



Wingate Home Owners Association

June 2010

<http://www.wingatehome.org/>



See you at the 4th of July Parade and Picnic

11:00 AM—Parade—starts at the West entrance on Sunday, July 4th

Decorate bikes, strollers and/or yourself and enjoy our community tradition.

12:00 PM—Picnic/Block Party—in the 47th Ave W cul de sac. From the east entrance, take your first right on 137th. 47th is the first street on your right and will be blocked off to traffic during the picnic. If you drive, park on 137th.

If you've attended the neighborhood picnic in the past couple of years, you know what a welcoming and fun time it is. Come to the at noon or so; bring your beach chairs/blankets and a side dish or something sweet to share. We'll grill hot dogs and provide dishes and fixin's as well as games for the kids.

It's a block party—Come visit with your neighbors!

Thanks to Rachele Cardoza and Cindy Giles for organizing the parade and picnic!

Beautiful Garden Entrances

We need to thank Kate Reed and the Garden Club for their on-going stewardship of the Wingate entrance beds. The Spring flowers have been such a pleasure to drive past.

The 2010 budget has approved funds for maintaining the gardens. The board will be soliciting bids again. Let Marjie know if you have a recommendation.

Garage Sale—*Wasn't it Great?*

The May 15 Garage Sale was one of the best attended in recent memory, thanks to great weather and advertising.

Thanks to Marie Townsend for organizing the sale!



Homeowner's Association Dues are Due!

Thanks to the 98 of 2010 homeowners who paid \$50 for annual membership in the Homeowner's Association. A second billing statement was sent out recently. Dues can be mailed to WHOA at 5319 134th Place SW, Edmonds 98026

Thanks!

Homeowner's Meeting Recap

The March 10 annual meeting of Wingate homeowners was well-attended. On the agenda:

- 2009 Budget closure and 2010 Budget review/approval.
 - Dues-paying neighbors voted to approve the budgets.
 - Some neighbors protested that all homeowners should have the privilege of voting the budget. Position of your elected board: Pay to play.
- Election of four board members.
 - Marjie Mathison, Chuck Brewer and Lisa Harrison were reelected to new terms.
 - An open At-Large position is still open on the board . Please contact Marjie if you are interested in serving a two-year term.
- Proposal to make home-owner dues mandatory and consolidate the five Wingate covenants to one updated version.
 - Many neighbors interpreted this proposal as an effort to make the covenants more restrictive. This actually was not the intent of the proposal. The board had two primary objectives in bringing the subject up:
 - **Five sets of covenants for one neighborhood makes no sense.** We would like to consolidate the covenants and, at the same time, update them in a way that the majority of the neighborhood would agree to.
 - **Mandatory dues are needed.** We see this as a fairness issue—currently only half the neighborhood shares the cost of running it and that's not right. To work well, our Association needs to reliably meet budget and maintain a rainy day fund.
 - Because any covenant changes will need to be ratified by a majority of home-owners to be implemented, no action has been taken since the annual meeting.

Next Actions to be taken by the Board

As a result of feedback we received at the annual meeting, the following steps will be taken:

- Future budgets will share a full list of itemized expenses instead of a summary.
- Future home-owners meetings will be run by Robert's Rules.
- The original By-Laws written at the inception of the neighborhood have been retyped *with no changes made* and posted on the WHOA web. Retyping of the covenants is in work. In a future home-owner's meeting, we will need to address some updating of the By-Laws. For the most part, they do still apply, but some elements, such as a requirement for 100 members to constitute a quorum, appear untenable (we seldom see more than 20 families at the annual meetings). <http://www.wingatehome.org/WingateHOA-Bylaws.html>

We'd like to offer heartfelt thanks to Renee Blatner and Tamra Bradford for their work on typing the by-laws and covenants.

Covenant and Mandatory Dues Survey Results

Survey Results A written survey was sent out to all homeowners in February with the exception of the board members. Below is a summary of the feedback received by number of people responding and type of comment.

- 9—No street parking
- 6—RV's should be hidden from sight
- 4—Need to enforce covenants
- 4—Maintain yards
- 1—Maintain trails and landscaping
- 1—Allow Chickens
- 1—No detached buildings
- 1—Have bins for dog poop
- 1—Remove restrictions on fences
- 7—Business ok as long as no employees
- 3—no home businesses

The survey asked for an opinion on:

Should the covenants be updated?

- 40 households - Make one set of covenants
- 8 households- Leave it the way it is.

Should annual dues be mandatory?

- 43 households mandatory dues
- 8 households said no to mandatory dues

During the homeowner's meeting, a motion was made for an advisory vote to be taken on whether or not to make any changes to the covenants or to have mandatory dues.

- 14 households wanted change
- 30 households did not want changes

Action Step: Further discussion is needed.

Wingate Neighborhood Resources

Web Site <http://www.wingatehome.org/>

Be sure to check out the forum for discussion, buy-sell-trade-give away, & view or post pictures!

Garden Club—Meets monthly for garden tours, education, service and projects. For more info, contact Candi Burpee at 425-745-9317.

General Change Form for removal of trees greater than 10" diameter, fence or out-building construction and exterior renovation projects. <http://wingatehome.org/permit.php>

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Open Position

To contact all board members, email WingateHoa@gmail.com

If you want to receive this newsletter and other news via email contact lisalisa.harrison@gmail.com