

# Stillhouse Newsletter

May, 2019

For Stillhouse Canyon Residents

Volume 3, Issue 2

## [HOA Board Meetings](#)

The board meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm in the clubhouse. All are welcome.

Next board meeting  
May 14<sup>th</sup> in the clubhouse

## [Annual Meeting Recap](#)

About 40 residents attended the 16th annual meeting of the HOA on February 12 in the clubhouse.

## [Postings of Interest on the Website](#)

Draft minutes are posted on the Stillhouse website. You can find the address in the sidebar about our property management company, Granite Properties. Other items of note posted on the Stillhouse website include a list of Important Rules, information about a rule passed in 2018 that requires 48-hour notice to all occupants when water to a building is turned off by a resident for a repair or installation, and a policy for how residents can set up an electrical charging station for a vehicle by using electricity from their unit.

## [Security Issues](#)

The board gave a report on a special meeting held in November to review security on the property. The consensus of those present at the annual meeting was there is a general sense of safety at Stillhouse and that current security measures are adequate. Those measures include a procedure for reporting crimes, periodic reminders and security tips in the newsletter or posted at the mailboxes, improved LED lighting to provide increased and more consistent illumination throughout the property completed last fall, limited property access through a single set of gates installed in 2016 that provides restricted access to the entrance area, mailboxes, clubhouse and pool.

## [ABOUT THE NEWSLETTER](#)

The Stillhouse News is written by the Stillhouse HOA board and distributed through the realtor boxes at the mailboxes.

We plan to publish quarterly in February, May, August and November of each year.

If you have suggestions for articles, please contact a board member or Granite Properties.

## [YOUR BOARD AND PROPERTY MGMT. CO.](#)

Board members are:

Carolyn Wright, President  
David Greene, VP  
Marc Duchon, Treasurer  
Phil Rothblum, Secretary  
Seth Klempner, Member-at-large

Our Property Management Company is

Granite Properties

808 W. 10<sup>th</sup> Street

Austin, Tx. 78701

(512) 469-0925

[www.graniteproperties.com](http://www.graniteproperties.com)

password: still11

Our Granite Properties contacts are Mike Hill, CPM and his assistant Ashley Rodriguez.

### Security Tips

Occasionally we have a vehicle break-in on the property. Here are a few tips to help protect your vehicle and those of others. Let us know if you have other suggestions.

1. Lock your vehicle and have nothing visible inside
2. Report any break-ins to APD, get an incident number and notify Granite to have a notice posted at the mailboxes alerting others.
3. Report burned out exterior light bulbs to Granite for replacement.
4. See Something? Say Something. Call APD at 911 if you see suspicious activity.

### And a Bit More About Security

At the April board meeting, the board met with Darrell Grayson, Northwest Hills APD outreach officer, to discuss security issues. As a result of the meeting, APD agreed that it would respond expeditiously to requests for more surveillance such as extra patrols. Officer Grayson will send monthly crime statistics to Granite Properties. If the crime rate increases in nearby areas, Granite will notify the board which will in turn notify residents. Granite Properties will create a special police access code for the front gate to expedite entry.

### Garbage News

When throwing away your recyclables, do not put them into a plastic garbage bag. According to Waste Management, no plastic bags are allowed in the recycling bins, even if used as containers. If you collect your recyclables in plastic bags, empty the contents into the bins. Or, you can toss items in paper bags.

### Pickup Schedule

Trash

Monday, Thursday and Saturday

The large 8-yard recycle containers (Phase I)

Monday and Thursday

Small recycle blue plastic bins (Phase II)

Thursday

### How We're Spending Money this Quarter

1. \$17,800 to JE Services for maintenance repairs to Building 2. Starting with Building 1, completed earlier this year, each building will be re-stained during its maintenance repairs. In the past, the HOA stained all buildings at one time.
2. Approximately \$2,000 for tree removal and asphalt repairs to parking spot #50.

### Say, Can I Still Get a Drink Around Here?

Ever wonder if the name of our Stillhouse Condominiums has anything to do with stills and moonshine? During prohibition in Austin from 1920-1933, the Bull Creek area was a good location for making illicit liquor. The creek provided clear water, the cedar trees produced charcoal and the remoteness of the woods offered hiding places in the valley and limestone caves for illegal distillation in stills. According to a 1923 article in the (then named) American Statesman, this area was referred to as Stillhouse Hollow or Stillhouse Canyon as far back as the 1860s. Then moonshiners made their brew in Stillhouse Cave before being disrupted by federal and state revenue officers. The name lives on, not just in our condos but at the Stillhouse Hollow Nature Preserve off Burney Drive at Sterling Drive. It's worth a hike down to the lookout deck where you can see across the "holler" to Buildings 5 and 6. *Information taken from an article in the NWACA News, May 2018.*