website after approval by the Board.*

### **Updates:**

- Community Civility “Month” will be extended throughout 2026.
- One current opening for a Maintenance Technician.

### **Motions approved by the Board:**

- Formation of the Ad Hoc Reserve Fund Workgroup to draft recommendations to fund necessary reserve withdrawals while keeping reserve assessments under control.
- A joint Board and Human Resources meeting will be scheduled to discuss employee compensation, bonuses and other HR topics.
- The Policy Resolution on Executive Minutes and Record Keeping will be submitted to the community for review.
- New member of the Architectural Review Board is Gabe Rotberg (64 Oak Creek).
- New member of the Tennis & Pickleball Court Improvement Ad Hoc Workgroup is Rise Futterer (53 Oak Creek)
- New member of the Maintenance Committee is Charlie Knapp (7424 Cedar Creek).

### **Committee Activities & Events:**

- Committee chairs for 2026:
  - Architectural Review Board: Barrett Karabis and Jean MacCubbin
  - Finance: Larry White
  - Human Resources: Sharon Genthe
  - Maintenance: Paul Skidmore
  - Resident Activities: Mo O’Keefe and Dee Seyfarth

## **Know Your Tamarack Neighbor – - Denise & Leslie Mirkin**

Sometimes I think I should pay Tamarack to do the "NEIGHBORS" interviews because I get to meet such wonderful, accomplished, friendly people. Alas, I don't need to do that, but I do enjoy this task.

Both Denise and Leslie of 7317 Cedar Creek were born in South Africa, immigrated to Israel (he first), met in Israel, traveled back to S.A. to marry because both mothers lived there; then came to America. They say they moved around because both S. A. & Israel had so much unrest. They came to Madison because Leslie's brother was at the UW and recommended the city. They first lived in the Hill Farms area before a good friend/neighbor moved to Tamarack, and influenced the Mirkins to move here also (1/21). They say they chose Tamarack, not only because of their friends, but because of the beauty of the place, because of the areas to walk their two labradoodle dogs, Della (named after Mandella), and Zaani (named after Mandella's daughter & granddaughter); because everything was convenient; & because of the amenities.

Denise was born in Cape Town, South Africa, to Mick Jermyn, Irish, and Ethel Rozowsky, Polish/Russian, and she was very athletic in her school years, playing a game called Netball for women only. She also did track and field. She has carried her interest in sports here to Tamarack where she plays pickleball, and hikes with her husband. She went to Israel after school for three years because of the unrest in SA, & she had family living there. She met Leslie on the Kibbitz Nir Oz; became friends & then more. They married on December 28, 1980, so

they have been married for 45 years. Leslie & Denise say that a mutual attraction plus a joint interest in sports & having been born in the same country brought them together.

Leslie was born in Port Elizabeth, South Africa to parents Elijah Mirkin & Phyllis Solomon. Leslie's grandparents were emigres from Lithuania as a result of the pogroms & antisemitism in E. Europe in the 1890's. When Leslie graduated from H.S. in 1968, he headed for Israel. He was too young to be accepted into the School of Social Work, so he volunteered for the Israel army where he served as a Paratrooper.

Upon his discharge, he worked as a youth counselor & studied medical technology in Jerusalem. However, to realize his dream, he settled on the above mentioned kibbitz, & worked in cotton agriculture.

Leslie, Denise and their daughter Talya immigrated to the USA in 1984. Leslie was hired by the Madison Jewish Community Council as the director of two supplementary Hebrew school programs & their summer day camp, Camp Shalom. Denise opened Honeybees, a home-based preschool in their home. Their second daughter, Lenora, was born in 1990. In 1991, Leslie returned to school & received a master's degree in Rehabilitation Psychology. Leslie was hired by the State of Wisconsin as a vocational rehabilitation counselor & later became the director of a six-county area. He retired from the state in 2015 after 20 years. Daughter, Talya now lives in Los Angeles where she works as a publicist, and daughter, Leora lives in Madison & is a psychotherapist.

Both Denise & Leslie are retired now and besides enjoying each other & the company of their friends, they enjoy playing pickleball, hiking, traveling & reading. In retirement, Leslie wrote his memoirs, worked as a dog walker, & been an Uber driver. Denise, who closed her preschool during COVID, maintains her commitment to young children by volunteering at a local preschool. She, also, now has the time to be creative in the pottery studio and to join exercise classes.

I believe all of us should be happy that this exceptional couple found their way to America, Madison and

Tamarack. We are all richer because they have chosen to live among us.

Joyce Hasselman Waldorf, 11 White Pine Trail

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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 = \$\_\_\_\_\_