

CANDIDATE/S FOR ENVIRONMENT DIRECTOR

Candidate E1 - Mrs Corlia Mathews (CV/Manifesto)

A short motivation for my application as Environment Director:

In my years living in and serving Silver Lakes on the HOA, I have realised that the *environmental portfolio* not only embraces the gardens and street-scapes of the Estate, it also means the natural environment and the people and animals of Silver Lakes. It is not only a privilege to stay on our beautiful Estate, it will also be *an honour and a privilege to stay part of the Board of Silver Lakes for 2018/19*.

I have always *enjoyed being part of the Silver Lakes Board* with the purpose to serve the community of Silver Lakes to the best of my ability in whatever way necessary and possible. As mentioned above it not only means the natural and built environment, it mostly means *we are here for the people of Silver Lakes*.

It is a well-known fact that the average age of Silver Lakes is around 40. Therefore making sure that all the different generations living side by side in Silver Lakes is accommodated in design and events is very important. I have mentioned many of my ideas in my previous CV's and documents published in the past 4 years. I give a short summary of what I believe still needs to be done. You would have noticed that some of the ideas have been implemented, but I believe a continuation of the ideas will be a positive input if I stay on another few years.

Through our social activities and parks we design we make provision for children of different ages :

-*Toddlers and preschoolers* : for them we have created an exclusive play area at the new restaurant where families can spend time together. We are also working towards a 'face lift' for all the other parks on the Estate in the next two years – creating de-centralised areas for children to play;

-*a Primary and high school students* : for this, possibly the largest group on our estate we have started creating a 'teen-park' with beach volley ball, soccer and Wi-Fi at the Club House. We intend to develop it further in the next 2 years, together with a program of daily- and holiday programs for children. Soccer games and beach volley ball in the afternoons against each other...all this are still in the planning phase, to co-exist with the golf program for children on the estate. As you can see these new programs and park equipment needs to be designed and budgeted for to satisfy the needs of this group;

-*Our older generation* : the facilities have been established to provide for all ages in the past 4 years. The older generation has Clubs such as golf, bridge, bird- and other clubs they take part in during the year. One of the requests and promises that comes up at every AGM, a bowling green has been in the making from the beginning of Silver Lakes. This will become part of the 5-year plan of our Estate.

- *Families* : As mentioned above families have a great variety of events and areas already available, including a game reserve with walking trails, fishing areas and the golf course and 3 tennis courts. It is important to know it is never a static situation, since one can always build on what is there already. Input from our homeowners are always considered;

As you can see in general the people of Silver Lakes are very important to me. This will be embodied in whatever I do in the environmental portfolio.

Corlia Mathews : SHORT CV/Background

Born : 24 May 1960 ; Matriculated : 1978, Zwaanswyk High School, Retreat, Cape Town (3 x A's)

Cape Town College : 1979: Fashion Designing Diploma, Best Student;

University Pretoria: 1985: B. Landscape Architecture, Cum Laude ;

Married : 1982 Edward Henry Mathews ; Have 4 Children : George (30), Marc (27), Ian (23), Charlotte (16)

After and during studies worked at Department of Water Affairs :

- from 1981 as Bursary student, Until resignation at birth of my first child November 1987. Resignation Aug 1987.
- Work entailed ecological planning and design, impact studies; And to help Construction staff design gardens in way-off areas.

During Studies :

- from 1981 as student,
- Worked during term at **Wonderplant Nursery** for Leon Strydom; Helping with design of gardens';
- And working in the Nursery on Saturdays and Sundays.
- I also was **employed by the 2 professors of Landscape Architecture**, Prof Roelf Botha and Willem van Riet at the University of Pretoria for design work and help with their projects (Design as well as ecological research).

After birth of children :

- Stay at home mom;
- Lived in Faerie Glen, South Africa, from 1983, busy with **charity work** at 'Magalliesoord' Prison for women, helping them do some hand crafts;
- Involved at children's **schools** :
- PTA (Parent's Teachers Association) at St Paulus Pre-Primary and Primary School;
- Chair of Parents Committee of Knapp-Fisher House St Albans College;
- 1996 : Moved to Silver Lakes, has been **Trustee at Silver Lakes** :
- First as Architectural Trustee 1999 – 2001;
- Took a break at birth of last child;
- Environmental Trustee 2003 – 2006;
- Still assisted with Environmental Impact Studies and Social events, while busy at **own business** regarding Food and Diabetics;
- Life Style Trustee 2008 – 2010;
- Co-author of **articles** on Food and Diabetics; and
- Author of several Intra Muros, Silver Lakes Golf Estate Magazine, articles;

Other directorships/trustee/committee member :

- **Ramsgate Palms** Holiday apartments in Kwa-Zulu;
- **Heritage Villas Valriche Estate**, Mauritius;
- **The Village, Leeuwenhof** security estate, Silver Lakes Drive, Pretoria.
- **Trustee at The Terrace**, Aquavista, Bronkhorstspuit

Some Projects :

Meditational Garden as St Paulus Primary :

The Garden is designed according to the 'Way of the Cross' as designed by Pope Paul and approved by Pope Benedict. It has 14 stations and each had to be designed to specific religious specifications as well as to the specific topography and the look and feel of the site.

Office Complex in Tijger Valley Office Park :

Here the design not only involved the exterior of the building, but included the inside as well. Not only was the beauty of the design important but all design was coupled with very specific philosophies and meanings. Work included art work incorporation and mosaics into the garden – all executed with the interior in mind – here mosaic and very specific repeat of design and feeling was repeated and incorporated, so that the feel and look of the whole complex is one of a 'whole'.

Tyger Valley College :

Busy helping with the design and construction of an Eco Centre on the school grounds for use by all 3 schools on the premises.

Heritage Villas Valriche :

Helping with gardening principles and solutions to maintenance problems.

Work as *environmental member of the Silver Lakes Board for the past 4 years :*

As part of the scope of work it was not just to simplify and 'clean-up' the estate gardens, it was also in-depth development plans for the property of the estate. These plans included the new Silver Lakes drive gate, Club House project, rejuvenation of the gardens and have all been explained, verified and published in all meeting documents and the Intra Muros for the information of all.

Why do I apply :

1. My previous experience as a Trustee and member of various Boards allows me to know the procedures and ethos regarding working for/with resident's time, money and property – the balance between doing it for the 'cause' or 'yourself' is very delicate. To me Silver Lakes and its residents are the only important issues.
2. My strong points :
 - Enthusiasm for Silver Lakes
 - Ability to not only see needs of all ages, gender and groups of people, but to be able to liaise with them to get a solution for all, for Silver Lakes
 - Knowledge of the workings of Silver Lakes having lived here for nearly 20 years.
3. How do I help :
 - **Most Important** : Support with the **Impact Assessment of the influence of the Silver Lakes Outfall Sewer** on our estate, our property values and our 'feel-good' of our lives in general.
 - **Secondly** : I believe I still have enough input to add benefits to the estate design, maintenance and experience for another period of 2 years.
 - **Thirdly** : I love Silver Lakes and the challenges of keeping the community a very special unit in this day and age is a pleasure to me.