



*Birds in Flight*

*Betty DeLaFuente*

# Houston Laker

September 2017

# September Community Calendar Events

Sept. 4<sup>th</sup> - 

Sept. 6<sup>th</sup> - **No Trash Pickup this week.**

Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> - City Council Meeting, 7:30pm – City Hall

Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> - Recycling Day

Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> - Venetian Gardens Homes Association Meeting, 7:00pm – City Hall

Sept. 21<sup>st</sup> - Houston Lake Art Circle Meeting, 7:00pm – City Hall

Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> - Houston Lake Art Circle Annual Pumpkin Festival, 6:30pm - City Hall

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## **[Sheriff Owen Warns Citizens in Regards to Telephone Fraud](#)**

Sheriff Owen wants to make the citizens of Platte County aware of fraudulent telephone calls that have targeted Platte County residents over the past few days. In this telephone scam, a male party calls a targeted individual and identifies himself as, "Deputy Jackson" or Sergeant Jackson" with the Platte County Sheriff's Department Warrant Division. The caller then explains to the target that they have an outstanding bench warrant issued by the Platte County Courts for missing jury duty and if the target pays a bond over the telephone or by wire transfer, they can avoid being arrested on the warrant. The calling party was described as being very persuasive and knew enough details about the targeted individuals and the Platte County Sheriff's Office to sound credible. When the caller was asked for some type of verification, or the targeted individual indicated that the call was a scam, the calling party ended the call.

If you do receive a call similar to this, do not provide any type of personal or payment information to the caller, simply hang up and contact the Platte County Sheriff's Office or your local law enforcement agency. If you have already received a call of this nature and provided personal or payment information to the caller, contact the Platte County Sheriff's Office to file a report as we are investigating this matter.

"I want the public to know that the Platte County Sheriff's Office does not, and will not engage in any type of telephone solicitation for payment of bonds, fees, or fines in regards to outstanding warrants". - Sheriff Mark Owen

# Houston Lake History Books & 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition Cookbooks on sale.

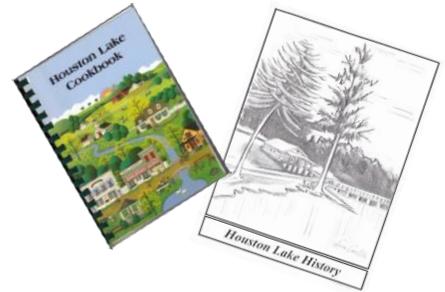
This would make a wonderful gift to someone special.



3 = books for \$10.00

2 = books for \$8.00

1 = book for \$5.00



**All the proceeds will go to the  
Houston Lake Arts Circle.**

To purchase your books please call President of the Houston Lake Arts Circle Linda Kramer – 816.225.4110 or Mary Head - 816.741.5639.

Thank You

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## HOUSTON LAKE COMMUNITY BOOK EXCHANGE

Houston Lake has a Community Book Exchange available for everyone's use. If you want a book, come get one. If you want to donate books, just leave them. And thanks! We'll take puzzles and magazines too. The top shelf is for the adults, the bottom shelf is reachable for kids. Located at 5417 N.W. Adrian (City Hall front porch).

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## Advertising at a price you can afford!!!



If you want to advertise a product or service, try the Houston Laker. The price is the same for Small Businesses, Individuals or Corporations.

FULL PAGE \$20.00/mo. or \$200.00/year

HALF PAGE \$10.00/mo. or \$100.00/year

LAST PAGE OF HOUSTON LAKER – Sorry, already sold!

Have your ad to me by the 24<sup>th</sup> for next month issue.

For more information call Editor Mary Head (816)741-5639.



This is the most affordable form of advertising in the Kansas City area.  
And you support your home town paper.

# **Houston Lake Arts Circle**

INVITES YOU TO OUR ANNUAL

# **Pumpkin Festival**



**Wednesday, October 4, 2017**

**6:30 at City Hall**

FALL FLAVORED POTLUCK AT 7PM

FIRESIDE STORIES \* MARSHMALLOW ROASTING

MASK-MAKING FOR THE KIDS \* RAFFLE FOR HALLOWEEN PRIZES



# Houston Lake Arts Circle News

## **Birds, Blossoms, and Bugs Art Show**

We would like to thank everyone – the artists and our guests – for making our third annual art show a lovely success! We had over fifty visitors join us to view the diverse selection of artwork submitted by sixteen of our talented neighbors.

If you missed the art show, remember the artwork will be on display throughout the year, with the selection rotated in February.

## **Pumpkin Festival**

Our 4th annual Pumpkin Festival is next month, Wednesday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 at City Hall. Please join us and bring a tasty dish for our Pumpkin Feast, a fall-flavored potluck. The kids will enjoy another year of mask-making and everyone is welcome around the bonfire for marshmallow roasting and a classic autumn tale.

New to our event this year is a raffle for fall prizes. Proceeds benefit the HLAC. Don't miss the opportunity to support your community's art circle while also taking a chance to win a great, season-appropriate, crafting kit along with other prizes.

Bring your family, friends, a roasting stick for marshmallows and a dish to share (with the recipe)!

## **New Meeting Date**

If you have wanted to join our meetings, but Wednesdays did not work for you, here is your chance! For the remainder of the year, our meeting date has moved to Thursdays (3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month). Our next meeting will be Thursday September 21<sup>st</sup>. The time and location remain the same, 7pm at City Hall. We hope you can join us!

## **Houston Laker Cover Art**

A special thanks to those who have contributed their artwork for the Laker covers this year. We are now looking for folks who would like to contribute works for 2018 issues. August, November and December covers are still available! If you are interested, please contact Linda Kramer, HLAC president at [lindakramer@gmail.com](mailto:lindakramer@gmail.com).

## **Stay Connected**

If you would like to join our electronic mailing list, please send an email to [arts.circle@houstonlake.net](mailto:arts.circle@houstonlake.net). Also, please like us on Facebook- [Facebook.com/artscircleofhoustonlake/](https://www.facebook.com/artscircleofhoustonlake/)

**We look forward to seeing you at our next meeting – Thursday, September 21, 7pm at City Hall.**



## **Attention: Residents of Houston Lake**

The Venetian Garden Home Owners Association has the following positions available for the 2017/2018 term.

- 1. President (2 yr. term)**
- 2. Vice President (2 yr. term)** - \* 1 yr. term for 2017/2018 election currently available due to resignation of current VP.
- 3. Treasure (2 yr. term)**
- 4. Secretary (2 yr. term)**
- 5. Board Member I (2 yr. term)**
- 6. Board Member II (2 yr. term)** - N/A for 2017/2018 election; available in Oct-2018 for 2018/2019 election.

Please complete the attached application and submit to the City Hall mailbox (located on the front door of City Hall) in a sealed envelope labeled "HOA Application" no later than 21-Sep-2017 (20 days prior to election) to have your Name, position for which you are running and short biography included in the Oct-2017 issue of the Houston Laker. Do not include your name or position for which you are running on the outside of the envelope. All applications will be opened and reviewed by the Board Members collectively.

To be eligible for office, the applicant:

1. Must be current on HOA Dues.
2. Must be a property owner of a lot(s) located within Venetian Gardens HOA.
3. Must be willing and available to attend monthly public meetings for the full term.

The board looks forward to receiving YOUR application!

# 2017 Volunteer's Project List

## Venetian Gardens Home Association



**Site Location:**

Peninsula located on North Adrian Drive Houston Lake, Mo.

**Project Description:**

Removal of invasive plants:

**Site Location:**

Main Spillway located under bridge on Houston Drive Houston Lake, Mo.

**Project Description:**

Removal of Storm debris:

**Site Location:**

Shoreline on NW Edgewater Trail & Houston Dr. Also to include beach area  
Houston Lake, Mo.

**Project Description:**

Removal of invasive plants:

**Site Location:**

Parks / Shelters on Houston Drive Houston Lake, Mo.

**Project Description:**

Removal of trash bag / Raking / removal of unsafe objects:

**Site Location:**

Parks / Shelters on Houston Dr. Houston Lake, Mo.

**Project Description:**

Pressure wash wood structures / Treatment

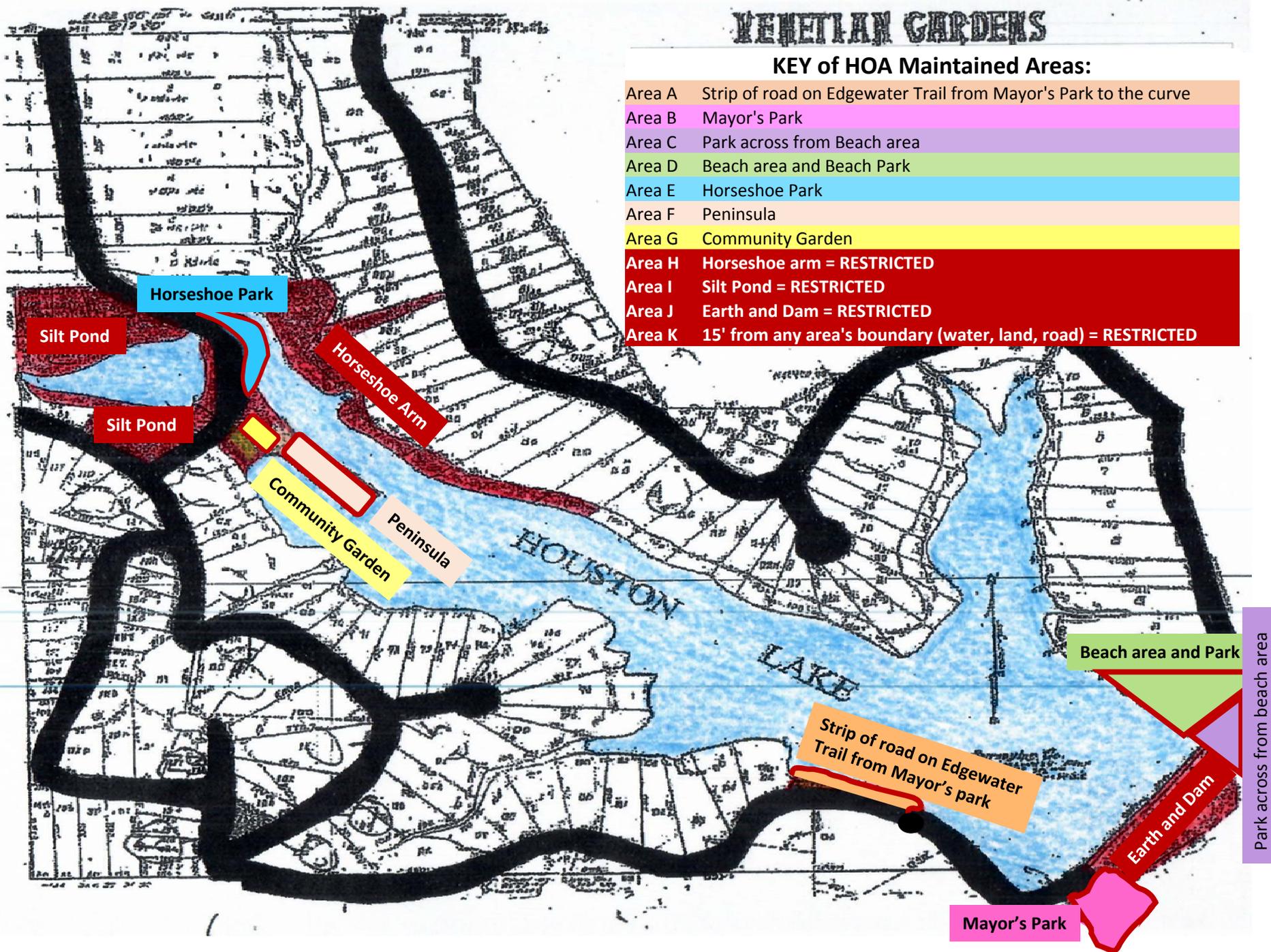
Please email President Joe Chepren if you would like to volunteer at  
[joe@houstonlake.net](mailto:joe@houstonlake.net). Thank You

August 7, 2017  
5417 North Adrian - Houston Lake, Mo. 64151

# VENETIAN GARDENS

## KEY of HOA Maintained Areas:

- Area A Strip of road on Edgewater Trail from Mayor's Park to the curve
- Area B Mayor's Park
- Area C Park across from Beach area
- Area D Beach area and Beach Park
- Area E Horseshoe Park
- Area F Peninsula
- Area G Community Garden
- Area H Horseshoe arm = RESTRICTED
- Area I Silt Pond = RESTRICTED
- Area J Earth and Dam = RESTRICTED
- Area K 15' from any area's boundary (water, land, road) = RESTRICTED



Venetian Gardens Home Owners Association  
**Venetian Gardens Homes Association**

**SUBMISSIONS:** Please submit all proposals in a sealed envelope/package, labeled "HOA Community Project" to the City Hall mailbox (located on the front door of City Hall). Do not include your name or personal information on the outside of the envelope/package. All applications will be opened and reviewed by the Board Members collectively.

**Purpose of the project (Please describe):**

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**Benefit(s) to the community and/or project goals (Please provide):**

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**Duration (how long will the project be in place?):**

**Proposed community involvement for implementing the plan?**

# of residents to implement the plan: \_\_\_\_\_ (Qty.)

Names of pre-identified volunteers

Volunteer 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Volunteer 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Volunteer 3: \_\_\_\_\_

Volunteer 4: \_\_\_\_\_

Volunteer 5: \_\_\_\_\_

*\*Attach signed waivers for each volunteer*

**Proposed community involvement for maintaining the plan?**

# of residents to maintain the plan: \_\_\_\_\_ (Qty.)

Names of pre-identified volunteers

Volunteer 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Volunteer 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Volunteer 3: \_\_\_\_\_

Volunteer 4: \_\_\_\_\_

Volunteer 5: \_\_\_\_\_

*\*Attach signed waivers for each volunteer*

**Provide estimated timeline to implement and complete project development:**

Description	Start Date	End Date
Task 1:		
Task 2:		
Task 3:		
Task 4:		
Task 5:		

Venetian Gardens Home Owners Association  
**Venetian Gardens Homes Association**

**SUBMISSIONS:** Please submit all proposals in a sealed envelope/package, labeled "HOA Community Project" to the City Hall mailbox (located on the front door of City Hall). Do not include your name or personal information on the outside of the envelope/package. All applications will be opened and reviewed by the Board Members collectively.

Estimated cost to the HOA:

\$

*NOTE: Any proposal involving HOA restricted zones/areas or containing use of restricted materials/equipment will be automatically rejected by HOA.*

Exit Plan:

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*NOTE: The Exit Plan must include 60 days notice to the HOA board of intention to retire the project so the Area may be re-opened for new proposals.*

## HOA COMMUNITY PROJECT RESTRICTIONS:

HOA COMMUNITY PROJECT RESTRICTIONS:			
Restricted Projects	Explanation	Description	Resources
1 Any item(s) currently restricted by the City of Houston Lake and requiring a permit (must be approved by the City FIRST).	Projects must meet all current HOA and City of Houston Lake requirements.	Includes fire pits, development of permanent structures, structure additions including decks, docks, and any other development requiring a city permit.	Reference the Houston Lake website at <a href="http://www.houstonlake.net/home.html">http://www.houstonlake.net/home.html</a> to view requirements of the Venetian Gardens HOA and Houston Lake city government.
2 Projects involving any work requiring a licensed contractor (electrician, plumber, general contractor, etc.).	Projects requiring use of a licensed contractor must have a permit and be approved by the Houston Lake City Counsel.	Includes any work requiring outside, contracted labor.	N/A
3 Projects requiring fastening to existing structures.	The City of Houston Lake and Venetian Gardens HOA structures are not available for community projects.	Fences, additions, decking, etc.	N/A
4 Projects involving animals of any kind.	This is a restriction of the City of Houston Lake.	Farm animals, domestic animals, exotic animals, reptiles or animals of any kind.	Reference the Houston Lake website at <a href="http://www.houstonlake.net/home.html">http://www.houstonlake.net/home.html</a> to view requirements of the Venetian Gardens HOA and Houston Lake city government.
Restricted Areas	Explanation	Description	Resources
1 HOA Zone - Defined as 15 feet from any boundary of the available property A-I; (see attached map of identified HOA maintained land)	To reduce erosion and siltation causing shallow areas around the lake, and to allow for service and maintenance projects as required by the HOA.	Includes ANY alterations to the landscape in the restricted zone; removal and treatment of <i>any</i> vegetation especially existing trees, brush, weeds, flowers, etc. and contamination of any kind.	Vegetation is an assemblage of plant species and the ground cover they provide. It is a general term, without specific reference to particular taxa, life forms, structure, spatial extent, or any other specific botanical or geographic characteristics.
2 Houston Lake (the lake itself)	To protect the residents and ecosystem from alterations resulting in poisoning and/or death to the vegetation and the people and animals who rely upon it. To stay compliant with the Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.	Includes ANY alterations to the landscape in the restricted zone; removal and treatment of <i>any</i> vegetation especially existing trees, brush, weeds, flowers, etc. and contamination of any kind.	N/A
3 Horseshoe Arm (see attached map)	To prevent further deterioration and erosion; to allow the HOA to perform restoration and maintenance projects; to stay compliant with the Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.	Includes ANY alterations to the landscape in the restricted zone; removal and treatment of <i>any</i> vegetation especially existing trees, brush, weeds, flowers, etc. and contamination of any kind.	N/A
4 Silt pond (see attached map)	To prevent erosion and interference with the engineering work that has been completed; to stay compliant with the Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.	Includes ANY alterations to the landscape in the restricted zone; removal and treatment of <i>any</i> vegetation especially existing trees, brush, weeds, flowers, etc. and contamination of any kind.	N/A
5 Earth and Dam (see attached map)	To protect and maintain the function and safety of the dam. To stay compliant with the Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.	Includes ANY alterations to the landscape in the restricted zone; removal and treatment of <i>any</i> vegetation especially existing trees, brush, weeds, flowers, etc. and contamination of any kind.	N/A
Restricted Materials	Explanation	Description	Resources
1 <u>Non-organic</u> chemicals are NOT to be used on any part of the 1) HOA zone, 2) the Lake or 3) in projects involving consumable resources.	To avoid any type of potential poisoning to plants and animals which may be used for human consumption.	Includes any non-organic chemicals used for pest control, weed control and water treatments to the Lake for any reason.	<a href="http://npic.orst.edu/mlrDetail.html?lang=en&amp;to=SPE&amp;state=MO#statePesticide">http://npic.orst.edu/mlrDetail.html?lang=en&amp;to=SPE&amp;state=MO#statePesticide</a> P: 1.800.858.7378 E: <a href="mailto:npic@ace.orst.edu">npic@ace.orst.edu</a>
2 Any single item weighing over 200 lbs.	To avoid additional expenses to the City of Houston Lake residents for moving/removing items as future plans are proposed.	Boulders, large structures, timbers, fountains, statues, etc.	N/A
3 Poisonous vegetation.	To avoid unnecessary risk of poisoning to residents and children.	Plants (e.g., poinsettias, castor beans, etc.), fungi, cacti or ANY other poisonous plants.	<a href="http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/earthkind/landscape/poisonous-plants-resources/common-poisonous-plants-and-plant-parts/">http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/earthkind/landscape/poisonous-plants-resources/common-poisonous-plants-and-plant-parts/</a>

### HOA COMMUNITY PROJECT REQUIREMENTS:

Requirement	Explanation	Description	Resources
1 The project must not obstruct the view of the lake.	To allow for all residents to enjoy views of the lake.	Tall plants, structures, decorative items, etc. not to exceed 3 ft. (36") in areas of resident lake view.	N/A
2 Projects with free-hanging items are required to use wind-resistant hangers.	To prevent hanging items from coming loose during a storm and being damaged, causing damage or causing littering of the property or lake.	Artwork, plant baskets, wind chimes, bird houses and all other hanging items.	N/A
3 Projects are required to use "Better Homes and Gardens specifications" or "equal" for planters, planter boxes, pots, etc.	To provide a timeless appearance and appeal to all residents.		N/A
4 All projects must be ready to start implementation within 30 days of approval.	To avoid neglected plans and allow all residents equal opportunity to propose action-ready proposals.		N/A

### HOA COMMUNITY PROJECT CONDITIONS:

Requirement	Explanation	Description	Resources
1 Project to start within 30 days of approval.	To allow all residents an equal opportunity to participate.	30 days from the date of the HOA presentation and community voting.	N/A
2 Volunteers identified for implementation and maintenance	Supporting evidence that the plan will not be abandoned for a minimum of < 1 yr.	An appropriate number of residents (based on project size and scope) who are willing to make a 1 yr. commitment for implementing and, where appropriate, maintaining the project.	N/A
3 Waiver for every resident who participates in the project	Supporting evidence that the plan will not be abandoned for a minimum of < 1 yr.	Volunteer waivers are available from any HOA Board Member.	Request from HOA Board Member
4 Must have 1) Initiation Plan, 2) Maintenance Plan and 3) Exit Plan (materials and timeline)	Supporting evidence that the plan will be implemented and maintained for a minimum of < 1 yr.	A materials list and timeline are required at a minimum.	N/A

# HOA Community Projects Guidelines and Timelines

**HOA Community Project Conditions:** **Monthly**

Must be current on HOA dues  
 Min 1 yr. commitment  
 Any proposal containing use of restricted materials/equipment will be automatically rejected by HOA based on published guidelines.

**2018 HOA Budget for ALL Community Projects:** \$ In Progress (TBD) - Bring all proposals in the interim

**Submission cycle:** **Monthly**

<b>TIMELINE (First submissions)</b>	Date	
All First Submissions due to HOA:	Aug. 30, 2017	<b>2 weeks prior to HOA</b>
HOA Review Complete:	Sep. 6, 2017	<b>1 week prior to HOA</b>
Notification to Residents with Proposals:	Sep. 6, 2017	<b>1 week prior to HOA</b>
Community Presentations:	Sep. 13, 2017	<b>HOA public meeting</b>

*\*Oct. 2017 will be skipped due to HOA elections.*

<b>TIMELINE (Future submissions)</b>	Date	
Submissions due:	Nov. 1, 2017	<b>2 weeks prior to HOA</b>
HOA Review Complete:	Nov. 8, 2017	<b>1 week prior to HOA</b>
Notification to Residents with Proposals:	Nov. 8, 2017	<b>1 week prior to HOA</b>
Community Presentations:	Nov. 15, 2017	<b>HOA public meeting</b>

**Existing Projects:**

Houston Lake Community Projects that were established prior to the public release and notification of this Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) at the HOA meeting held on 16-Aug-2017 (a.k.a. existing projects) will not be subject to a Community vote, however all existing projects will be held to the same standards, restrictions and requirements, and guidelines and timelines as identified and outlined in this Venetian Gardens Homes Association, Proposal for Community Projects Standard Operating Procedure/SOP. Existing projects that do not meet the guidelines outlined herein, will have 90 days to prepare and submit a proposal to the HOA for review, present to the community for voting and complete implementation of the proposal to bring said project to written parameters. Any existing projects that do not meet the current HOA SOP in the 90 day timeline, will be re-opened to the community for future proposals.

**Neglected/Abandoned Projects:**

Any project lacking development or maintenance, or any project abandoned for 90 days will be re-opened to the community for future proposals.  
 Any project that does not meet the HOA Restrictions & Requirements for 90 days will be re-opened to the community for future proposals.

**HOA Checklist for review:**

- Will the project start within 30 days?
- Does it have 1) Initiation Plan, 2) Maintenance Plan and 3) Exit Plan?
- Does it have a implementation timeline?
- Does it meet the written list of Restrictions, Requirements and Conditions?
- Are volunteers identified for both implementation AND maintenance?
- Does it stay within the available budget?

## Venetian Gardens Homes Association

### Minutes of July 19, 2017 Meeting

Vice Pres. Nick called meeting to order at 7 PM. Everyone was welcomed and asked that cell phones be turned off.

All Board Members were present.

Pres. Joe stated that the Agenda from last month hadn't changed except for the Bank balances. He asked that everybody who has something to say come to the podium, including Board Members, so there is structure in the meeting.

Bank Balances was reported by Treasurer Jan Jackalone as follows as of July 14, 2017:

Business Checking	\$25,539.27
Money Market	\$50,608.29
CACU - CD	\$75,000.00
Total Combined	\$151,147.56

Regarding the Water Test done by Solitude Lake Management, there is still some info requested on how to address some lake issues. Pres. Joe has a call into Solitude's Biologist.

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#### Sub-Committee Reports:

**Lake Maintenance:** Gary Halterman reported that the problem with the lake aerators was that they had not been maintained since installation and that it was best to get a diver to get the other ones up to service. Chuck Stone, on Houston Lake, has a Divers Certificate and offered his services plus the cost of rental equipment. Chuck will send a copy of his certificate to Secy. Jan for file and he will sign Liability Release.

An ICY COOL Cup were presented to Gary and Todd Lagessie for their investigative work in pulling up the hoses for the lake maintenance project.

**Volunteers Waiver:** Will be ready to sign when we prepare Job Orders on projects that need to get done. Pres. Joe thanked Teresa Olson for making an effort to get a Waiver to the City and HOA for their needs.

**Pam Freese – Mayor of Houston Lake,** present a project from Community Betterment that said their study showed that people would want to help in their community but they don't know what the needs are and that the City/HOA needs to reach out to find who volunteers are and how they can help and identify people in our community who could use help.

**Sarah James –** Stepped forward and suggested that the HOA form a THINK TANK. Using our heads and hearts to make our community better.

**Past Due Members –** How much are we spending and how is it looking Teresa Olson asked. Working with Attorney to make collections otherwise it will go to vote for hiring collection agency.

#### OPEN DISCUSSION at the podium:

Gary and Janet Halterman presented a use for the Community Garden. Using it as a Bird Sanctuary. That would be tabled until a future meeting and Pres. Joe commented on Gary's detailed drawing of the proposed sanctuary.

Janet Halterman mentioned that we should clean up the garden now and start in the fall. Get Kids involved in making the planting beds, etc.

Sherry Burrup ask about moving the rock, use the larger rocks on the outside perimeter of the peninsula or give folks opportunity to request rock for their own use.

Meeting adjourned. Next meeting is August 16, 2017.

Venetian Gardens Homes Association  
Minutes of August 16, 2017 Meeting

Vice Pres. Nick Jackalone called meeting to order at 7PM. Everyone was welcomed and asked that cell phones be turned off. There were 18 Households represented.

All Board Members were present.

Minutes of the June 21, 2017 that appeared in the Houston Laker were approved by members.

Bank Balances were reported by Treasurer Jan Jackalone as follows:

Business Checking	\$25,305.35
Money Market	\$50,641.75
CACU – CD	\$75,000.00
Total of Accounts	\$150,947.10

Pres. Joe Chephren introduced a new position to the HOA. **Community Public Relations Officer**. He introduced Shelly Broll saying she has been identified as a member of the HOA with the best communication skills and her zeal for the opportunity for growth and development of the Houston Lake Community.

Shelly has been working with Board Members to develop an Application to the Board for annual elections and Definitions and Restrictions of HOA Community Projects among other areas that need attention. Welcome Shelly Broll and we appreciate your input.

**Sub Committee Reports:**

**Aerator System Officer – Gary Halterman** said the aerator pump had been repaired. He produced a visual of the diffuser system which is at the bottom of the lake and how it works giving members an understanding of the diffuser's function. There are five diffusers and the parts have been received to maintain them. Maintenance will depend on the rains and murkiness of the water.

**Wildlife Control Officer – Janette Boehm** reported there was a possible ferrel cat with two kittens on the lake and would look into trapping them for Spay, Neuter and Release program.

**Grow Native Officer – Jan Jackalone** said that the Butterfly Garden on the Peninsula was officially registered as a Monarch Waystation.

No other Sub Committee Reports were made.

**Old Business:**

Pres. Joe said that in the last two meetings, there were lots of questions about volunteers. With the help of Teresa Olson who offered to find info. On the Liability Waivers, the process is near completion. The City took their ideas to their Attorney and an approved Waiver is being prepared to be used for current and future volunteers.

Copies of Maintenance Projects will be listed. Included will be project needs, money projected for project costs which will be supplied by HOA, and Waivers.

If any project requires more than one person, then Pres. Joe suggested there be a "Team Leader" designated who will be in control of the entire project.

There will be more information on the upcoming Volunteer Projects.

Pres. Joe said that regarding removal of the silt fence on the siltpond it maybe premature because work will done on this area in early 2018. \$5,000 has been earmarked for this project.

HOA By-Laws are being reviewed under Board Member Keith Carey's direction. Looking at restructuring Voting Procedures, Board Member Applications and docks.

Pres. Joe said that regarding Board Member Applications the One Year Residence Requirement was now voided.

Meeting Adjourned at 8 PM. Next Meeting is Sept. 20,2017.

PLEASE CONSIDER APPLYING FOR THE BOARD MEMBER POSITIONS AVAILABLE. See the September and October issues of the Houston Laker for more information.

Our Annual Meeting is scheduled for October 18, 2017 @ 7 PM.

**City of Houston Lake**  
**Official Minutes of the Council Meeting**  
**July 10, 2017**

The Council of the City of Houston Lake met in regular session on July 10, 2017 at City Hall. The following members were present: Mayor Pam Freese, Alderman Joyce Kullman, Alderman Nick Jackalone, Alderman Phil Otte. Alderman Evadene Judge

**1. Opening Session**

- The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Freese.

**2. Public Discussion**

- Sharon DeLaFuenta, has reviewed the letter from attorney referencing repairs made on the bridge. Ms. DeLaFuenta stated that clarification may need to be made in communication with the attorney. She voiced her concerns with safety due to increase traffic since the bridge has been closed.
- Craig Sovereign stated that he had no concerns with bridge closing and finds no additional issues with keeping the bridge closed.
- Joe Chepren discussed that the efforts to reopen the bridge has caused conflict on both sides of the bridge reopening project. Mr. Chepren explained that the bridge plan cannot be addressed any further until other actions have taken place.

**3. Minutes June 12, 2017 and June 19, 2017**

- Mayor asked for an approval of the June 12, 2017 minutes and the June 19, 2017 Special Session minutes  
Alderman Kullman motioned, Alderman Jackalone seconded the motion.  
Roll call-Aye: Jackalone, Kullman, Otte, Judge                      Opposed: None  
Motioned passed

**4. Building/Burn Permit**

- Mayor announced permit inspection approved for Teena Robin-Walker, 5336 Houston Lake Drive- Inspection completed - Permit was approved at last meeting
- Mayor announced a burn permit renewal request for Phil Otte, 5509 NW Adrian  
Alderman Kullman motioned, Alderman Jackalone seconded the motion.  
Roll call-Aye: Jackalone, Kullman, Judge      Otte-No Vote      Opposed: None  
Motioned passed

**5. Treasurer's Report**

- Mayor asked for motion to approve the Treasurer's report showing a balance \$366,263.31  
Alderman Jackalone motioned, Alderman Kullman seconded the motion.  
Roll call-Aye: Jackalone, Kullman, Otte, Judge                      Opposed: None  
Motion passed

## **6. Collector's Report**

- No concerns with report. Report included with meeting packet

## **7. Resolution 07.10.17 (Paybills)**

- Mayor asked for a motion to approve paybills 7.10.17  
Alderman Otte motioned, Alderman Jackalone seconded the motion.  
Roll call-Aye: Jackalone, Kullman, Otte, Judge                      Opposed: None  
Motion for Resolution 07.10.17 passed.

## **8. Emergency Management-Fire Department**

- No Report at this time

## **9. Police Report**

- No Report at this time

## **10. Fire Department Report**

- No Report at this time

## **11. Codes' Enforcement Report**

- Cathy Grove, Code Enforcement Report presented the codes report June 2017. Report included with meeting packet

## **12. City Administrator Report**

- Joe Chepren explained that is currently working with the road work team to begin road work in Houston Lake. Mayor Freese asked for a notice to go out with information about street closings to the community with assistants from the Aldermen.

## **13. Venetian Gardens' Homes Association Report**

- Joe Chepren shared that he would like to see more staff members attending the Home Association Meetings.

## **14. Old Business**

- Mayor asked for a motion to table the budget approval for next council session  
Alderman Kullman motioned, Alderman Otte seconded the motion.  
Roll call-Aye: Jackalone, Kullman, Otte, Judge                      Opposed: None  
Motion passed.
- Jan Jackalone inquired about becoming a grant writer for the City of Houston Lake.  
Mayor explained a budget item will need to be approved by the Alderman. Ms.  
Jackalone will present additional information regarding the process of grant applications  
before budget approval.

### **15. New Business**

- Mayor presented the 3 bids that were received for replacement of the air conditioning unit at city hall. The air unit is 32 years old and is failing.
- Mr. Chepren asked about the budget selected for repairs and if replacement is the only option.
- Mayor asked for a motion to approve replacement of air conditioner unit at a cost not to exceed \$7,000.00

Alderman Otte motioned, Alderman Kullman seconded the motion.

Roll call-Aye: Jackalone, Kullman, Otte, Judge

Opposed: None

Motion passed.

### **16. Reports from Alderman**

#### **Alderman Jackalone-No Report**

#### **Alderman Kullman- No Report**

**Alderman Otte-** Stated that he would like to establish an updated Home Owner Association welcome packet. Jan Jackalone would like to propose a welcome committee from the HOA.

-He would like to thank the volunteers that worked on the flower bed at City Hall

-Thanked Jean Anderson for her work on the City website.

-Acknowledged Mayor Freese and all the extra duties that she has taken on.

-Thanked Joe Chepren for his work regarding City business.

#### **Alderman Judge-No Report**

### **17. Mayors report**

-No report at this time

### **18. Adjournment**

- Mayor Freese asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Alderman Kullman motioned, Alderman Jackalone seconded the motion.

Roll call-Aye: Jackalone, Kullman, Otte, Judge

Opposed: None

The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

### **Next Council Meeting**

August 14, 2017 at 7:30pm.

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