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## BOARD MEETING DATES

Our meeting dates for 2020 have been set. We encourage your attendance. **The August meeting will begin at 7:30 PM.**

Tuesday, August 18, 2020 – General Meeting
Tuesday, October 20, 2020 – Budget Discussion Meeting
Tuesday, December 15, 2020 – <b>Budget Approval Meeting</b>

**\*\*\*NOTICE: Due to the COVID-19 virus; this meeting will change to a conference call where owners can dial in remotely\*\*\***

The dedicated dial in number is **(312) 667-4792**  
Conference code number: **588227#**

We ask all owners who attend the conference call to hold all questions until the main order of business has been completed. Thank you in advance for your cooperation during this time.

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## Santa Fe Social Club

*Provided by Carey Cochrane*

During the successful "All Hands On Deck" Windings Social "D" event, there were many requests to build on that.

With that said, myself and fellow Windings resident, Greg Vickers decided to grab the "chipmunk by the tail" and form the S.F.S.C.

Our resident only social club will organize fun activities that we can all participate in. We already held our second event which was a bags tournament.

All events are limited to Windings residents.

We look forward to hearing from you and planning more fun events in the future.

Thanks so much!

To sign-up, e-mail:

Carey Cochrane, [careycochrane86@gmail.com](mailto:careycochrane86@gmail.com), (708) 214-2428

Greg Vickers, [gregdaddyo5@aol.com](mailto:gregdaddyo5@aol.com), (815) 690-9607



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## Planning a Staycation During a Pandemic (Because We Know You Need It Right Now!)

### *Become a Tourist in Your Own*

**Community** – Take a day (or weekend) to explore your town and visit any tourist attractions, parks, and local businesses you've never been to before.

**Take a Meditation Retreat Every Day** – Daily mindfulness meditation is like a mini staycation that can help you clear your mind and bring your awareness back to the present, giving you a much-needed break from everything happening around you.

**Bring Your Vacay Destination to You** – If your summer bucket-list trip to Italy was canceled, bring Italy to you. Play Italian music, watch a movie or show based in Italy, eat Italian food, and drink Italian wine. If you have some extra cash (as in, the cash you were going to spend on your trip) import goods straight from Italy. Wherever you'd like to escape to, try to re-create the environment as closely as possible. "Small shifts in the environment can have a major impact,"

**Recreate a Spa Experience** – Pick up some fresh bath towels, scented candles, and bath salts. Run a hot bubble bath and round out the ambience with some soothing music and your favorite book.

**Set Boundaries with the People in Your Life** – One of the best parts of going on vacation is disconnecting from work texts, phone calls, and emails. But when you're stuck at home, it can be hard to escape those stressors

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especially if people know they can still get in touch with you whenever a question or crisis arises.

***Have a Movie Night with Your Family*** – Pop some popcorn, pull out the cushions and blankets, turn off the lights, and spend the night watching movies with your nearest and dearest. You can splurge and rent the movie you wanted to see in the theater, or have your family members take turns choosing a movie.

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## **New Visitors**

This spring and summer has brought our community some new visitors. This has included more people seen on ATVs and dirt bikes and groups of younger people using the surrounding forest areas. Unfortunately, this has resulted in more trash, broken bottles, and general nuisance matters.

If an owner witnesses trespassing or illegal activities, please contact the police. Increased police activity will put a stop to this. We know owners have been reporting these matters, and we have seen a drop off in this activity in recent weeks. Thanks for doing your part!

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## **Property Updates**

Grounds –The common areas were mulched after spring clean-ups. Snow damage and miscellaneous turf repairs were completed. An early season round of shrub replacements were completed by Ground Pros. We have noted that some of the developer plantings, such as cotoneaster, have started to look rough. The Association will phase out these items as the budget permits. We will do a second round of tree and shrub replacements this fall. Kramer Tree Service continues to provide various sprays to our trees and plants to help them thrive as well as ongoing winter pruning. J&S Tree Service has completed two stages of tree removals. Here are a couple specific items that we regularly answer questions about:

- **Irrigation:** The irrigation system has been started up and repaired as needed. This system waters in the overnight hours. We often get questions on whether or not the system is running. We track system hours by monitoring the main pump usage. The system has performed well thus far, which has been a pleasant surprise as the system is getting older. Keep in mind that the system cannot handle more than it currently does. It waters each zone approximately 15 minutes every other day (excluding the front entry flower zone which waters every day).

During prolonged stretches of no rain, owners would have to supplement the irrigation system by watering in order to maintain that “golf course” green look. This is particularly true in areas that are full sun most of the day.

- **Unwritten Rule:** We often get requests to remove shrubs that are still alive and well. The Association will remove and replace (if needed) dead shrubs in the common areas, fronts, and sides of units. Rear landscaping is maintained by the Association, but dead shrubs are not replaced. This is the owner’s area to “make their own” provided that they received proper approval (variance form) from the Association. The Association will fill in around decks with transplanted materials if there are gaping holes and transplanted materials are available. Many owners have chosen to replace their overgrown junipers. These were developer shrubs planted throughout the property that have actually thrived. The problem being that they are way too big to be planted along foundations. It is common for developers to “overplant” properties in order to give a more mature look in the early stages.

Landscape Restoration – Last fall, the railroad fence line project was successfully completed by Evergreen Landscaping (on time and on budget!). It has been nice to see owners walking the path and utilizing the new seating areas. We are monitoring the new trees and shrubs and continue to provide some supplementary watering to make sure plantings survive the heat and dry weather we have experienced this summer. Lastly, we are currently reviewing a re-design of the center parking island. A timeline has not been determined for this project, but it is under consideration.

Roadways and Drives – In accordance with our multi-year strategic plan, this will be the next capital project for the Association. We are currently meeting with vendors and generating the most efficient process for replacing the driveways. During this, the curbs and roadway are also being discussed. The next step is obtaining some cost estimates, which will ultimately drive the construction schedule and decision making.

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## **Upcoming Observances**

Labor Day (Monday, September 7, 2020): Labor Day is on the first Monday of September every year. It was originally organized to celebrate various labor unions' strengths of and contributions to the United States' economy. Labor Day is a day of rest or the last chance

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for many people to go on trips before the summer ends. For students, it is the last chance to organize parties before school starts again. In some neighborhoods, people organize fireworks displays, barbecues and public arts or sports events. The American football season starts on or around Labor Day and many teams play their first game of the season during Labor Day weekend.

Patriot Day (Friday, September 11, 2020): Patriot Day is an annual observance on September 11 to remember those who were injured or died during the terrorist attacks in the United States on September 11, 2001. Many Americans refer to Patriot Day as 9/11 or September 11. The flag of the United States of America should be displayed on the homes of Americans, the White House and all United States government buildings in the whole world. The flag should be flown at half-staff as a mark of respect to those who died on September 11, 2001. Many people observe a moment of silence at 8:46 AM (Eastern Daylight Time). This marks the time that the first plane flew into the World Trade Center. Some communities, particularly in the areas directly affected by the attacks, hold special church services or prayer meetings. People who personally experienced the events in 2001 or lost loved ones in them, may lay flowers or visit memorials.

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## Village of Willow Springs News

I encourage all residents to use the Village's website at <http://www.willowsprings-il.gov/> to review updates in the local area. A calendar of events is available on the website.



### Newsletters

The Association's newsletter is created 5 times per year and is designed to update you of community news and other important events. If you have interesting news to share about upcoming events, personal milestones or issues of community interest please email the property manager and we will be sure to include it in our next Newsletter!

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## Exterior Modification Forms

Please remember that the submission of an architectural change form with an attached drawing is **required** prior to any changes affecting the exterior of your unit and common elements. Common requests include: radon mitigation systems, satellite dishes, and landscaping additions. The only exceptions are flowers in the mulch beds; **EVERYTHING** else needs prior Board approval.

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If you are contemplating making changes to your unit that impact the exterior, please contact the management office first with details of your plan. Thanks for your cooperation.

Please save yourself the expense and hassle by clearing any major changes with management first.

### Important Contact Information

**Elite Management Associates, Inc.**

PO Box 628

Western Springs, IL 60558

Office: (708) 352-2870

Fax: (708) 352-2871

[www.elitemgt.net](http://www.elitemgt.net)

Brett Kovel

Property Manager

[bkovel@elitemgt.net](mailto:bkovel@elitemgt.net)



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### **Windings Board of Directors**

Willow Springs, Illinois

Association Website: [www.thewindings.net](http://www.thewindings.net)

Ed Wiley, President – [emw54@yahoo.com](mailto:emw54@yahoo.com)

Kathleen Cordova, Secretary/Grounds – [kdewbray@hotmail.com](mailto:kdewbray@hotmail.com)

George Elefteropoulos, VP/Buildings – [116sfl@gmail.com](mailto:116sfl@gmail.com)

Kathryn Stanphill, Treasurer – [kstanphill2@comcast.net](mailto:kstanphill2@comcast.net)

### **Village of Willow Springs**

[www.willowsprings-il.gov](http://www.willowsprings-il.gov)

One Village Circle

Willow Springs, IL 60480

Phone: 708 467 3700

Fax: 708 467 3710

Email: [info@willowsprings-il.gov](mailto:info@willowsprings-il.gov)