

# Happy New Year to all and my best wishes for success, happiness and abundance.

## Update

During the first half of fiscal 2009, we agreed on a budget; we tackled the issue of security, slightly improved the cleanliness of Beverly Drive and Shenstone, initiated fund raising, launched the Bev Hills protest against further destruction of green areas surrounding Mona Reservoir, advocated to have Montclair returned to a cul-de-sac, launched a website and initiated quarterly meetings of the wider Bev Hills residents

## Budget

At the start of fiscal 2009 (August), the Executive Committee agreed on a budget that would see us generating revenues of J\$687,280 for the Aug'09-Jul'10 period. This would come from dues of BH residents (J\$200,000), fund raising events (\$200,000), merchandise sales (J\$137,280) and website revenues (J\$150,000).

So far, as a result of yeoman's efforts and the leadership of Yvolyn Gager, we netted J\$50,000 for our first fund raiser. Merchandise sales were started with the first item being the white and dark blue polo shirts. Thanks to those who gave their commitments to buy one or more polo shirts and followed through. There are others who committed to buy as well. However, 3, 4,5 phone calls later and still no follow-through. As a result, we are still net negative re the polo shirts.

With the website being launched, I believe we have many opportunities to generate revenues here. I hope the J\$150,000 prove really conservative. Please send your ideas of merchants who you believe would want to advertise to BH residents.

Finally, on the issue of dues, our charter calls for a minimum of \$2,000 per household per year. We have not even been able to collect this paltry amount from the majority of BH residents. We are asking you to make a pledge this year to contribute to the BH Association your minimum due PLUS a suggested amount of J\$10,000 per household for the year. You can designate where you want this to be spent.

## Use of Funds

We started the fiscal year with almost J\$400,000. Areas demanding spending:

1. Legal – in order to get government to take us seriously regarding stopping their efforts to reduce the green area surrounding the Mona Reservoir and to restore Montclair to a cul-de-sac, we have had to seek legal advice. It costs!

2. Continual cleaning of verges – while we recognize that some residents assiduously maintain their verges and ensure that the curb-side garbage receptacles are secure from dogs, other do not. Some are absent. Some appear not to care. It is an important focus of the BH Exec and Eric Crawford to put in place a program of continuous maintenance of verges and raking up of the nuisance trash on the side of the streets. Recently, you may have noticed some bushing. It was paid for by BH Citizens Association.

In order to put in place a continual clean-up program that would see BH not looking as untidy as it does, we estimate the cost to be a minimum of \$300,000 for the year. That is about 50% of the budget. As we would like to raise the funds before we commit to spending, you have only seen the usual Christmas clean up. Amy DaCosta leads our Beautification Committee. Many thanks for her efforts to-date.

3. Other uses of funds include misc items such as refreshment at the quarterly meetings, copying, courier service, garbage bags and rakes for the clean-up, donations, website creation and maintenance, etc, etc.

### **Issue of Security**

Bev Hills is no exception to crime. We pay dearly to King Alarm and Hawkeye money that could otherwise be spent on a host of other things including charity. Colonel Rocky Meade provided leadership of security matters until Oct/Nov 2009. We thank him so much for his efforts.

Bev Hills needs someone to step forward and provide leadership in the area of security. Since my e-mail sometime ago on this matter, two persons have said they would support the leadership in this area. I am appealing again for someone to come forward to coordinate security for the neighborhood. (I will send e-mail again with details of what is required.)

### **Website**

We have lots of hope that the website will promote communication among Bev Hills residents, generate a higher level of community spirit and be a source of revenues. Over the coming month, a lot of info will be loaded on the site. These will include all minutes of meetings, the budget, calendar of social activities, useful tips re security, promotions from merchants with special offers for Bev Hills residents, info regarding Bev Hills' environmental advocacy. The website is going to be a place of first call for Bev Hills residents. However, you will only have access if you register and you pay your dues. We are going to make dues paying much easier for you as well. Many thanks to Leo Williams for his leadership in this area. We can pioneer this community website in ways we have not even thought of yet.

Finally, we need your continued support financially and in person as there is much to be done. Come join the effort.

Fayval Williams  
President, BHCA