

LCELA Dues Reduced!

At the fall Business Meeting, the Board proposed and the membership approved a reduction in annual fees to just \$100 annually! Less than two bucks a week! If you're not currently a member, please rejoin. Details below.

LCELA Business Meeting Notes

We held the LCELA Fall Business Meeting on the evening of Sunday October 17th; here is a summary of the meeting:

Cedar Park: Lakewood Country Estates has a Leander postal address but is part of the Cedar Park ETJ (Extra-Territorial Jurisdiction). This means that Cedar Park controls things like the names of our streets and building permits. It also controls what goes on around us. We should probably track what they're planning a little more closely, and we asked for a few volunteers to track Cedar Park's plans and intentions on a regular basis, and report back to the LCELA landowners. Anyone interested, please contact the Board

Legal Fund: the Board has decided to distribute the funds in the LCELA Legal Fund to the contributors. Please contact the Treasurer to receive a refund of any donation you made. The Board is asking that you consider donating a portion of your refund to the LCELA General Fund as a gift to the neighbourhood. Several Board members are donating 10%.

Reduced Dues: The Board proposed and the membership agreed to a reduction in membership fees to just \$100 annually. The Treasurer stated that were we to regain the level of membership we had just two years ago, this level of dues would provide for all the needed running costs plus a useful but well-judged margin. To join, or rejoin, please send LCELA a check for \$100 (for 12 months membership) or \$50 (for six months). The check should be made out to **LCELA** and be mailed to:

LCELA
P.O. BOX 1433
Cedar Park, TX 78630

It was suggested that the Board send out reminders to members when dues are due. We'll be doing this in our future newsletters.

LCE Improvements: We discussed possible improvements, including:

- installing portable latrines near the pavilion. It was suggested we look at a fairly permanent installation, to avoid the vandalism associated with the usual portable latrines, and it was further suggested that we look at composting latrines as a good low cost and ecologically sound approach.
- operating a neighborhood lake maintenance program - the Board is now negotiating with some young hopefuls on terms and conditions for regular cleanups at the lake and maybe elsewhere in the neighbourhood
- several folk brought up problems with the road junctions nearby; the exit from Woodland to 180 has very poor sight lines,

and there are too many people on 185 who are unable to read, stupid or brain-dead and who don't stop at the stop sign; there have been accidents there when folk proceeding down 180 have struck said non-stopping idiots. The Board agreed to look at having the County clear the sight lines (or use our youthful volunteers), and to invite the appropriate Authorities to look at what can best be done to the 185/180 junction to improve safety.

- looking at ways to reduce or eliminate trespass, vandalism and underage drinking by youths in the lake area. We discussed paying for a security patrol; this will need careful setup so that members who have a right to be there are not harassed, while vagabonds and oafs are efficiently roused. The Board will be looking at possibilities (we welcome suggestions from the neighbourhood)
- tasteful 'Lakewood Country Estates' stone entry signs on our entrances from 180
- we have purchased the internet domain name 'lcela.org', and Darryl Weatherly, our outgoing Treasurer, has constructed an LCELA Online website. Go visit www.lcela.org!

Deed Restrictions and Mandatory LCELA Membership

Proposals: The Board stated that it would seek to make progress in the coming year on two separate changes to the Deed restrictions. While these are being discussed simultaneously, they're completely independent - it's entirely possible to support one and hate the other. To recap your Board's proposals, we have two goals:

- firstly, to make it clear that it is forbidden to run light industrial businesses in our homes (while also making it clear that running appropriate businesses is fine). The meeting seemed supportive of this proposal.
- and secondly to align our membership rules with general practice and make membership of the LCELA Landowners Association mandatory for all LCELA landowners. This will allow a substantial reduction in needed dues. The meeting was somewhat less enthusiastic about this proposal; of course, if we can maintain a high level of membership, the issue becomes moot

Board Elections: And finally, we held elections for a new Board for 2005. Mr. Larry Lefkowitz, a newcomer to our neighbourhood, kindly stepped up and volunteered and was elected. Mr. Martillotti and Mr. Wilson were maintained as Board members (despite Mr. Wilson's dismaying habit of spelling words with too few 'z's and too many 'u's)

The Board's contact information is:

Dan Martillotti • martil@Austin.rr.com • 259-6923
Darryl Weatherly • cdwys@Allstate.com • 260-9178
Pete Wilson • pete@kivadesigngroupe.com • 259-1478
This information is on the LCELA website.

Our new Board member's contact info is:

Larry Lefkowitz • larrylefkowitz@infionline.net • 260-3816