

King Farm BOT and President Candidate Questionnaire

Please review the responses from the candidates for King Farm President and the BOT.

Candidate Forum is 7:30PM on March 7th

Elections are April 8, 2018 from 10AM-2PM

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Martin Green – President Candidate

Dear Swim Team Board,

I appreciate what the swim team does for our community. I have been a sponsor of the swim team for over 12 years and plan to continue to sponsor. My wife Tricia served as the B rep and my daughter Caitlin was on the team for many years. I believe the swim team is a crucial part of our community because it brings the community together.

As a previous President of the community, I fully supported the assembly's yearly contribution to the swim team. Should I get elected I will support the Board of Trustees increasing the contribution and our support to the swim team.

Thank you for all you do,

Martin Green

David Pratt – President Candidate

Hello, and thank you very much for reaching out! I am excited at the opportunity in front of me to serve our wonderful community. Working with the Geese to make sure that we continue to offer this beneficial program to our children is a top priority, and therefore I am happy to answer these questions. Hopefully, the mailer with my candidate statement will arrive soon, which states my commitment in supporting our swim team, so you know I'm not just whistling Dixie. Please find my responses below.

All the best, David

1) How do you see the Swim Team fitting into the fabric of the King Farm community?

The Screamin' Geese is an organization that deserves the praise and support of our community and its Board of Trustees. These types of clubs - put together our own citizens to provide our children with a team-building, confidence-building extra-curricular activity - are the backbone of a strong community. The term "fabric" of the community is apt, because an organization like the Geese helps knit our neighborhood closer together. Not only does it strengthen the character and bonds between children who will one day be community leaders themselves, it also serves as a feature to attract new families to the area. Sports clubs, and in fact community-sponsored clubs of all kinds for the kids here, are integral to that community fabric.

2) What problems/issues/opportunities do you foresee with the Swim Team?

First and foremost, any child who becomes a member of the Geese is given a tremendous opportunity to grow, make friends, get exercise, and compete in a safe and friendly environment. The value of that cannot be overstated.

However, as with most things, the neighborhood may not be 100% behind the team, as I have myself heard rumors of wanting to lessen the Board subsidy. In that problem, an opportunity presents itself. As President of the Board, there exists the capacity to work with the Swim Team to promote the positive impact it has had on King Farm and dispel any doubts that it works for the whole of our people. The opportunity to therefore be an advocate for the Screamin' Geese is one I embrace.

3) As you know, the King Farm Swim Team is subsidized by the HOA. If you are on the BOT/President will you vote to continue that support?

I can afford to be brief in this response, as my answer to the next question following expands upon it. In a word, yes. It would be irresponsible of the President not to vote in favor of positive community activities and use his or her influence to draw support from the rest of the Board as well.

4) In the future, will you vote for the HOA's support being increased, staying the same, or decreasing? Why?

One of the concerns that most shocked me when I was first going through our community in support of my candidacy was the one many parents had that the Geese might have their subsidies from the Board cut. I can tell you right away that in my experience defending these kinds of organizations, most everyone who wants to stop funding a club for children in the community would be the same people

whom without the Geese would be saying "What are all these children doing out in my community, isn't there something better they could do?"

Now, I'm not going to just pledge to increase funding arbitrarily, but I can promise that if the level of support we currently give the team is ever found to be lacking, I will spearhead the effort to make sure its levels are raised appropriately to provide our kids with whatever extra time, training, or equipment necessary for their success.

5) What can be done to ensure that communication between the Swim Team and the BOT/President/HOA is as strong as it can be?

As President, one of my foremost pledges is that my door will always be open to the community. That pledge is especially true for the Swim Team and its board. Making sure that we foster a strong and positive relationship to ensure support for the Geese is a paramount objective. As part of that, any concerns, comments, suggestions, or requests of the Swim Team can be brought to me immediately - in person, through email, via phone call, whatever works. As President, I would also like to attend meets whenever possible, in order to show solidarity with the team and also make sure that my office and the Board has the greatest possible understanding of the Geese's benefits and ongoing needs.

Tom Curtis – BOT Candidate

1. How do you see the Swim Team fitting into the fabric of the King Farm community?

I believe the Swim Team is an integral part of the community. When my children were growing up they participated in swim team and I was the treasurer for 10 years. I believe that it gave them a good sense of discipline and goals to achieve.

2. What problems/issues/opportunities do you foresee with the Swim Team?

Not sure what this question means. I feel that the community should support the swim team because it adds an element to the community that would be sorely missed if the team didn't exist.

3. As you know, the King Farm Swim Team is subsidized by the HOA. If you are on the BOT/President will you vote to continue that support?

Absolutely!

4. In the future, will you vote for the HOA's support being increased, staying the same, or decreasing? Why?

This will be done on a year by year basis depending upon the needs of the swim team. As a former swim team treasurer, we looked to the larger community for support and found many of the local businesses willing to lend their support in partnership with the team.

The budget for the swim team will determine how much the HOA will provide to supplement the team's efforts at raising money.

5. What can be done to ensure that communication between the Swim Team and the BOT/President/HOA is as strong as it can be?

Perhaps a couple of meetings of the Trustees each year could be dedicated to a briefing by the Swim Team. Maybe one in the early Spring before the season starts and one in the Fall after the season is over. This would give the Board a better idea of what your challenges are and what your needs are.

Barry Jackson – BOT Candidate

1) How do you see the Swim Team fitting into the fabric of the King Farm community?

The Swim Team is one of the hidden jewels of King Farm. When we first moved here we had never heard of it but then people kept mentioning it. As our kids got older we started to hear and see the KFST from afar. It was amazing to walk by and see teamwork as they came together to pull off a meet. Then enough years passed - and I experienced it first-hand. There is an enormous amount of effort, volunteering and countless hours spent making each Swim Team event a great community event. It is a credit to King Farm and one that we need to make sure works with the King Farm HOA to continue to be a win-win for all of the community. I also like the fact that only the children of people who live or have property in King Farm can participate and we should keep it that way.

The Swim Team strengthens the fiber of community – bringing together kids and their families in a cooperative way for nearly 20 years. The Swim Team helps the youth maintain a level of fitness, provides life skills in the water, and is a good way to get SSL hours while helping good causes. It also is a great community advertisement for King Farm in when other teams come in to King Farm they can see some of what we have to offer as the King Farm community. Finally, King Farm has relied on Swim Team volunteers in the past - I think is a good relationship that should continue.

2) What problems/issues/opportunities do you foresee with the Swim Team?

I don't really foresee a problem with the Swim Team. The only potential issues I foresee are that costs will continue to rise as time goes on - necessitating either cutting back on team activities, raising fees or finding another source of revenue. In addition, because there is a turnover every year from teens graduating or moving on the KFST needs to continually keep awareness of the KFST up so that new parents know about it. On the other hand, I see opportunities for the King Farm HOA and the Swim Team to work closely together and build on the groundwork that has been laid in the past.

3) As you know, the King Farm Swim Team is subsidized by the HOA. If you are on the BOT/President will you vote to continue that support?

I am in favor of the amount of money (\$11,000 per year out of an approximately \$2.5 million budget). We spend about the same amount per year on pet waste removal, which is important but probably not as meaningful to the well-being of the community as the Swim Team.

However, over the years, costs associated with the team have gone up. If there was a request from the Swim Team I would look at increasing the amount. If the Swim Team can provide full transparency as to their finances and where the money would be spent, I would look favorably on that request as it as an investment in King Farm itself.

4) In the future, will you vote for the HOA's support being increased, staying the same, or decreasing? Why?

It can be said again – I would support a reasonable increase if the King Farm Swim Team board requested an increase and if it was justified. I like the idea of having a Swim Team for King Farm residents and think it is a worthwhile expenditure.

5) What can be done to ensure that communication between the Swim Team and the BOT/President/HOA is as strong as it can be?

I can think of several things that likely happen right now but need to be kept up. The first is regular meetings with the Management of the HOA. Second is communication with the president - perhaps inviting him or her to one of your Swim Team Board meetings. Third, give a heads-up or drop by the Board meetings to update the BOT on any items you think may be of interest. Fourth, I also would like to see a Swim Team member represented on the Pool Committee. I think that committee would be well served by a Swim Team presence as they help propose the policies surrounding the pools in King Farm. I also think it would be helpful for the BOT and President to attend a Swim Team banquet or a meet to see for themselves the level of spirit and volunteerism that people in the community put into making the Swim Team a reality. Lastly, since the HOA has a financial stake in the KFST, I think providing a transparent copy of your budget every year would be a given.

Nancy Paul – BOT Candidate

Thanks for reaching out to us!

1) How do you see the Swim Team fitting into the fabric of the King Farm community?

I see the swim team as an integral part of the King Farm community. Not only is it a great activity for kids in the neighborhood it is a great way to represent our community in other areas. Additionally, swim team events often bring together adults providing a great opportunity to meet neighbors and forge new friendships.

While my kids are no longer on the swim team they both enjoyed their time while they were there. I served on the KFST board as Treasurer for a few years, continuing for a year when my kids were no longer swimmers.

2) What problems/issues/opportunities do you foresee with the Swim Team?

I am currently unaware of any issues with the KFST but I know that sometimes parking and noise are a problem for nearby residents. As a Trustee I would be glad to help mediate any problems that may arise.

3) As you know, the King Farm Swim Team is subsidized by the HOA. If you are on the BOT/President will you vote to continue that support?

I do support, and would continue to support, the subsidy that the HOA provides the swim team.

4) In the future, will you vote for the HOA's support being increased, staying the same, or decreasing? Why?

I think that would depend on the needs of the team and the needs of the community at that time. I don't foresee any reason why I would be against a request that was reasonable and substantiated.

5) What can be done to ensure that communication between the Swim Team and the BOT/President/HOA is as strong as it can be?

If this isn't happening already it would be nice to have a representative from the KFST who would be actively engaged with the Board of Trustees so that the BOT can stay current with the swim team and any possible issues can be dealt with as soon as possible. If anyone has additional questions please feel free to reach out to me NancyForKingFarm@gmail.com.

Richard Ricciardi - BOT Candidate

Dear KFST Board,

Thank you for your questions. I appreciate the opportunity to respond. As a nurse practitioner that has been practicing for over 35 years, I am fully committed to improving the health and wellness of the KF community. I strongly support activities that strengthen team-building skills and fitness in children and adolescents. As you are aware, physical activity, such as swimming, not only reduces stress but improves physical health and addresses a major public health problem - child and adolescent overweight and obesity.

So, in closing, I am fully supportive of the swim team, and thank you for the contributions that the swim team provides to the children and adolescents on KF.

Please let me know if I can be of any assistance.

Sincerely,

Richard Ricciardi