

Fair Oaks American River Gateway Neighborhood Association (FOARG)

Fair Oaks, California

September 2015

ANNUAL NEIGHBORHOOD PICNIC AND MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The Fair Oaks American River Gateway Neighborhood Association will hold its 7th Annual Picnic at the Sacramento Bar-Sunrise Access Park located at the bottom of Pennsylvania Ave. on Saturday, October 10, 2015 at 12:00 P.M. The Annual FOARG Membership Meeting and election of next year's directors will occur at the end of the picnic!

Food and drinks are free and we will hold a raffle for fun prizes. Bring your entire family for a nice afternoon in the park and take advantage of the opportunity to meet your neighbors!

At the Meeting, we will also move to amend the Bylaws as set forth elsewhere in this newsletter.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

This year I thought I would go over the purposes of FOARG and duties of the Board of Directors in order to remind us after a few years why the Fair Oaks American River Gateway Neighborhood Association was formed. Perhaps we will generate new participation from the neighborhood.

Please consider nominating someone or yourself to be elected to the Board at our annual meeting this year if you want to contribute to the welfare of this neighborhood. We appreciate member participation and information about issues you are concerned about in this neighborhood.

I look forward to visiting with you at our annual meeting and picnic.

PURPOSE:

- a. To enhance the livability of the area by establishing and maintaining an open line of communication and liaison between the neighborhood, government agencies and other neighborhoods.
- b. To provide an open process by which all residents of the neighborhood may involve themselves in the affairs of the neighborhood.

MEMBERSHIP: Membership in FOARG shall include all residents, located within the boundaries of Fair Oaks Blvd. to the north, Sunrise Blvd. to the East, Southcliff to the West and the American River to the South, in Fair Oaks, California. Membership is automatic to all residents within the boundaries of the association.

SUMMARY OF DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

There shall be at least one annual meeting held yearly on a day decided upon by the majority vote of the Board (traditionally the first Saturday of October), for the President to report on the state of the association, the Treasurer to give an annual financial report, and to elect Members of the Board from the general membership who will serve for two years.

The Board is composed of a minimum of 9 (nine) members, who meet once a month (first Tuesday of the month at 6:30 PM). These meetings are open to all members, and the minutes of meetings are posted on the website, or can be requested by email. The Board elects a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer at the first board meeting following the annual election.

Vikki Walker, President

TREASURER'S REPORT

As of Sept. 2015, the Association has \$3715.00 on deposit. Your voluntary membership dues go directly to the Association Fund for protection of the neighborhood as stated in the bylaws. Costs to produce this newsletter have, in the past, been donated by the board members.

NEW PROJECT IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

By Brenda Boston

On June 23rd, the Fair Oaks Eco-Housing Project closed escrow on the 3.7 acre site located at adjoining lots 4025 New York Ave and 9620 Fair Oaks Blvd. This concludes their decade-long search for a site. The project garnered unanimous approval from the Fair Oaks Planning and Advisory Council (CPAC), the Sacramento County Design Review Advisory (DRAC), and the Sacramento County Planning Commission. The next step is to complete the Construction Documents. Construction is planned for early 2016 with move-in slated for early 2017. This project will provide the first cohousing available in the Sacramento suburbs. The support by all County planning authorities reflects the patient and diligent outreach of many professionals and future residents.

Until January 2014 an Eco-housing/Cohousing neighborhood may have been unfamiliar to many. Modeled on successful projects around the country, the Fair Oaks Eco-housing will feature 30 homes clustered around a common space at the center. A common space typically includes a dining room, kitchen, lounge, workshop space, kid's playroom, and guest rooms. It is the heart of the community for many activities. Cars are kept at the edge of the site making the neighborhood pedestrian-friendly and

safe. Future residents are involved in the design and development so that it reflects their needs and priorities. There are over 130 cohousing communities throughout the United States and Canada with 40 in California including the last two decades at Southside Park in Sacramento, Nevada City Cohousing, and Wolf Creek Lodge in Grass Valley. Some 50 of these projects designed by an award-winning married team of architects who grew up in Sacramento and now reside at the Wolf Creek Lodge.

The lifestyle and location facilitate future residents in their desire to "tread lightly" on the earth by incorporating eco-features and reducing dependence on the automobile. Environmental sustainability is a core value with smaller homes, green building attributes, and renewable energy systems made possible by combined efforts and shared resources. This includes retaining indigenous trees, fruit tree orchards, organic gardens, and even rain gardens (on-site water retention). With many activities on-site and nearby in the Fair Oaks community such as Bannister Park, the Waldorf School, Rudolph Steiner College, American River access, The Village, restaurants and businesses with-in walking distance, these all support their goal to alleviate the need to leave the neighborhood as often.

Cohousing offers a balance of privacy and community. Residents experience the feeling of a small village where neighbors both know and care about each other. While the clubhouse is a hub of social activity, all homes are owned by individual families, as with other market-rate condominiums. Smaller homes will be about 850 ft.², larger ones about 1700 ft.² and there are monthly dues. Homes will be sold between the high \$200,000's and the high \$500,000's. Site tours and information gathering continue bi-monthly. To date, 11 homes have been purchased with plans for 25 to be funded by groundbreaking.

As a resident adjacent to the site, I personally welcome this family-friendly green neighborhood as my new neighbor and look forward to what they will bring to our corner of Fair Oaks.

WATER SHORTAGE REGULATIONS FOR OUR AREA:

In April 2015 Fair Oaks Water District adopted Resolution No. 15-02 declaring a Stage 4 water crisis within the Fair Oaks Water District Area.

Water conservation stage 4 quick summary of required actions:

1. Outdoor watering days for ornamental landscapes or turf:
 - Addresses ending in even numbers – Wed, Fri, Sun.
 - Addresses ending in odd numbers – Tues, Thurs, Sat.
 - No watering on Mondays.
2. Water shall be used for beneficial purposes only; all unnecessary and wasteful uses of water are prohibited.
3. Water shall be confined to the customer's property and shall not be allowed to run-off to adjoining properties or to the roadside ditch or gutter. Care shall be taken not to water past the point of saturation.
4. The application of potable water to outdoor landscapes during and within 48 hours after measurable rainfall is prohibited.
5. Free-flowing hoses for all uses are prohibited. Automatic shut-off devices shall be attached on any hose or filling apparatus in use.
6. Leaking customer pipes or faulty sprinklers shall be repaired within 24 hours or less if warranted by severity of the problem.
7. All pools, spas and ornamental fountains/ponds shall be equipped with a recirculation pump and shall be constructed to be leak-proof. Pool draining and refilling shall be

allowed only for health, maintenance or structural considerations.

8. Washing streets, parking lots, driveways or buildings, except as necessary for safety purposes, is prohibited.
9. Customers are encouraged to take advantage of the water agency's conservation programs and rebates.
10. Restaurants shall serve water only upon request.

GET UP TO DATE NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS!

Don't wait around for the Annual Newsletter! If you would like to be on our mailing list to get the most up to date neighborhood news, please e-mail Michael Faber at mfaber@elkgrove.net to be placed on our e-mailing list.

SAC COUNTY 311 CONNECT YOUR LINK TO COUNTY SERVICES:

Where do I report an abandoned vehicle? Who fixes broken street lights? Now there is one number to connect with virtually any Sacramento County service: on a landline or cellphone, dial 311; on the internet, go to www.311.sacounty.net; on a mobile device, there is an app.

Friendly and knowledgeable customer service representatives are available Monday through Friday, 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. to answer questions, route calls, and manage cases for verification and resolution. Never remember another County number again...call 311!

STOP CRIME--PARTICIPATE IN NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Neighborhood Watch (NW) programs help prevent burglaries and other crimes by encouraging neighbors to be vigilant, know each other, and report suspicious persons and activities to the sheriff.

Since most crimes occur in isolation, NW participants act as extra sets of eyes and ears when a police presence is not available. Involvement creates an opportunity to get to know your neighbors and encourage residents to take an active interest in one another's properties.

The program is very flexible. Signs can be posted on telephone poles and on houses. Neighbors can volunteer to walk the neighborhood looking for suspicious activity. At a minimum, neighbors can get to know each other, be more vigilant, and immediately report suspicious persons and activities to the sheriff.

The proven best way to protect a neighborhood is by actually knowing each other. Talk to your neighbors, recognize faces and cars, go for walks, and let each other know when you need help or experience problems. Be alert, learn to recognize suspicious activities, and immediately report any crime in progress to the sheriff at 875-5111.

Most of the FOARG area is covered by five existing NW groups. If you do not know whether you are in an existing group or do not know who your group coordinator is, please call Roger Smith (961-4470) or Clara Jewell (967-6156).

There is a need to establish NW groups in the following areas:

(1) Pennsylvania Ave, Portofino Ct, Villa Ct, and Howard St;

(2) Magnolia from New York Ave to Pennsylvania Ave; and

(3) New York Ave between Fair Oaks Blvd and Magnolia Ave.

Let's get something started in these areas. We need someone in each of these areas to talk to their neighbors, be the catalyst, volunteer, and then contact Sherrie Carhart of the Sacramento County

Sheriff's Dept. at 916-536-9876 or scarhart@sacsheriff.com. To help you get started you may also call Roger Smith or Clara Jewell at the above phone numbers. When you have a meeting, please let Roger Smith know so that he can add your area to the FOARG list of NW groups.

Important reminders for NW: (1) Be alert, learn to recognize suspicious activities, and immediately report any crime in progress to the sheriff at 875-5111; (2) Know your neighbors, talk to them, and watch out for each other. Sherrie recommends adding the sheriff's number to your cell phone! In these times of budget cuts to our law enforcement, citizen participation in the defense of our neighborhoods is more important than ever!

OUR 2014-2015 OFFICERS

President: Vikki Walker

Vice President: Biba Maletic

Secretary: Bob Boyd

Treasurer: Clara Jewell

Board Member: Wes Trunnell

Board Member: Michael Faber

Board Member: Mike Bowling

Board Member: Roger Smith

Board Member: Brenda Boston

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NEIGHBORHOOD PICNIC ANNUAL MEETING

SACRAMENTO BAR AMERICAN RIVER ACCESS PARK

Saturday, Oct. 10, 2015 at 12:00 noon.

Picnic, Elect Board Members for Next Year, Reports to Membership, and New Business from the Membership.

FOARG MONTHLY BOARD MEETINGS

TBA-CALL MICHAEL FABER AT 686-7020 FOR LOCATIONS

6:30-7:30, FIRST TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH

Board meets regularly to discuss events of neighborhood and actions to be taken by organization. Residents Welcome.

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE

www.fo-gateway.org

PROPOSED BYLAWS CHANGES

Article IV, Section 2, Subsection e, shall be amended as follows:

QUORUM: A quorum of $\frac{1}{2}$ the sitting board members, unless a fraction, then it will be rounded up to the next whole number, ~~plus one~~ shall be required to be in attendance at any regularly or specially scheduled board meeting in order to conduct any official business of the board except scheduling of the next board meeting

Section 5 shall be added to Article IV to read as follows:

Section 5: TERM OF OFFCERS: Officers shall be elected by the Board for a term of one year.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION:

To become an Active Member of FOARG Please fill out and return the below.
\$20.00 annual membership dues optional but highly appreciated.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone
Number: _____

E-Mail: _____

Please Mail to:

Bob Boyd-FOARG Secretary
3927 New York Ave.
Fair Oaks, CA 95628