



Spring Valley Lake Association

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Message from the Board President for SVLA Breeze February 2015

I am very pleased to report that we are starting the year off right with a successful audit of our 2014 financial results which confirmed what we already knew – 2014 was another solid year for SVLA and our members.

The audit report, which was approved at our January board meeting, should assure every member of SVLA that our financial practices are sound and our reporting fairly represents our financial position as of Oct 31, 2014. Our annual audit is conducted by a respected, independent CPA firm. The audit report is available on our web site www.svla.com.

Because of our financial strength last year, the board was able to fund our Reserve account with an additional \$400,000, which brings our balance to over \$1.3M. This contribution increased our %-funded from 42% to a very healthy 57%. SVLA had a goal to achieve 50% funding over the next few years, and we've achieved it years early. This Reserve level significantly decreases the likelihood that SVLA would ever need a Special Assessment to repair or replace any of our major community assets.

We conducted another Town Hall Q&A prior to the regular Board meeting with a focus on Public Safety. The session was conducted by our Public Safety Director Al Logan and SBSO Deputy Dave Romero. Deputy Romero stressed that the majority of thefts from residents' vehicles occurs from cars that were unlocked. Don't make it that easy for thieves. They also both emphasized that SVLA is a very safe place to live and residents should take common-sense measures to reduce the chances of becoming a victim. My take-away from the meeting was to 1) lock your doors, 2) consider a security system, and 3) consider installing security cameras around your home. While our Public Safety and Sheriff's Dept. do a fantastic job for SVL, they will never be able to stop all criminal behavior. It really comes down to taking personal responsibility for our own safety.

The January Board meeting agenda item of most interest was the rumor about the Walmart at Tamarisk Market Place outside of SVL. I hope you've gotten the message by now that rumors of a settlement with Walmart are not true. As discussed in great detail at the board meeting by myself and our expert legal counsel, this Board will continue to fight the project in every way we can, but there is no guarantee of the eventual outcome, and, unfortunately, there is a possibility of the TMP project moving forward someday. Your Board, GM, and legal counsel will continue to fight for the best outcome possible for our members.

Please remember that there is no "us" and "them" in actions we take as a Board. We are all in this together as a community. Each board member, who is also a homeowner in SVL, has a legal and fiduciary responsibility to always act in the best overall interest of SVLA, even if it means taking criticism from people who don't agree. While it's fine to criticize decisions made by me or this board, our decisions reflect what we believe are in the best interest of our OVERALL community, not any one group or vocal minority. We listen to both sides of an argument and then use our best judgment and experience to decide the best course of action for our community. It is an absolute certainty that not everyone will be happy.

Members are, of course, welcome to criticize myself and the Board for decisions we make. However, before you make negative comments on social media, web sites, or the local press about this Board, SVLA or our staff, please ask yourself if it is intended as a constructive comment that will help fix the problem, or is it just a "cheap shot" that will only hurt our community and portray SVL in a negative light in the eyes of other residents, prospective buyers and visitors. Remember, people's first impression of a community is a lasting one.

Please join us at our next Board meeting at 6PM, Feb 24 in the Community Building.

Scott Eckert

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