

**Walden Woods Conservancy
Committee Reports
December 2016**

Community Garden:

Nothing to report this month.

Communications:

Nothing to report.

Documents:

Again, (and again) nothing from Mr. Perlstein.

Environmental:

The Environmental Committee coordinated with our landscaping company to spread some fresh small processed stone on the entrance of the yellow trail next to big Walden pond to help with erosion and to spruce the trailhead up. Thank you to Russo and crew for a nice job!

The committee reports that our annual wildlife mammal study revealed that we are seeing a slight drop off in coyotes and red fox living in our protected woods mostly due in part to noise pollution from local businesses, small habitat loss and increased human movement on our property. It's important to remember that these wild mammals are very important to the ecosystem here and play a key role in reducing rodent population and keep the balance of nature in check. Unless you see them in the daytime staggering, wandering or acting odd, they are no threat to our residents and are part of our natural world. It can be a life-long memory to see one of our beautiful mammals in their natural habitat!

On another topic, the recent rains and snow have helped bring up the both pond levels but we are still short on water so please remember to be as water-conservative as possible and hope for the best for spring rains to bring up local reservoirs.

Meeting House:

Beautifully decorated by Social & Rec. Thank you. There were 20 rentals in 2017. Between rentals, activities, council and conservancy board meetings, the MH is used on average once every week.

Rec & Social Committee:

The Rec & Social Committee conducted two events in December – the Adult Holiday Party on Saturday December 3, and the Children's Holiday Party on Sunday, December 4. Attendance at the Adult Holiday Party was smaller than normal – around 30 residents. However, a good time was had by all, with many laughs as usual during the Yankee Gift Swap. Once again, Mark Stupcenski from Russo donated poinsettias for the Meeting House, adding to the festive atmosphere and decorations. 5 were given away as door prizes, leaving 2 at the Meeting House for the balance of the holiday season.

The Children's Holiday Party had a good turnout – approximately 20 kids – with lots of snacks and crafts. Santa once again came through with little gifts for the kids and some wonderful stories to tell. Like the annual Spring Fling and Egg Hunt, this event is always appreciated by the youngsters of our community. Thanks to the volunteers who helped with the crafts and cleanup afterwards.

That is all for this year. Once again, I am very grateful to all of the Rec & Social Committee members who spend their energy on behalf of this community, planning and running the various events we do and continuing to believe in fostering a real community spirit within Walden Woods. And of course we would love to have more residents join us on the team. The more hands, the more ideas, the better.

On Behalf of the entire Walden Woods Recreation & Social Committee, have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Roland Bernier

Standards:

Nothing to report this month.

Welcome:

November 21, 2016 – December 21, 2016

Welcome Letters Sent: 2

1 Duplex (owner)

1 Townhome (renter)

Visits: 2

2 Duplex (owners)

Visits to be Made: 5

1 Duplex (owner)

4 Townhome (2 owners/2 renters)