

Landscape and Snow Committee Meeting Minutes

August 28, 2017

Cochairman George Hager called the meeting to order at 10:30.

The purpose of the meeting was to update the Landscape Committee (LC) members on the financials, review the work to be completed for the fall, consider several proposals, update the status of the new contract and discuss subcommittee reports.

1. Neil Hartenstein provided the financial report.
 - The LC has spent approximately one half of our \$295,000 budget as of the end of July.
 - Shearon has cut the grass 18 times thus far this season. The Board authorizes the LC 25 grass cuttings per season. We are on track for 24 - 25 grass cuttings.
 - The discretionary funds allocated to the LC by the Board have been used for Tent Caterpillar treatment, Japanese Beetle spraying, Walking Trail repairs and a Phase 3 storm drain repair. This has accounted for approximately 30% of the discretionary funds. There are several proposed projects pending Board approval that will account for another 20% of those funds.
 - Our tree budget is \$10,000. This does not include an additional \$8,000 designated for the Tree Girdling project. We have obligated approximately 80% of that budget to date. The projects involved are the removal of a large, dying tree that threatened the Walking Trail in Phase 1 and two dying trees adjacent to the pond in Phase 2. These 2 very large trees threatened a neighbor's property. We plan to survey the common area trees along the perimeter of the community in October and cut down the dead or dying trees or those that threaten the community. We expect we will need to request authorization to reprogram funds from the LS budget to the Tree budget from the Board to cover these expenses.
 - Neil stated that the Bottom Line is that we currently have sufficient funds to cover the Landscape and Tree requirements and any additional projects the Board approves.
2. Mary Tilger reported on our Flower Subcommittee.
 - No pansies will be planted this year. It is a cost saving measure. The summer flowers will be kept until they begin to fail.
 - A discussion then ensued concerning combining the Gardening and Beautification Group into the Flower Subcommittee. It was suggested that this be under Mary's leadership. Volunteers would be sought from each phase with a coordinator for each phase. We will discuss this again at a subsequent meeting and vote on it.
 - Mary has requested that Shearon give us a price for bulbs which her subcommittee will plant this fall. This will provide spring flowers.
3. George Hager discussed Walking Trails.
 - Repairs are ongoing. Shearon placed the wrong size stones on the trail and that will be remediated. The large tree in Phase 1 was removed. Shearon by contract is

trimming the trails and spraying them once a month. The trails will be inspected again this fall.

4. Alan Kirsch reviewed multiple tree issues. The Tree Subcommittee is reviewing contractors for a Root Girdling project for Regency. The Board awarded \$8,000.00 for the project. The work will be done on the trees in Phase 1 around the Sloan Clubhouse and the parking lot that has irrigation. A survey of trees to be pruned will be done by Alan's subcommittee this fall.

5. Irrigation subcommittee work was reviewed by George Hager. Other than a one-time failure of the system at the Sloan Club house there has not been any significant issues. That problem was handled initially by community members and Hydroscares repaired it once they were notified.

6. Jere Doyle reviewed the ponds. Solitude, our pond contractor provides a monthly report on the ponds. There have been no issues except a few issues with the Phase 4 pond. Solitude will be removing the aerators from the Phase 2 and 3 ponds and storing them in the Sloan Clubhouse. There was some discussion about where to store the Phase 4 aerator. Solitude will store the aerators for us. The price for storage is stated in the contract.

7. Neil Hartenstein then reviewed the work still to be accomplished by the LC this fall. Shearon will apply an Early Fall Fertilizer in September. This application is rich in nitrogen and should help with the fungus (brown spots) on our lawns. A second Fall Fertilizer will be applied in November. Shearon will do a second pruning of the shrubs in late October/early November depending on the weather. We also expect to trim the trees in November. A detailed description of tree trimming is provided as part of the Tree Policy in the Rules and Regulations. Fall Clean-up is normally done the week before Thanksgiving.

8. Tree survey. The tree subcommittee will examine the common and home owner trees to evaluate their viability. Dead trees on the common area will be removed as will trees that may be a threat to homes and other structures. The subcommittee will also evaluate the tree canopy. We intend to keep the canopy high enough so that people can safely pass under them. The LS Committee Co-Chairs will assist in the evaluation.

9. New Business:

- The Soil remediation project was discussed. This will include adding soil, seed and fertilizer to the bare spots adjacent to sidewalks, intersections of sidewalks and driveways as well as curbs. This is not an attempt to elevate all of the lower areas in the community. This will be done in Phase 1, 2 and 3 this year. The project is pending approval by the Board.
- A project suggested by Len Lobel is planned in which the easement and part of the berm in Phase 4 behind homes on Hillview is to be remediated. Shearon has proposed aeration, fertilization and seeding.
- Shearon informed us that the project manager for Regency left the company in mid-August. He has been replaced by two individuals from Shearon. A Shearon Vice-President is also to become more active with our community.

- A discussion then took place of the status of the contractor bids for Regency for Landscaping and Snow Removal for the next 3 years. The committee members felt it was best to have one contractor do both jobs to prevent possible conflicts over damages. Neil and George explained that there were 5 current bids. They have met with 3 of the companies and will meet with the fourth, Shearon, in the near future. The fifth company had not returned a bid as of the date of this meeting. Impressions and recommendations will be discussed with the Board. The final decision is made by the Board.
 - Changing the time of meeting to the evening was discussed. There was no opposition to this change. George will check to see what night is available and then survey the committee members. The committee understood that our meeting schedule has been irregular due to unforeseen personal issues.
10. An open discussion then ensued. Multiple topics were reviewed and discussed.
- A brief synopsis of the agreed upon issues are: Shearon, through Kelly R. will obtain the bulbs at their cost. Mary is coordinating that process. Replacements for some plants that died will be required for the newest eyebrow planting in Phase 4. We will allow the flowers on the entrances to remain until they begin to fail. Shearon will then be tasked for their removal.
-
11. Our next meeting is scheduled in late fall. Announcement and agenda will be forthcoming.

There being no other business the meeting was terminated at 12:05 PM.