

Rentals annoy neighbours

Amik
Subdivision

**Residents suggest
Grey Highlands needs
to regulate short-term
home rentals**

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Some residents in the Amik subdivision in the Beaver Valley are frustrated with the lack of regulations covering short-term rental accommodations in Grey Highlands.

Michele Chaban and Glen Moorehouse, residents of

Kimberley Court, told council recently there has been a short-term rental on their street for two years. They wanted to bring the rental to council's attention and propose ideas to help the municipality fashion policies to address the growth of this type of rental.

Moorehouse said there have been numerous noise violations (after 11 p.m.), cars parked on the street in front of a fire hydrant and other people's driveways. There has also been speeding, drunkenness, smoking and using cell phones in front of other people's homes. Garbage has been left in

what is supposed to be a quiet residential neighbourhood as well.

There is now a short-term rental in Wodehouse and sometimes people travel from one party to another.

Moorehouse said most people who live in Amik are seniors who have moved to the area to escape urban life.

He told council the house is portrayed as a country getaway, but it is in a residential neighbourhood.

short-term rentals do not pay taxes as hotels do, nor do they comply with regulations relating to fire code and parking, said

Moorehouse.

The Blue Mountains, Clearview Township and Barrie have developed clear guidelines for short-term rentals, but in Grey Highlands the only recourse residents have is to call the OPP or bylaw enforcement.

"As cooperative as they are it's a waste of valuable police resources and does not get at the problem, as the owner is not informed. A more effective solution is required," Moorehouse said.

The report by Chaban and Moorehouse says short term rental should not be allowed for less than 30 days. At least they should have

a permanent tenant and a limited number of guests so people in the neighbourhood don't have to supervise people that come for a weekend and leave.

Chaban said there is a shortage of short-term rental spaces in the area and there are no regulations surrounding them. Yet locals want to be able to live in peace.

Both Chaban and Moorehouse agree that rules have to be put in place to regulate this type activity.

Council accepted the report without comment.

Staff are to provide a report to council in the new year.

Thanks
Paul &
Gail.