

December Board of Directors Meetings – The Board met on December 18th in the Club Room for their regular monthly meeting. Some of the highlights from the meeting were:

- ✓ **Decision:** Admin Calendar approved for 2015
- ✓ **Decision:** New Towing Company – East Coast Towing
- ✓ **Decision:** MVCCA Membership approved for 2015
- ✓ **Decision:** Purchase of new prelit Christmas trees for lobbies next year
- ✓ **Decision** Residential hallway paint touchups
- ✓ **Discussion:** Front RT sign needs work
- ✓ **Discussion:** Repair work to coping stones around porticos
- ✓ **Discussion:** Using website for marketing the property

Staff Appreciation - The Board members would like to take this opportunity to express their appreciation to our staff for all of the work they do each and every day to maintain this large property for us. We all benefit from their efforts; whether it's a smoke detector whose battery is beeping, a spill on the floor, a light that's out, a pipe that's leaking or a tree that has died, we all know who to call to get it taken care of. We thank them all and look forward to a busy and productive New Year!

The Wildlife & You - Because of our unique setting adjoining Dyke Marsh we have an abundance of wildlife here on our property which we treasure and enjoy observing close up. However, we must strongly urge our residents ***DON'T FEED THE WILDLIFE***. They are not pets, and they do not need our assistance in finding food. We have recently been experiencing fox coming up to the buildings because residents are leaving crackers and other food out for them. This is misguided and will end with the county being called to come and remove the animal from the property. Please don't contribute to this happening. Enjoy our wildlife, but don't interact with it.

New Chair of the Events Committee - Nancy Buchanan announced at the Board meeting that she is stepping down as chair after ___ years of hosting many successful events for our community. Last weekend's Holiday Party was another huge success and we would like to thank Nancy and her committee members for all of their hard work. We would also like to welcome our two new co-chairs, Sherry Lutz and Linda Mathisen. If anyone has an idea for an event in the coming year, please attend one of their committee meetings to discuss your idea and see if it can be put into action.

Christmas and New Year's Office Closures – The Association office will close early on Christmas Eve and be closed on Christmas day. The office will also close early on New Year's Eve and be closed on New Year's Day so that our staff can spend the holidays with their families.

Winter Weather and Office Closures - A reminder in advance that the policy for our office staff is that if the federal government is closed due to weather, then our association office will be closed as well. If the federal government is operating on a delayed arrival, then our office will be opening late as well. However, our engineers and maintenance staff will be here on those days to deal with sidewalks and other issues.

New AdHoc Trash Committee - The Board has established an AdHoc committee to help establish a protocol to deal with our trash issues. Let's face it, a property of our size generates a lot of trash and it needs to be handled in a way that maintains cleanliness, enhances our aesthetics and lessens the likelihood of pest infestations. Please watch for signs posted for the first meeting, and come sit in for the discussion. We welcome ideas from our residents.

January Bulk Trash Pickup – The pickup dates in January are on the 8th and 22nd. Residents may take their large items for disposal to the dumpster area the night before.

Christmas Decorations - Please remember that all Christmas decorations must be taken down from the common elements (doors, windows, balconies) by January 25th.

Do You Have Suggestions about Curb Appeal? The Board is interested in hearing from residents with any ideas or suggestions for improving the interior common elements of the buildings and grounds which might improve curb appeal. If you have a suggestion, please type it up and leave it at the office for the Board members. All suggestions should be signed and have your unit number. We'd like to hear from you!

Newsletter Delivery – A reminder that this will be the last newsletter delivered under all unit doors. The exception will be for those residents whose names are in the office as requiring assistance in the event of an emergency evacuation.

Beginning in January copies of the newsletter will be placed in wall boxes which will be located in the mailbox alcove of each lobby and in each laundry room. The newsletter is also available on the website under the Residents section.

Offsite Owners – Beginning in January 2015 the newsletters will no longer be mailed to offsite owners. Offsite owners should access the website at www.rivertowerscondo.org and go to the Residents section to request a password from the office so they will be able to access the important information and newsletters that are available in that section.

Thought for the Month: If the pace and the push, the noise and the crowds are getting to you, it's time to stop the nonsense and find a place of solace to refresh your spirit. – Charles Swindoll