

**Minutes of the Deer Creek Homeowners Association of Livonia
Board of Directors
Held at Diane Tsaprazis's house
August 21, 2019**

Approved 9-18-19

Present: Denny Behrendsen, Bob Moore, Terry Millis, Walt Gerstner, Marsha McLean and Diane Tsaprazis (6).

Minutes: The minutes of 6-19-19 were approved with one change.

Treasurer's Report: Terry distributed a copy of our checkbook spreadsheet and an income statement. Discussion:

- Reminder letters were mailed last week to 66 residents that have not yet paid dues. Denny drafted the letter, printed it & bought postage while Diane addressed and mailed them.
- To date we have received dues and donations totaling \$15,100; \$1,900 under our \$17,000 budget.
- We did receive a \$500 grant from the City of Livonia for repairing & repainting the signs at Gill Road. This amount is not yet deposited. Thank you to Denny!
- We are paying Metro Grounds through our bank: they print and mail the check. This process is much easier, faster and free.
- Our checkbook balance is \$8,372.69. We approved the reports.

Landscape Maintenance:

- All islands are being watered between 2 and 4 am for about 15 minutes per Walt and Denny.
- The 1st tree spraying treatment was not done because of our very rainy spring. We will have \$100 extra in our budget.
- Walt said Island #7 (Pembroke & Wayne) looks bad because of crabgrass and 5 dead boxwoods. We discussed spending the extra \$100 toward improvements. Walt will call Steve Griffith of Metro Grounds. We authorized Walt to make a decision if the cost is reasonable.

Website:

- Denny gave the last payment to our webmaster who signed the site over to us. Dave Goward can assist us a bit at no cost, but we will need to pay him if we want substantial work done. Thank you to Denny for managing this project!
- We are on the City's list of Homeowner Associations. Denny did a search online, and we came up on the first page.
- There is a Contact Us link to diane@deercreeklivonia.com and dennybehrendsen@gmail.com. Denny has responded to 4 resident inquiries.

Welcome Committee: Bob contacted Tenley Jackson, our former chairperson, who gave him all the materials she had. A new committee has been formed: Betty & Bob Moore, Merry Kubeshesky, and Samantha and Dane Baruzzini. Betty upgraded our

welcome bag and the new group has visited 5 new families. Thank you to Bob for getting this committee going again! We discussed 2 homes up for sale now.

Landscape Projects:

- 1) Gill Road Entrance: Marsha spoke with Sarah of Saxton's Landscaping. We want to refresh the areas around the signs. We discussed not planting another Japanese maple to make the sides match. The bushes in the front look good thanks to Walt's trimming. Marsha will ask for a drawing so we can meet with the two adjacent homeowners. The homeowner on the south side will let us use her water and recommended bobo hydrangeas. New plantings can be installed at the end of September/early October. We have some resources to re-set the pavers, perhaps next year.
- 2) 8 Mile Sign areas: Marsha explained that 10 black-eyed susans planted the year before last have not survived. Sarah has to check if they are still under warranty.
- 3) East side around 8 Mile sign: There are many weeds. It is just mulch there. We could use weed barrier and rock perhaps. Also, one bush on the south side is not doing well. Denny said we can check where the sprinkler sprays. A homeowner did weed-wack. Bob offered to weed-wack also.
- 4) Pine Trees at 8 Mile: In July, the Board unanimously agreed via email to spend \$375 for Dearborn Tree Service to remove and grind the stump of a dead pine tree on the east side of our entrance. Walt needs to be reimbursed. Walt reported there are 3 more dead pine trees: 2 behind the house on the west side and 1 on the east side. Walt said we bought 2 pine trees in the past from Steinkoph Nursery. Marsha said that a few years ago, Saxton's wanted \$450 for a white pine. We will see if we have money remaining from the Gill Road project that we may be able to use for replacements this year. We will need to include removal and replacement in our budget next year.
- 5) Daylilies: Marsha recommends that we split the flowers on the 8 Mile Island next year. Walt said Metro Grounds can do it. We also need fertilizer per Marsha. Maybe we can plant the extra daylilies around 8 Mile signs.

Irrigation & Electrical: Denny reported that Quint Plumbing did all the backflow testing and was paid. Their initial bill was \$85 each, however they re-billed us at \$65 each. Next year, we will need to increase our budget. Denny said all the sprinkler and electrical systems are working. Advise him if anything is wrong.

Holiday Decorations: We agreed that our Christmas decorations are in good shape. We discussed that we need new Fall decorations including new wreaths perhaps with lights, as well as new scarecrows and corn stalks. Bob has the existing wreaths.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 18th at 7 pm at Diane's house.

Minutes prepared by Diane Tsaprazis
Attachments: August 2019 Dues Reminder Letter