

7 December 2021

Happy December!

We hope many residents were able to enjoy the delightful SRCA holiday party, graciously hosted by Don and Sharon Frahler. Thank you especially to them and to all who worked so hard and made the party such a success!

In addition, we wanted to bring several items of interest to your attention.

First, thanks to the North Ridge Citizens’ Association, we have just learned that, with only one week of notice to the public, the City will hold a public forum to gather community input on “housing discrimination, barriers to housing access, and fair housing issues in Alexandria.”  The virtual City of Alexandria Fair Housing Public Forum is scheduled for **December 9, from 6:30 to 8 p.m.**  The event is free, but registration is required at:  [*https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-city-of-alexandria-fair-housing-public-forum-registration-184154961447*](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-city-of-alexandria-fair-housing-public-forum-registration-184154961447).

The meeting will present data on existing housing and demographic conditions in Alexandria.  Participants can join breakout sessions and discuss specific fair housing issues and their effects on communities.  Information gathered from this public meeting will be used to develop a Regional Housing Equity Plan.  That plan is reportedly intended to help direct federal funds to make housing more “equitable and accessible” for individuals and families in Alexandria and neighboring jurisdictions.

Second, at the SRCA December meeting, there were a few other issues of note:

* There was a preliminary discussion of proposed SRCA activities for 2022. If you have any suggestions, please feel free to share them by sending an email to: news4srca@gmail.com or attending the 6 January SRCA meeting.
* A reminder that all planned changes to the exterior of SRCA covenant homes (to include fences) should be submitted to SRCA using the “exterior modification” form found in the SRCA Directory and on the Documents page of our website, seminaryridge.net.
* It was agreed to ask whether Seminary Hill Association (SHA) would be willing to seek a consolidated response among all the communities represented by SHA on two issues that have arisen within Seminary Ridge: (1) (enforcement of) the proper parking of scooters and (2) the possibility of adding “when pedestrians are present” to the current “no turn on red” sign at the intersection of Seminary Road (heading east) and St. Stephens Road.
* Because the City has not removed the leaves on the Fort Williams Parkway median strip during the first two leaf collection pass-throughs, at the request of the Beautification Committee, SRCA approved contracting for this service (up to $100). This will be done on Saturday, 11 December, prior to the City’s final leaf collection starting 13 December.
* Officer Moore reported that the Police Chief intends to participate in SRCA’s January meeting to address whether the police intend to take a public position on potential changes to the Duke Street corridor. He also said a request has been forwarded to the City’s T&ES department to determine whether putting up a mirror at the Fort Williams Parkway and Seminary Road intersection would improve safety.
* There remain about 100 of the 237 SRCA covenant homes who have not yet paid their 2021-2022 dues. For those who have not yet paid, a $50.00 check, made out to “SRCA” may be mailed (or dropped off) to: Maria Browne, Treasurer; 3954 Fort Worth Avenue. Or, you may pay using the website, seminaryridge.net, by clicking on “Join Now” and following the directions (a PayPal account is not necessary).
* Following the SRCA meeting, Jeremy Flachs noted he has been in contact again with the developer for Karig Estates, requesting a meeting to walk the Karig - Beth El property line, and also walk the Karig property itself to identify trees which should be saved.