



**MIKE RIEDESEL – MADISON**

**WHY ARE YOU ARE INTERESTED IN RUNNING FOR A BOARD POSITION?**

I'm running for the board because I have concerns about how the board has spent our HOA funds the last few years. We need board members who make decisions that are right for LEGACY PARK, not based on who shows up to the meetings.

There's also work that needs to be done in regards to our budgeting process and long term planning.

For more information, visit Facebook Legacy Park Mike R

**LEGACY PARK AND/OR RELATED ACTIVITIES:**

- LP Town Council 2000
- LP HOA Board of directors 2001
- LP HOA Board of directors 2006/2007
- Board of Directors president, Acworth Station 2008/2009
- Girls softball coach, 2004 – 2008 (Adams and Kenworth Park)

**OTHER EXPERTISE:**

I've read our by-laws and covenants and understand how the board is supposed to function and what the duties are of a board member. I understand Legacy Park's budget and how it works.

## CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

**1. If you served previously on the Board, what type of positive impact do you feel that you made on Legacy Park as a whole? If you have not served on the Board how do you feel you could positively influence Legacy Park?**

I first served on the board in 2001. One of the things I set out to accomplish was to take our newsletter back and make it professional. Prior to this our office staff was writing articles and providing information to a third party who was building their real estate business off Legacy Park. That year we started the newsletter in its current format (Town Herald). Prior to this the HOA spent over \$2,000 a month copying pages and stapling them together as a newsletter. The HOA is required to have an official publication so we needed to do it right and offset the costs as best we could. I would like to see the current Town Herald arrive with less inserts and contain more relevant information.

In 2001 the board first approved an office complex. I seconded the motion because our community needed to move our offices onto our property and provide meeting and storage space. There was an exact purpose, a location and a budget of \$550,000 along with a way to pay for it.

My second time on the board was 2005/06. I ran for the board with one purpose; to stop the building I helped start the process on in 2001. This well defined structure had turned into a 9,500 square foot behemoth and had been approved by the board in 2004 without knowing the final costs. I was elected and the project was stopped. Had this moved forward we would have been looking at a final price tag of 1.5 million and our community would have serious financial difficulties today.

In 2006, the board finally agreed to the community center pretty much as it sits today. The final structure that was built is something we can all be proud of.

If elected, I'd like to bring transparency to the board, putting future projects, budgets, non-budgeted spending etc. out for all our residents to see and question.

**2. How would you involve and communicate to homeowners before and during the decision making process on budget, issues and improvements in Legacy Park? Please elaborate.**

This is a terrific question and one of the reasons I decided to run for the board.

The HOA has an e-mail sign up and we have our monthly newsletter. Between these two we have the means, (for those who choose to follow the HOA) but the issue with me is the lack of pertinent information. Every member of our HOA should expect our board to make decisions that are in the best interest of Legacy Park. If they do, then they (the board) should publicize their actions and tell the community exactly what's going on and be proud of it. Being vague and not communicating decisions simply makes people suspicious.

When we received our 2011 budget, did you notice that there's money for Architectural Services to review the Main Pool layout for possible water features...Money has been budgeted yet not ONE article in our newsletter about what they are thinking about doing. Projects like this need broad community support, but there's no attempt to even inform our members of their intentions.

I also understand that money was approved to purchase a freezer/ice machine for Tennis at the November board meeting, but not one mention or word in our newsletter.

How do we fix this? Make the “unofficial” board notes worth reading. Include in it everything that was voted on along with how many votes were for /against the motion. For purchases approved state the dollar amounts. If a further explanation is needed to explain the board’s intentions, take the time to have an article written for the newsletter/email to explain it.

Take the “future capital expenditures” line item out of the budget. Either tell our members what the money is going (This account currently has \$80,000 and another \$114,000 is budgeted to go into it this year) to be used for OR return the money to our members. NO BOARD needs their own private piggy bank which is exactly what this account will become.

My goal is to make the board’s actions entirely transparent. Create the meeting agenda so it’s released to the public at least a week prior to the session. Any non-budgeted spending request would be postponed until the next board meeting if it’s not on the pre-released agenda.

**3. There are abandoned properties in Legacy Park that are not being kept up. What can and should the Board do about such properties? What can the Board do to ensure surrounding property values are not affected?**

If you’re living in a neighborhood that has these issues you have a legitimate beef with the board. There’s a provision in our by-laws called self help, which mean our HOA can pay for the upkeep and bill the owner. My guess is that in most of these cases the property is owned by the bank and the bank will pay these fees. The board has one mission and that’s to increase the value of Legacy Park. If they’re ignoring eye sores then they are not fulfilling their obligation.

**4. Would you support raising activity/usage fees for those activities that recruit non Legacy Park members in lieu of raising annual dues for all residents? Why or why not?**

YES...For competitive sports where a full team is desired, non-residents should pay significantly more. The model to use for this is our swim team. They don’t recruit and non-residents are only allowed if we don’t have enough Legacy Park kids for that age group. Non residents also pay substantially more.

If there are sports teams that want to form, at least 75% of the team should be from Legacy Park or they should not be allowed.

As for our non-competitive kids’ sports programs, they should be 100% Legacy Park residents. The more exclusive we make our community, the more of a desire there is to live here.