

January 2001 Newsletter Article

On November 16, 2000 we had a very productive and well attended annual meeting at the Ocean Springs Singing River Hospital Library. The main topics included: setting the budget and dues assessment, election of officers and review of accomplishments during 2000.

A summary of the accomplishments and work efforts of the Architectural Review Board opened the meeting.

The next order of business was a review of the 2000 budget to-date and the consideration of the 2001 budget and annual dues assessment. The proposed budget was reviewed. With projected finances of \$6000.00 remaining at the close of 2000 and lengthy debate the annual dues were raised to \$75.00. It should be noted the Association has run in deficit in 2000 and will again in 2001. Resulting in a withdrawal from savings yearly. The 2001 budget is presented for your reference.

The proposed budget for 2000 reflected the increase costs projected in the lawn care & maintenance. The expressed interest in improving the landscaping on the remaining islands in the subdivision and over all atmosphere within the association generated the increased funds and renaming of the Landscaping category to Landscaping / Enhancement. The proposed budget was increased from \$12, 220.00 for year 2000 to \$12,850.00 for year 2001.

The next order of business was the election of officers. There were numerous nominations for each position. Four of the seven position were filled by incumbents. Marianne Powers was elected President, Mickey Culberson was re-elected Vice President (2000 V- P), Jennifer Kim was elected Treasurer , and Linda Windham was elected Secretary (2000 Secretary). Two of the Architectural Review Board members were re-elected; Ken Meyer (1999-2000 ARB) and Tom Robillard (1997-2000 ARB). They are joined by Henry Wilson. Our association once again shows healthy signs with the addition two enthusiastic new member and the return of two officers and two ARB members to provide the continuity needed to continue the strength and viability of our Association.

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Several BPOA members have mentioned how much they want Bienville Place to feel more like a neighborhood where the homeowners know each other. The concept of "committees" has been revived and **we are looking for volunteers** for the Welcoming Committee, the Neighborhood Social Committee, and the Gardening/Landscaping Committee.

We need everyone's help to make Bienville Place the Neighborhood everyone wants to live in! Volunteer to help on a committee by contacting Marianne Powers at 872-4350. Let's start the New Year right.

The issue of safety must be addressed immediately! The OS Police Dept will be contacted for information on forming a neighborhood watch program and this should help end the "mischief" several holiday displays experienced and also reduce several cars' speed and lack of stopping at stop signs.

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The [2001 Dues Assessment coupon](#) can be found below for your convenience. Remember, all dues are to be remitted to the Bienville Place Owners Association before January 31, 2001.

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A recent meeting with Mayor Ainsworth and Andre Koffman resulted in the commitment of a connecting sidewalk between Bergerac and Cabildo. According to Mr. Koffman the city is planning to extend the sidewalk on the east side of Hanshaw Road from intersection of Cabildo to the intersection of Highway 90. Work is scheduled to begin during mid January.

The city would also like to remind the BPOA members that the BFI is contracted for all trash that is placed on the **left side of the driveway**. This includes household waste and yard debris. However, if you have a major yard clean-up or large amount of tree limbs, contact the city for pick-up at 875-3955.