

POQUITO BAYOU TIMES

A Newsletter Published by the Poquito Bayou Community Association

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Greetings Fellow Poquito Bayou Residents!

Hello Poquito Bayou!!

Summer seems to have begun. The weather has been beautiful, everyone is walking /riding bikes, flowers blooming and kids playing. With that being said, let's keep an extra eye out for kiddos playing in the streets, riding bikes, etc....

As new president, I'm excited to be working with the board, members, and neighbors of Poquito bayou.

We have a ton of great ideas, initiative-taking board members, and fortunately a budget that allows us to give back. Our events coordinators, street monitors, board members have been working hard to make our neighborhood the most desirable/safest neighborhood around. I'm looking forward to meeting everyone I can in Poquito, until next month.

Sean Cramer

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS



National Hurricane Preparedness Week was April 30-May 6, 2023. The 2023 hurricane season starts June 1st. If you've lived here for a while, you know what to do. If you're new to our neighborhood and Florida, please start preparing for hurricanes. Be ready for hurricane season. You need to take action TODAY to be better prepared for when the worst happens. Here's some basic information to help you get started:

<https://www.ready.gov/hurricanes>.

<https://www.noaa.gov/hurricane-prep#:~:text=National%20Hurricane%20Preparedness%20Week%20is,begin%20pre%2Dseason%20preparations%20now>.



PBCA Task Force-Abandoned Homes

The PBCA board has created a small group, led by Nance Wendel, to gather information on homes in the neighborhood that appear to be long-term vacant, especially run down or abandoned altogether.

Our goal is to present information to the County Commission for their ideas to address these situations. We have gotten indications from past inquiries that there is 'nothing' the county can do about these properties if the taxes are being paid. Reaching out to different commissioners, we have found at least one who supports the effort to get some action going. He suggests we compile the information in a summary format that can be presented first to the Zoning Department. If this does not help, we will press on to find another method to get some action. We believe that any neighborhood in our area with no HOA is very attractive to homeowners for that very reason, but it leaves them no 'recourse' when owners are not taking 'common and expected' care of the property. This includes Lake Lorraine, Kenwood, and Elliott Point, at the very least. While we all support the rights of a homeowner to do what they want with their personal property, they do not have the right to interfere with their neighbors' right to 'quiet enjoyment' of their own homes and neighborhoods.

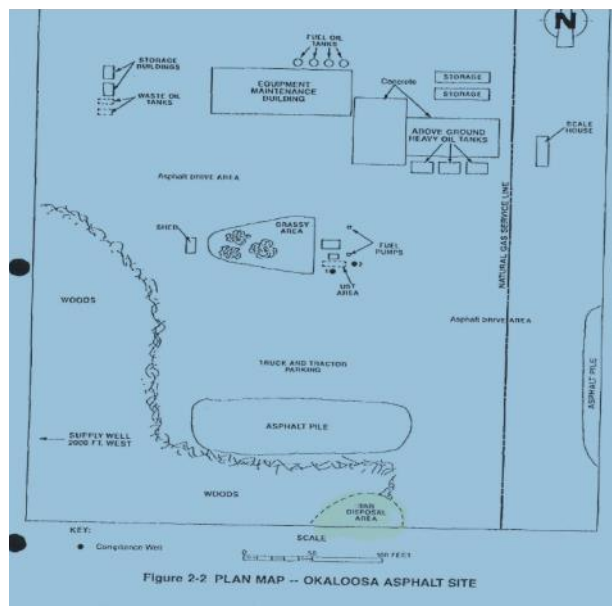
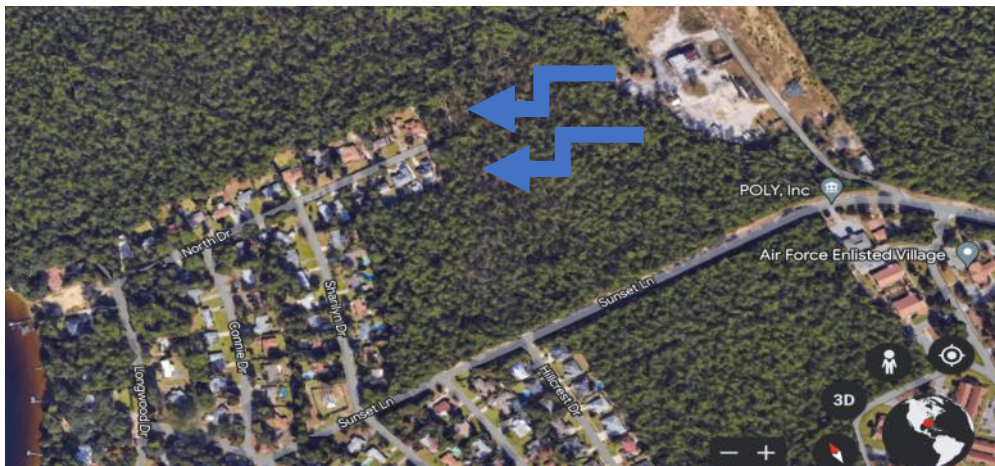
If you feel there is a home in this condition that should be included in this list, please reach out to Nance directly (850) 461-8537, so we can add it to the list. Due to privacy concerns, we will not publish the property list, but will provide some updates on progress as the project moves forward.

People Protecting Poquito Bayou Update.

We're still attending Shalimar and Crestview County Commissioners meetings. At each meeting, we speak on relevant topics pertaining to the proposed sale of private land to D.R. Horton. At each County Commissioners meeting, we present signed petitions requesting Phase I Environmental Inspection before the sale. So far, we've collected over 265 signatures from concerned citizens. We need volunteers to circulate petitions for signatures. **If you want to help, please contact us.**

A few weeks ago, we kicked off a proposed well testing initiative. We discovered that we needed to tailor this initiative. We have asked Geoff Maddux, a local geologist and President of GLM & Associates, Inc. to assist us in pinpointing specific areas to test individual wells for potential petrol-chemical contamination. We provided Geoff with a plethora of documents. After reviewing the documents and an independent study, he has advised us that the well water aquifer travels west/northwest towards the bayou (Note the blue arrows below). In the center of the property, the actual height is 50 feet and then starts sloping down towards the bayou. Looking at Figure 4-2 in the 1990 report, the fuel oil tanks, waste oil tanks and above ground heavy oil tanks are in proximity to the big buildings (northern arrow) and the tar pit & asphalt piles are close to the southern arrow. This validates Geoff's assessment of where we need to focus our search on potential well testing sites.

Geoff has recommended the area to get test samples from, have someone to properly collect the samples and do the testing. We're looking at three homes to test unless others specifically want to. Presently we have two homes identified on North & Sharilyn Drive to have their wells tested. The cost will be around \$500. If you want to have your well tested, please let us know. We need to know how deep your well is.



Road-Side Visibility

Several intersections here in our neighborhood have bushes/trees that limit visibility. It is your responsibility as a homeowner to trim any bushes/trees that are on your property or the county easement which might limit a driver's visibility. The picture below is an exaggeration but you get the idea! Thanks for your cooperation.



LONGWOOD ELEMENTARY

Our Leopards are working hard as they take their end of the year assessments. Leading up to this, we celebrated all students with a Test “Prep” Rally where we had performances by teachers, chants led by school administrators, and lots of music and dancing. It was a great time for all as we promoted our school mantra – We are “UNSTOPPABLE”

All grade levels have awards ceremonies coming up in the next week or two. During this time, we will recognize students for their many achievements. The last week of school will include a 3rd grade field trip to the Emerald Coast Science Center, and our 5th graders will be celebrating with a skate party.

Our character phrase for the month of May is: “Be Polite”. Each morning we give examples to our students of the importance of always being polite every day. At the end of the month we will recognize the students from each class that best exemplify being polite.

To find more information regarding our school, please follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/Longwood-Elementary-School-1261954677180100/>

POQUITO BAYOU COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
Minutes of the May 1st, 2023 meeting
Boyd Residence, 3A Poquito

Meeting called to order at 18:01

Present: Sean Cramer, Whitney Cramer, Bob Davis, Dave Hensley, Michael Aid, Felicia Murphy, David Boyd, Pat Hollarn, Tricia Flaherty, Nance Wendell, and Mary Ann Leone.

Minutes of the April meeting had been distributed; motion to approve was made by Felicia and seconded by Pat, minutes were approved. Treasurer's report for April was presented by Tricia, motion to accept by Pat, seconded by Michael, report was accepted. The current balance is \$10,873 between the various accounts, including bank, Venmo, and Paypal. The money for the plaques still must be paid, though nearly half has already been paid and Jane has money from donors.

Membership: Pam by text to Dave reported 99 members with paid renewed membership thus far for 2023. Michael will contact board members who have not yet renewed.

Welcome: Street Directors Felicia and Whitney are working on a new Welcome package/protocol.

Emergency Action/Watch/CERT: For Watch, Pat will ask Ashley about a monthly status report. Bob will send an email about acquiring new watch signs. A new CERT leader is needed and Dave will send in an article to Poquito Times to advertise this need/position.

BHEV: Bob is the liaison. No new update on access to the workout facilities.

Events: Felicia and Whitney are working on a potential Back to School summer event, details TBA.

Leo Norred Park: The plaques have all been ordered, and still awaiting delivery. Jane Fedosky-Hensley continues to monitor the production/progress. There is no change in status. Park maintenance is \$160 per month.

Poquito Boat Ramp Park: Dave reported that county workers had installed new picnic tables.

Street & Traffic Safety: The large drop off on Poplar has been repaired. Bob noted that there is a sign down at the corner of Lewis Turner and Poquito.

Street Directors: Felicia held a street director meeting in April. A mailer is in work after the website has been updated. New Street Directors include Allison Alley on Magnolia and Kiki on Poplar.

Old Business: Mike met with Kiki and picked up six storage bins. Felicia has 5, and Dave also has some PBCA materials. At the next meeting, Mike will present some options for storage going forward. With respect to the pathway between Magnolia and Holly used by children walking to school, Mike will reach out to Ms. Ketchel (County Commissioner) for an update. With respect to the Facebook pages, Mike reiterated that the Poquito Bayou Community Facebook page is under the control of one resident. The PCBA Facebook page is managed by our board members. In addition, PBCA has a website managed by Krystal Mays on behalf of PBCA. This website fee has been paid for this year. Tricia is the liaison for the Board. Requests for help for PBCA can be put on this website. There is no update on the Abandoned Homes committee. Nance discussed the Yard of Month signs and will work on the logo, and is waiting for a quote from the sign company, since a second sign is required.

New Business: At the next meeting, a decision will be made on the location and date for the General Membership meeting typically held in October. One consideration will be using BHEV and perhaps hosting an adult event (such as wine tasting) in conjunction.

PPPB: Dave discussed the Sunset Road development proposal (DR Horton) and what is being done to try to prevent an ecological disaster. Water sampling in the area is the next step.

Announcements: Newsletter articles for next newsletter due to Bob Davis by Sunday May 7th. Next PBCA board meeting to be held Monday June 5th at the Davis home at 34 Poquito at 1800.

Meeting adjourned at 19:21 pm.

David Boyd
Recording Secretary



“What would you do? What would you do if a hurricane or an F-4 tornado came through our neighborhood and destroyed half the homes in this area, leaving people hurt, trapped in debris and natural gas leaking from broken lines? You would do something, but what? Would you have a plan? Could you organize enough of your neighbors to help you? Most people do not like to think about these things happening to them, but if they do, we've been taught that all we have to do is call 911 and the Calvary will arrive to save the day. Right? With the scenario above, it is not likely we will get immediate response from other agencies. Situations like this can easily overwhelm the local response forces simply because your neighborhood may not be the only one affected. So, how can you help as a resident of your community? By becoming a member of the Community Emergency Response Team or (CERT). CERT trains citizens to prepare for, deal with, and recover from major emergencies or disasters. When a major emergency overwhelms local resources and help is delayed for hours or days, CERT-trained teams can begin to provide immediate vital services until help arrives.

Over 20 years ago, the Poquito Bayou Subdivision CERT team was a robust team with many volunteers. Today, we are now rebuilding our CERT team. We need your support. Contact Sean Cramer 850 259-9034 or cramedog97@gmail.com if willing to help rebuild our CERT program.

Here are some links about the CERT program.

https://community.fema.gov/PreparednessCommunity/s/until-help-arrives?language=en_US

https://community.fema.gov/PreparednessCommunity/s/cert-trainings?language=en_US

<https://myokaloosa.com/ps/emergency-management/volunteer>

POQUITO BAYOU COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

FINANCIAL REPORT

April 2023

Balance Forward from March 31, 2023 **\$6,794.71**

	<u>April 2023</u>	<u>Year to Date 2023</u>	
Income			
Membership Dues	\$200.00 1	\$1,490.00	
Donations	\$45.00 2	\$517.00	
Veteran's Memorial	\$0.00	\$50.00 *	
Halloween Event	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Easter Event Income	\$217.00 4	\$217.00	
Annual Meeting Bake Sale/Raffle	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Annual Meeting Donations	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Crawfish & Shrimp Boil	\$0.00 3	\$825.00	
New Sign Fundraiser	\$0.00	\$50.00	
Advertising	\$0.00	\$100.00	
Garage Sale	<u>\$170.00</u>	<u>\$170.00</u>	
Total Income	\$632.00	\$3,419.00	
Expenses			
Gulf Power	\$74.66	\$306.79	
Postage/P.O. Box	\$0.00	\$97.00	
Veteran's Memorial	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Garage Sale	\$34.04	\$34.04	
Candidates Night	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Supplies	\$106.93	\$106.93	
Childrens Christmas Party	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Friendsgiving Event	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Annual State Registration	\$0.00	\$61.25	
Website Expense	\$0.00	\$216.00	
Crawfish & Shrimp Boil	\$0.00	\$647.38	
Easter Event	\$101.38	\$281.52	
New Sign	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Mardi Gras Event	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Halloween Event	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Project/Repairs	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Leo Norred Mowing	<u>\$160.00</u>	<u>\$640.00</u>	
Total Expenses	\$477.01	\$2,390.91	
Reconciled Balance April 30, 2023			\$6,949.70
* Veteran's Memorial Collected to Date		\$3,510.00	
Venmo Balance as of 04/30/2023			\$2,862.95
Paypal Balance as of 04/30/2023			\$1,060.45
Total			\$10,873.10
YTD			
1 Dues Actual	\$1,460		
2 Donations Actual	\$502		
3 Crawfish Boil Actual	\$1,324		
4 Easter Event Actual	\$261		

May Membership

Below are the latest membership stats.
 Thank you for all those that have paid
 If you have not done so, please consider paying your membership dues of \$20.
 You can pay by check, cash, Venmo or PayPal.
 You can drop cash or check off at 17 Magnolia Ave.
 There is a black mailbox on the chain link fence to the left side of home.

5/10/2023					
Bay Street		2	1		50%
Birch Ave		38	5		13%
Hickory Ave		27	3		11%
Holly Ave		24	3		13%
Japonica Lane		28	2		7%
Magnolia Ave		43	8		19%
Maple Ave		41	5		12%
Poplar Ave		46	9		20%
Poquito Road	1 through 51	43	13		30%
Poquito Road	52 through 94	36	13		36%
Poquito Road	95 through 149	32	2		6%
Other			5		#DIV/0!
Walnut Ave		35	6		17%
		383	75		20%

POQUITO BAYOU COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC. MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION YEAR

Please complete this form and submit along with your \$10 dues to your Street Director or drop it off at the PBCA mailbox located at 17 Magnolia Ave (Pam Martin's house). Checks will be accepted, made payable to PBCA. Or mail to P.O. Box 1124, Shalimar, FL 32579

(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY) FOR YEAR 2022 _____ OR 2023 _____

Date Paid: _____ Dues: _____ Donation (specify area): _____ Check #: _____ Cash \$ _____

Name: _____ Spouse's Name: _____
(Last) (First)

Address: _____ Telephone No.: _____ E-Mail Address: _____
Please enter current E-Mail Address (If it changes, notify pcmartin1@outlook.com)

Minor Children: Boys () Ages: _____ Girls () Ages: _____

Concerns: 1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____

Would you be willing to help with: Events for Kids _____, Baking _____, Adult Social Events _____, Leo Norred Park & Clean-Up Days _____, Garage Sales Event _____, Interest in Action Committees? Street Maintenance & Traffic Safety _____, Environmental Matters _____, Emergency Action & Neighborhood Watch _____, Eglin Interface _____, Are you interested in serving on PBCA Board of Directors? _____ Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Training _____, Street Director _____

Other interests, ideas; things you'd like addressed? What are they? _____
(USE BACK OF FORM IF NECESSARY)

mbrform Rev. 10-2022

The form was not changed but 2023 dues are \$20 vice \$10. We are investigating a number of ways to enhance our neighborhood and it costs \$\$\$\$.



KNIFE'S EDGE

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 DELIVERY

MON. – FRI. 11AM-1PM

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
1	2	3	4	5	
BAKED HAM, scalloped potatoes & veg	PHILLY CHEES- ESTEAK & tots	MEATLOAF, mashed potatoes & vegetable	CHICKEN AL- FREDO & side salad	FISH TACOS, island rice, chips & salsa	
8	9	10	11	12	13
CHICKEN FRIED STEAK, mashed potatoes & veg	CHICKEN SALAD COLD PLATE	LASAGNA, garlic bread & sal- ad	PORK FRIED RICE & egg rolls	COCONUT SHRIMP, fries & pineap- ple coleslaw	
15	16	17	18	19	20
CLOSED	FRIED CHICKEN, mac-n-cheese & vegetable	ROAST PORK, baked sweet pota- to & vegetable	CHICKEN ENCHI- LADAS rice & guacamole salad	FRIED SEA- FOOD BAS- KET, French fries & coleslaw	
22	23	24	25	26	27
MONTE CRIS- TO SANDWICH & fruit salad	PIZZA, garlic knot & side salad	LIVER AND ON- IONS mashed potatoes & vegetable	*CLOSED*	*CLOSED*	
29	30	31			
CLOSED	BEEF TACOS, chips, queso & guacamole salad	BOURBON CHICKEN, rice & vegetable			

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