

December 23, 2020

Dear Clearidge Home & Property Owners,

Your HOA Board of Directors is requesting that you attend our **Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 24<sup>th</sup> at 4PM**, being held **via Zoom online**. **In order to attend**, please send your preferred email address to us at [clearidgehoa@gmail.com](mailto:clearidgehoa@gmail.com) so we can send you the Zoom meeting link/invite. **All owners** are invited to attend the meeting, whether they are current on CHA dues payment(s) or not.

Your Board has seen a few changes in 2020 for sure. The Clearidge sign has been repaired, painted and reinstalled, the round-a-bout is complete, the frontage area cleaned up, new plants and mulch installed and a ClearidgeHOA.com website update. Yet there is more to be done. In the meantime, it's important that we find one or more generous Clearidge owners that would be willing to share their time and expertise on the Board or even just helping maintain our website in 2021. Even if you are a "snowbird" and fly (or drive) off to other parts of Washington or the US, you can still volunteer as our meetings are now via Zoom and don't have to be in person. They generally last 60min or less and we have only had five thus far in 2020. If you are interested, or just want to get more information, email the Board at [clearidgeHOA@gmail.com](mailto:clearidgeHOA@gmail.com) and one of us will get back to you.

As I'm sure you realize, first impressions mean a lot...good ones last and bad ones are hard to change. Developers have attractive plantings at the entrance of their developments to set the stage to improve the value of the homes within. When we drive down Oaks Avenue and see all the new developments, we also see attractive plantings in garden (entrance) areas requiring minimal landscape maintenance.

We recently at the request of one homeowner, got bids to trim the trees along our frontage. The last time they were trimmed about 3 years ago, it was not done in the best manner, thus the "waterspouts" that we see growing straight up now. This type of tree normally would grow to 30' tall, and thus perhaps not the best choice originally we were told. We attempted to get three bids, however two of the companies, refused to bid on the appropriate trimming indicating it would be too expensive. The single respondent, our current maintenance company, gave us the numbers you see below.

We find ourselves in a predicament for which we are going to ask you to vote on how to handle the trees going forward. Currently we anticipate a cash balance of \$3,900 in our bank account as of 1/1/2021. Please note these bid amounts are in addition to our normal operating budget.

- If they are trimmed appropriately by an arborist, we are looking at approximately \$8,300; or
- If they are taken out completely, and replaced with large rhododendrons and escallonia, the price for the project would be approximately \$22,500 (includes tax, dump fees, grading, tree removal, mulch, plants etc.); or
- If the trees are basically topped, we will have the same waterspout issue happen again next year, and it is anticipated that it would be worse; or
- We could do nothing and just let them be.

Your vote, your choice!

If your dues were paid for 2020, a ballot will be included AND can be mailed **to Clearidge HOA c/o Warren Walz 4509 Guemes View, Anacortes, WA 98221** along with your dues. For your vote to count, it is essential ballots be received no later than January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021 at 6:00 PM. **In addition to trees, you will also be voting on the slate of candidates for the 2021 Board and approval of the 2021 budget.**