



Bel-Air Heights Home Owners Association

Bel-Air Heights Home Owners Association
P. O. Box 6072
Overland Park, KS 66206-0072
www.BelAirHeightsOP.net
BelAirHeightsHOA@gmail.com

Minutes from November 2020 Social Committee: 2020 Fall Activities Debriefing

These notes are a summary of and a “lessons learned” from our fall, 2020 activities.

Adhering to the current COVID-19 pandemic social distancing guidelines, we organized a contest for participants to find the individual letters **P-U-M-P-K-I-N** that were put in the yards of 7 Committee or Board members (1 letter per yard.) Jakob sent emails to the neighborhood about this activity. We had better than expected participation **with 15** submissions of the correct locations and letter in each location. Prizes of potted succulent plants were delivered to all winners. (Maybe consider giving out a more fun prize in future years?) Perhaps we can repeat this activity next year by spelling out a different fall-related word.

We organized a Halloween children’s and pet parade at 5:30 PM on Saturday, 10/31/2020. The weather couldn’t have been any nicer with cool, comfortable temperatures. The parade route started and ended at Ann Bohrn’s front yard, and proceeded south on Somerset until 94th Terrace, crossed the street and returned up the sidewalk to Outlook and back to Ann’s yard. We had a card table on which we put small treat bags containing glow sticks, plastic spiders, etc. for the children to receive (1 bag per child). Melissa purchased and assembled approximately 100 of these bags and we gave out 85+ of them. The rest were taken by committee members to give to neighbors who weren’t able to attend. There was no “inclement weather” date and we were delighted the weather was so conducive to this enjoyable activity. Jakob sent emails to the neighborhood about this activity. We received many thank you’s from parents and children with comments that it was really fun and they hoped we would have it again next year.

We had planned that the Trick or Treating would follow the parade but many residents on Somerset had tables and treats at the end of their driveways during the parade so the children picked up the treats as they paraded. These participating neighbors seemed to really enjoy themselves. Some had fire pits to keep warm during the activities and to warm any children who were interested in doing so. After the parade additional Trick or Treating took place by other neighbors putting treats at the end of their driveways. It appeared that the neighborhood as a whole had less trick or treaters than normal so we need to emphasize that treats are available **throughout the neighborhood** and not just on the parade route and that the trick or treating will start immediately after the parade. Jakob’s announcement email included information promoting this as a “safer” way for trick or treating since the pandemic has impacted most social activities.

We had a fall scene “photo area” for parents and their children and anyone else who was interested in using this as a backdrop for photos that either they took of themselves or Committee members took for them. We posted these photos on our neighborhood website. The area consisted of a hanging sheet (placed in a frame) of a gnome with fall foliage scenery artistically painted by Rebecca, and we placed bales of hay, corn stalks, pumpkins, mum plants, etc in front of the painted backdrop. We had this

available for admiring and photo taking on Friday, 10/23/2020 thru Sunday, 10/25/2020 and Friday, 10/30/2020 thru Sunday, 11/1/2020 in Ann's yard.

All total we spent about \$260 on these activities.

We organized one "Happy Hour" at 5:30 PM on Friday, 9/25/2020. It was attended by about 12-15 folks and was held in a socially distanced manner on Ann's circular driveway. Most participants brought lawn chairs and their food and drinks. If the pandemic is still a factor in 2021, we hope to continue this activity indefinitely if enough interest is shown.

We held a food drive on 11/13/2020-11/15/2020 and 11/2020/2020-11/22/2020 in Ann's garage. We collected close to 1000 pounds of food and supplies and donated them to 2 local food pantries.

On 12/1/2020 Jakob sent an email to the neighborhood telling them that Paul's Automotive, 83rd and Metcalf, was a donation site for the "Toys For Tots" drive and encouraged them to donate if they would like to do so.

What have I forgotten????

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Wagner, Social Committee Chair