



The Conservatory at the Plains



January 2022

A Message from the Board President

December HOA Board Meeting Highlights

Board Elects Officers and Welcomes Max Strain

The board voted to retain Helen Hardin as President, James Lawrence as Vice-President and Bill Fisher as Treasurer and elected Christopher Horne to fill the position of Secretary for the association. James Lawrence volunteered to serve as the Board Liaison to the Design Review Committee.

Goals for 2022 were discussed, Bill Fisher and Chris Horne will work together to put them through the SMART goals filter, and they will be reviewed again in January.

There was lengthy discussion on how to encourage homeowners to step up and take leadership positions in the community. Next years social activities will not happen without new leaders. There will also be two board positions open. If you are interested, it is not too early to speak to a board member or our Community Manager about how to get involved. We need you.

Board training will be conducted online this year with all Directors taking the CAI's (Community Association Institute) Board Leader Certificate Course. This course is designed to provide a foundation for effective community association board leadership. CAI also offers many other learning opportunities for homeowner leaders online and in person through the Rocky Mountain Chapter of CAI. We provide a membership to CAI for all board members and committee chairmen. Membership is open to all interested homeowners too. Go to caionline.org for more information.

Winter Watering

On a recommendation from our landscape vendor, the board decided to invest in winter watering of both new plantings and the remainder of our trees and shrubs because of the extreme drought conditions we are having. Homeowners should also consider watering their landscaping to protect their plants. Check out this information about winter watering at <https://extension.colostate.edu/docs/pubs/garden/07211.pdf>.

Project Updates

Work continues on our clubhouse renovations, security upgrades, underdrain maintenance and pool equipment additions. Supply chain issues have slowed all the projects. We are hoping that they will be completed in early 2022. We cannot open the clubhouse to rentals until they are completed. The Conservatory HOA continues to be committed to resolving the trail erosion and underdrain outfall situation near retention pond 6 with the Metro District. Engineering solutions are being negotiated with the city of Aurora.

Contracts

Agreements with Westwind Management Group and Orten, Cavanagh, Holmes & Hunt LLC were renewed.

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Helen Hardin
Your HOA President

Social Committee Corner

Multicultural Exchange

January 15th 3:00pm - 6:00pm
Conservatory Community Center
All ages are welcome!

In an effort to celebrate our diverse community, the Diversity Committee would like to invite you to join in sharing your culture with your neighbors:

Food	Music	Storytelling
Art	Attire	Games
Crafts	Traditions	Culture



If you have an activity that you would like to present or items to exhibit, please let us know what you are willing to do or bring to the event by January 7th. You can sign up through the community website at conservatoryhoa.com or [click here](#) to go directly to the signup page.

Everyone in the neighborhood is invited to attend the event! If you are just attending the event, you don't need to sign up; just come see who lives in your neighborhood and hear their story.

December Event

Breakfast with Santa was another tremendous success! Santa told the elves that The Conservatory is his favorite place to visit because our kiddos are so well behaved! All the families had a wonderful time, and the weather was glorious! Thanks to all of Santa's elves for their hard work to make the event a success.

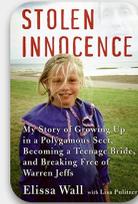
The toy drive was tremendously successful! Our collection box was overflowing with toys that would go to Colorado kiddos through Kenzi's Causes. Our collection was coordinated through Angie Jeltai, Real Estate Broker with Dubrova & Assoc., and Olga Zagulova, Fairway Mortgage.



No Pressure Book Club

2nd Tuesday of each month at 11:00am
Conservatory Community Center

Everyone is welcome to join the No Pressure Book Club. It doesn't matter if you are new to the community or are a long-time resident. Come join your neighbors for a lively discussion of the book of the month. The following are the book selections through February. The group will be selecting books soon. So, join the group to help us choose our books. Check out our upcoming reads:



January 11
Stolen Innocence
by Elissa Walls with
Lisa Pulitzer



February 8
The Midnight Library
by Matt Haig

Ladies Night Out Bunco

3rd Thursday of each month at 7:00pm
Conservatory Community Center



This group held their annual Holiday ornament exchange on the third Thursday of December, 12/16. The group will meet to play Bunco on the third Thursday of January, 1/20/2022 at the Community Center. Ladies, come meet your neighbors and have a load of fun!

Bring \$5 for the prize pot and a beverage or an appetizer/dessert to share. **We are always looking for ladies to add to our group! If interested in participating, email sfisher.conservatoryhoasocial@gmail.com.**

Potential Mahjong Group

The Social Committee is exploring the possibility of forming two Mahjong groups in the new year. We will plan to have one during the day for those who are home and prefer to participate during the day. We are also planning to have an evening group for those who are not available during the day. Don't know how to play? No problem! The first couple of gatherings will be instructional. The planning for this event was delayed because the Social Committee chose to take December off. So, watch the upcoming newsletters for more details as we finalize plans for these groups.



A Note from the Community Manager

Happy New Year! I don't know about you, but 2020 and 2021 have just felt like a blur! As we start a new year, I would like to remind you about the rules for compliance within the community. Complying with the rules and the regulations helps keep property values high and the community looking its best!

During the winter months when you aren't having to do lawn work, please ensure that the front of homes (and rear of homes if seen through fencing) are kept neat and tidy. Please do not store items on porches or driveways. Winter is a great time to bring your vehicles into compliance with up to date registration. Do you have grids that are falling in your windows? This, too, is a violation. Please remember that for any exterior work you will need to submit an application for approval through the Design Review Committee. All of the information for the process can be found at www.conservatoryhoa.com.

When the weather begins to warm and the growing season begins, it is imperative that yards remain weed free, trees and shrubs be trimmed, and that grass is mowed on a regular basis. Spalling driveways will need to be repaired with prior approval from the Design Review Committee. Houses will need to be painted and fences will need to be stained. Again, these projects cannot be done without PRIOR approval.

Campers, trailers, and RVs are only allowed for 24 hours during active loading and unloading. Otherwise, store these offsite or in the garage if able. Covered vehicles are NOT allowed within the community. For more information on these and other rules about compliance, please visit the Conservatory website where you can find the most updated copy of the Rules and Regulations.

Staying Lit Through January

Why Denver's Christmas Lights Stay On (And On)

Sad to see the Christmas lights come down as the holidays pass? Then come to Colorado! Denver doesn't stop dazzling just because it's January. If you're a native to the area, or pick up quick on local customs, you'll know that out here, we leave the lights on for you!

Every year, as the rest of the world puts it glimmer back in the box, Denver keeps it going for about another month. This holiday season lights come down January 24th.

That's because the lights come down when the Stock Show rides out of town. That's what we've been doing here, every year, since the mid 20th century. Although the very first Stock Show took place in late January of 1906, the tradition of staying lit rolled in later.

We weren't around to see what the 16th Street Mall was like in 1907, but we're guessing there wasn't a piano sitting on it. And the little food and shopping kiosks were more like mule carts. But there were lights!

Continue reading the article at <https://www.conservatoryhoa.com>.



Design Review Committee

Through November 2021, the Design Review Committee reviewed the following number of requests:

1	Concrete Installations/Replacements	1	Driveway Surface
0	Decks	0	Exterior Painting
0	Fencing	0	Gazebos/Pergolas/Awnings
0	Hot Tubs/Hot Tub Screens	1	Landscaping (trees, grass, xeriscaping)
0	Playsets	0	Radon Installation
0	Roofing/Gutter Replacement	0	Storage Containers (not sheds)
2	Solar Panels	1	Window Replacements
2	Other		

Please remember that ANY exterior improvement to your lot MUST have approval BEFORE you move forward with the project. The appropriate form and guidelines can be found at <https://conservatoryhoa.com>.

Board of Directors

President	Helen Hardin
Vice President	James Lawrence
Treasurer	Bill Fisher
Secretary	Christopher Horne
Director	Max Strain

Design Review Committee

Co-Chair	Duane Oudenhoven
Co-Chair	Joy DeMots

Operations Committee

Co-Chairman	Jim Hardin/Tim Siml
Flag	Steve Mann
Flowers	Rhonda Mann

Social Committee

Co-Chair	Chiree Guttormsen
Co-Chair	Brittany Horne
Secretary	Sharon Fisher

Communications Committee

Helen Hardin	Raenae Wann
Sharon Fisher	Christopher Horne

Conservatory Financials

November 2021

Operating Account	\$	189,247
General Reserves	\$	337,971
Underdrain Reserves	\$	1,567,878

Conservatory Contact Information

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Owner Portal

<https://portal.westwindmanagement.com>