

MBCA President's Corner

Spring 2001

BG&E Power Service

In the last newsletter I reported that I had several discussions with Baltimore Gas & Electric concerning a high number of power outages in Manhattan Beach. BG&E officials noted they had contracted for extensive tree trimming around their power lines in Manhattan Beach earlier in the year and would double check to make sure nothing had been missed. They also researched all the power outages and reported back to the Community at the November MBCA meeting. BG&E outlined the corrective actions they had taken and promised to take additional ones requested by members at the meeting.

In mid-February BG&E called to report they had completed all the actions requested at the MBCA meeting. They replaced numerous insulators chewed by squirrels and completely replaced the main power reclosure feeding Manhattan Beach.

I believe BG&E has served us well in responding quickly and completely to all our complaints and concerns. It has been so long (relatively speaking) since we have had a power outage, I frankly have forgotten when the last one happened. Not only that, but it has also been a long time since we had power surges requiring restarting computers or resetting electronic clocks. Several Manhattan Beach residents have called me to remark on these improvements. Our thanks to BG&E for their quick actions.

Road Work

On December 5th, Cathy Vitale, Anne Arundel County Councilmember for District 5 and Lou Matassa, Anne Arundel County Department of Public Works, joined me for a full inspection of all Manhattan Beach roads. Lou stated Public Works already planned to repave Cypress and Magothy (west section only) roads and resurface Manhattan Beach and Stinchcomb roads in the spring of this year. I asked that Public Works also consider repaving the east section of Magothy Rd. and Cheryl Dr, and make specific repairs to Dividing, Creek View, Natures Run, and Cottswolde Quay.

Some of these repairs already have been made thanks to Dick Hughlett of Central District Roads. The County had not previously accepted ownership of Cheryl Dr., but I have been able to show them that it was deeded to them in 1969 and Lou Matassa has agreed to repave it this spring as well.

There are still problems with two other roads in Manhattan Beach. I have been unable to find deeds granting the County ownership of either Cedar Dr. or Norfolk St. By virtue of a deed of

November 1982, these roads, by default, are owned by the Manhattan Beach Civic Association. The County currently refuses to accept ownership until such time as the roads are brought up to County standards and under no conditions will they accept ownership of a dead-end road that does not have a turn-around/cul-de-sac at its end. More to come on this unhappy situation.

MBCA Nominations and Elections

MBCA By-Laws require that a Nominating Committee solicit nominees for election to the MBCA Board and provide them to the current Board by the first Tuesday in April of each year. MBCA Board member Mike Connelly (telephone number 410-544-4879) is in charge of the nomination process and all those who are interested should get their names to him to report to the board. The elections will be held at the general membership meeting on May 1.

I urge you to consider volunteering to serve on the Board and as a principal officer of the Association – President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer. The term of office is just one year and it is your opportunity to give back to your community and to ensure the interests and concerns of your area of the community are addressed. We need to ensure that the entire community of Manhattan Beach is represented on the Board of Directors. Right now Dividing Rd. is over-represented and Manhattan Woods is well covered. There are currently no board members from Windrush Farm or Manhattan Manor and only single members from Buckingham Estates and Oak Grove. It is time for some diversity.