

PARK PLAZAS

Community Connections



*Together with our warmest wishes
for the winter holidays,
here's a brief summary of 2021,
plus a quick look ahead to 2022.*

The PPCSA's year-long experiment with **professional management** was not as successful as everyone had hoped. This situation prompted the Board's decision to return to the community's traditional self-management. Longtime director Richard White became Community Manager earlier this fall.

(Note that Cathy Kosak continues to be our part-time Office Manager, while Richard is now working part-time as our Community Manager. Cathy's new email address is OfficeManager@parkplazas.org, and Richard can be reached at CommunityManager@parkplazas.org.)

Peter Whitman has been named to replace Richard on the Board. A 20-year resident of Park Plazas, Peter has previously served as a PPCSA director. Notably, he chaired the Water Committee that oversaw the transition of our submetering system. This will make him an invaluable backup to Richard.

During 2021, **mail theft** became a major concern. Residents were cautioned repeatedly not to leave incoming or outgoing mail in their mailboxes overnight.

Another important initiative in 2021 was a review of our sadly outdated Park Plazas signage. The project included formation of a **Sign Replacement Group**, led by our own Kathy Hargrave. (Kathy is the editor of *Park Plazas News* as well as the design/layout artist for *Park Plazas Community Connections*.) The group is now working with a sign expert who will propose several graphic design options before yearend.

As 2022 fast approaches, the work of the Sign Replacement Group will continue. Plans are being made for developing **full-size prototypes** that residents will be able to view.

For many of us, the biggest news of 2021 involved **soaring real estate prices**. Homes often sold very quickly, sometimes in just a few days, and received multiple offers, with the successful bid above list price. Will our sellers' market continue into 2022? Time will tell!

Several **new directors** are chosen every year, and there are three seats up for election in 2022. Three-year terms are expiring for Beth Brock, Nora Haskins and Bob Jacob. We appreciate their service!

Our managing editor, Laurie Glaze, has been named to the four-person **Nominating Committee** that will identify candidates for these Board positions. (She is also a member of the PPCSA's Communications Committee.) Other members of the Nominating Committee are Judy Carr and Deirdre Stiles, with Bruce Bender as chair. (Bruce is vice president of the Board and also heads the Architectural Control Committee.)

If you're interested in being on the Board, you should contact Bruce at ACC@parkplazas.org. Laurie would also be happy to answer general questions about Board service (LaurieGlaze@gmail.com).

Perhaps the biggest news for 2022 has to do with **assessments**. Since 2012, our assessments have remained at \$105 per month. (If assessments had kept up with inflation, they would now be \$128.) As our Board president, Tom Carr, discussed in the December issue of *Park Plazas News*, it seems likely that assessments will go up in the coming years, with \$10 annual increases proposed for 2022, 2023 and 2024. Decisions are expected to be made at the Board's December 22 meeting.

So that's our "sneak preview" of what lies ahead. And we'll end back where we started, wishing everyone **happy holidays** and all the best in the new year.

- JM

Sharing News/Creating Connections/Building Community

Mission Statement:

To produce a warm, personal, engaging and timely community-focused publication that creates and nurtures connections among all residents of Park Plazas. *Community Connections* is about people — highlighting what makes our neighbors interesting, makes them real, and makes others want to learn more about them.

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