

MEWS NEWS

www.fairlingtonmews.org

President's Report

Renee Powlette

We had another successful Annual meeting at the end of June and once again have a five member board. Please congratulate Gabe Butler (Court 14), who is now a Vice President and Kim Whittet (Court 2), who is the Secretary (and put together this newsletter). Thanks to all who voted and helped us reach a quorum of over 50%. We have already had two board meetings as a new board, and at the last meeting we discussed changing management companies. If you have been around for a while, you know we have changed property managers several times since CMC has been managing us, and the performance level has not been stellar by far. The new board wrote an RFP (Request For Proposal) which has been mailed out to potential new property management companies. We will interview any new companies who bid and give CMC notice so a change will not happen until after the new year. We will update you when we can, and every co-owner needs to pay attention once the change occurs so that condo fees go to the correct company.

We've had a lot of turnover of occupants in the Mews in the past few months so for all new co-owners and renters, please read this newsletter and **Stay Connected** by joining our email list and website updates. On the main page of the website, on the right-hand side of the page, you can sign up for our Mews Alerts, which will add you to our email list for updates between newsletters. You can also just email that account and asked to be added to the email list. Also on the main website page, in the bottom right hand corner, you will see a pop up box that says "+Follow..." and if you click on it, you can add your email address there as well and then you will get notified if there are any updates to our website on the "Mews News" tab. Lastly, we have a Fairlington Mews Facebook page that you can 'like' to see updates there as well. Our website should be your first stop to answer any questions you have. It is very well designed and maintained by former board member Jackie Livingston.

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Editor: Kim Whittet

Contributors: Kim Whittet, Renee Powlette, Sue Davis

Stay Connected

- **Website:** The Mews official website is www.fairlingtonmews.org. You'll find a list of upcoming events on the website.
- **Mews Alerts:** Alerts are sent via email with important information or in cases of an emergency. To subscribe, please sign up via the website, or send an email request to fairlingtonmews@gmail.com.
- **Facebook:** You can find us on Facebook www.facebook.com/FairlingtonMews
- **Newsletter:** This newsletter is distributed quarterly. Current and previous issues can be found on the Mews website.

President's Report, cont'd

In addition to a new condo board, we also have new co-chairs of our Landscape Committee. Sue Davis and Fern Birtwhistle have joined forces to stay on top of all the work our landscape committee does. Since they announced their new roles, they have been contacted by several co-owners and renters to address different landscaping concerns throughout the Mews. You can email them at shoeboxsue@gmail.com and fernbi@mac.com and there is landscape committee news at the top of our 'Mews News' tab on our www.fairlingtonmews.org website. Thanks to Sue and Fern for taking on this challenge and also thank you to Judith Guerny, who headed up the committee for the last few years and did countless hours of work cleaning up our condo association.



A big thanks to Steve Burcham, our maintenance guy, who keeps the Mews looking the best it can. In the first week of September, in the three days he was here, he removed all the weeds in our playground and then replenished the mulch (which involved 10 hours of shoveling), removed an abandoned water heater someone thoughtlessly left sitting on 34th St. S. and took it to the dump, cleaned up a poor dead squirrel in court 11, investigated cut wires behind court 15, cleaned out gutters in court 6, changed out burned out lightbulbs in light poles, and scheduled an electrician and a tree trimming company for the following week. Lastly, our shutters are due to be replaced soon, and Steve touched base with the company that will be doing this work. He will be placing notices on doors to let everyone know when their back gates need to be unlocked to allow access to the back shutters. We love Steve!

A few reminders (please read this everybody):

- Toys and strollers are not allowed to be left on front stoops (even hiding behind bushes)
- You must pick up after your dog
- Dogs must be on a leash
- Dogs are not allowed to be left outside barking and disturbing your neighbors
- No plastic bags are allowed in the recycling
- Glass can no longer be recycled
- Trash pickup is every day except Sundays, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and New Year's Day
- Trash should be outside by 8 a.m. (but they usually don't come until after 9 a.m.)
- If your trash is still there at the end of the day, it means you missed it so bring it in
- Do not leave trash in your back patios as it attracts animals
- Do not park (or let your contractors or visitors park) in someone else's reserved parking spot or you can be towed
- Visitor spots are for short term use and you can also be towed

Landscape Committee

First of all, Straw Hats Off and Two Green Thumbs UP to Judith Guerny who stepped down as the Landscape Committee Chair in July. Judith was a guiding force for the committee. Her input will be missed.

Last year the committee was focused on landscape damage control from Verizon and fence replacement activity. This year we are addressing King Street tree and shrub replacement. We are using guidelines from Arlington's Urban Forestry Commission and Native Plants for Wildlife Habitat and Conservation Landscaping in selecting trees and plants for the renewal. Native plants are often less prone to disease and many are drought tolerant. Diversity and maintenance of our existing plants and trees is imperative. The county offers Free Tree Distribution programs which the Mews has applied to and received a free tree that meets the guidelines mentioned above. We will use this program again to apply for more free trees next fall. Other Fairlington neighborhoods are moving in the same direction and we are in touch with and collaborating with these communities.

How can you help?

Watering: All of our plants need water, especially newer ones. We are moving into a drought situation and the shrubs and trees outside of your homes need a drink. There are also younger trees in every court that are stressed. Signs of stress usually appears in foliage that looks brown or withered. There are green watering bags available if your court needs one. They should be filled every two days. The committee has been identified some of these trees in each court and are looking for court members of assist with watering. Please volunteer.

Waiver Forms: Some Mews owners and renters want to plant flowers and shrubs in front of their property. The Landscape Committee loves this, but we need to know who you are. We urge you to complete and Flower Bed Waiver form on the website. Yes, you may have done this in the past, but our information needs updating. Once you have submitted the form, the Landscape Committee will distribute red reflectors. This indicates to Environmental Enhancements, our landscape contractor, that this area is taken care of by the homeowner.

<https://fairlingtonmews.org/maintenance-variances/flower-bed-waiver/>

Work Days: Have a messy spot in your court? The Landscape Committee will hold quarterly work days for cleaning up the landscape. Recently, board member Gabe Butler, addressed a problem in court 1. A resident was overrun with spreading nandina and ivy. Gabe worked to help remove the invasive plants. This saved the Mews over a thousand dollars. This is just one way your board is working for you, the resident. More to come on when these days will take place and what areas will be addressed.

REMEMBER when we, as residents, work together on a landscape issue as above, this saves the community money and will help keep condo fees in check.

Volunteers: Interested in assisting. We would love to have your help. Contact Sue Davis at shoebosue@gmail.com.

Your Landscape Committee

Sue Davis

Fern Birtwistle

Penny Glass

Help Prevent Sewer Backups

Please be mindful of items put in garbage disposals and toilets. Information below details what you can do to help prevent backups. If you experience a sewage backup in your unit, which typically occurs in the basement, please contact our CMC Property Manager. A plumber will be dispatched to assess the blockage and determine if it is the responsibility of the Mews.

You can help prevent sewer backups and the costs associated with repairs. Your cooperation will help to keep our monthly fees low.

Only toilet paper and human waste should be flushed in toilets. The following should **NOT** be flushed down the toilet:

- Kleenex, paper towels or napkins
- Dental floss
- Hair
- Feminine hygiene products
- Baby & adult wipes (even those marked “flushable”)
- Disposable diapers
- Condoms
- Pet waste & kitty litter

Backups are also caused by improper disposal of the following items in drains and garbage disposals. You should **NOT** put any of the following in your garbage disposal or sink drains:

- Grease/oil (let solidify and place in trash)
- Egg shells
- Coffee grounds
- Vegetables such as cornhusks, celery, cabbage, onions, potato peels, etc.
- Pulpy fruit and fruit seeds
- Chicken or fish bones
- Seafood shells (i.e., shrimp)
- Paint & caulk

Most garbage should go out with the trash; these items should never enter our sewer system. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

After-Hours Emergency Number

The CMC Emergency number is 703-631-7200 and should only be called in the event of an emergency that occurs outside normal business hours. The association is charged \$50 for every phone call received by the CMC emergency center. Events that constitute an emergency are those that cannot wait until the next work day and are under the control of the management company. Examples of an emergency include but are not limited to: your ceiling caved in due to water damage, fallen tree on your home, or you are experiencing a sewage backup in your basement. Please do not contact CMC if you have a loss of water or electricity as those services are controlled by Arlington County (703-228-6555) and Dominion VA Power (866-366-4357). The Mews occasionally has to turn the water off to a specific court in order to perform repairs, but this would occur during normal business hours and residents are notified in advance. Please help us control costs and contact the appropriate party in the event of an emergency or loss of utility services.

Get Involved

Would you like to become more involved in the Mews community? If so, there are opportunities to join one of our committees – the recreation, finance and fence committees could use your help. Additionally, court representatives are needed for Courts 2, 3, and 7. These courts have had vacancies for quite a while and the Board would greatly appreciate residents who are willing to volunteer. Please send a message to fairlingtonmews@gmail.com if you are interested in becoming involved with the Mews community.

Neighborhood Reminders



RECYCLING

Recycling bins are delivered to each court Tuesday morning and are picked up Wednesday morning. The following is accepted for recycling:

1. Mixed Paper: newspaper, magazines, inserts, office paper, brochures & glossy paper, paper bags, self-adhesive paper, post-it-notes, paper & hardcover books, catalogs, cereal & food boxes, telephone books, envelopes (with & without windows), & "junk mail"
 - Do not recycle paper plates and napkins or other items contaminated with food.
 - Remove liners in cereal and food boxes.
2. Corrugated Cardboard: pizza boxes & cardboard boxes
3. Commingles: aluminum cans, metal food cans, milk & juice cartons, plastic bottles & jugs (#1-7), wide-mouth plastic containers, aluminum foil & aluminum trays, empty aerosol cans, wire hangers, & rigid plastics
 - Empty and rinse all food and liquids from plastics, aluminum beverage and other metal cans (removing the label is unnecessary). Food contamination can cause an ENTIRE batch of commingled recyclables to be rejected!

DO NOT recycle:

- Glass bottles & jars, window glass, broken glass, or mirrors
- Plastic bags
- Plastic food trays & cups
- Ceramics & pottery
- Light bulbs
- Styrofoam
- Batteries
- Cookware (pots & pans)



TRASH COLLECTION

- Trash is collected six days a week, Monday through Saturday.
- Please put trash out by 8 a.m., but not the night before.
- Large items are collected on the first Saturday of each month.



PARKING RULES

- Each unit is assigned one parking space.
- Park only in your designated space or your vehicle may be towed.
- Visitors must park on the street unless using a specially designated visitor parking space.
- Call the posted telephone numbers to request towing or if your vehicle was towed.



PETS

- Owners must clean up after their dogs.
- All dogs must be leashed pursuant to Arlington County law.
- Cats must not be allowed to roam freely.
- No pets are allowed on the tennis courts at any time.
- Keep pets away from flowerbeds and border plantings.
- Do not allow dogs to bark excessively or leave barking dogs unattended on your patio.

CALENDAR

September 26: Board Meeting, 7pm, Fairlington Community Center

October 5: Large Trash Pickup

October 24: Board Meeting, 7pm, Fairlington Community Center

November 2: Large Trash Pickup

November 28: Thanksgiving Day – NO TRASH PICKUP!

December 7: Large Trash Pick

December 25: Christmas Day – NO TRASH PICKUP!

WEBSITE RESOURCES

Mews Website: www.fairlingtonmews.org

Mews Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/FairlingtonMews

Board Minutes/Newsletters:
www.fairlingtonmews.org/handbook-forms/archives/

Mews Trash & Recycling Guidelines:
www.fairlingtonmews.org/trash-recycling-2/

Fairlington Citizen's Association: www.fca-fairlington.org

Fairlington Appreciation Society Facebook Page:
www.facebook.com/groups/fca.fairlington/

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President:	Renee Powlette	4670B 36th St S, 703-671-2774, rpowlette@yahoo.com (Recreation Liaison)
Vice President:	Gabe Butler	4629 36th St S, A1 703-507-4730, gabrielaaronbutler@gmail.com
2nd Vice President:	Ryan Hamel	4694B 36th St S, 202-309-7744, ryanthamel@gmail.com
Treasurer:	Lori Stuntz	4608 36th St S, 202-527-2116, stuntle@gmail.com (Finance Liaison)
Secretary:	Kim Whittet	4622A 36th St S, 202-491-2650, kimwhittet@yahoo.com (Newsletter Liaison)

The meeting schedule and minutes are available on the Mews website, www.fairlingtonmews.org

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Landscape:	Sue Davis & Fern Birtwhistle, fern@fernb.com
Finance:	<i>VACANT - NEED VOLUNTEER</i>
Recreation:	<i>VACANT - NEED VOLUNTEER</i>
Carriage Lamps:	Janice & Larry Peters, 4605B 36th St. S, 703-578-4992

COURT REPRESENTATIVES

Court 1: 3600-3616 S Wakefield St	Lee Ware	3612 S. Wakefield St., 703-931-1270
Court 2: 4606-4630 36th St. S	<i>VACANT - NEED VOLUNTEER</i>	
Court 3: 4632-4636 36th St. S	<i>VACANT - NEED VOLUNTEER</i>	
Court 4: 4638-4654 36th St. S	Damon & Amy Gabriel	4640 36th St. S. #A2, 703-203-9177
Court 5: 4656-4674 36th St. S	Renee Powlette	4670B 36th St. S, 703-671-2774
Court 6: 4676-4698 36th St. S	Fern Birtwhistle	4678B 36th St. S, fern@fernb.com
Court 7: 4667-4671 36th St. S	<i>VACANT - NEED VOLUNTEER</i>	
Court 8: 4664-4686 34th St. S	Gretchen Martin	4680 34th St. S, 703-933-1368
Court 9: 4624-4658 34th St. S	David Biette	4638 34th St. S, 703-820-9589
Court 10: 4600-4618 34th St. S	Shirley Fein	4610 34th St. S, 703-553-0340
Court 11: 3408-3458 S Wakefield St.	Ashley Walsh	3426 Wakefield St. S, 757-705-9348
Court 12: 3500-3544 S Wakefield St.	Victoria Lipnik	3512 S. Wakefield St., 703-379-7160
Court 13: 4601-4611 36th St. S	Janice Peters	605B 36th St. S, 703-578-4992
Court 14: 4615-4637 36th St. S	Megan Chiarelli	717-586-7494, megan.chiarelli@gmail.com
Court 15: 4641-4665 36th St. S	Gordon Avery	4655 36th St. S, 703-820-3134

COMMUNITY MANAGER

Crystal Williams
 CMC Portfolio Manager
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 cwilliams@cmc-management.com