

**Minutes of the Deer Creek Homeowners Association of Livonia
Board of Directors
Held at Diane Tsaprazis's house
September 18, 2019**

Approved Oct. 16, 2019

Present: Denny Behrendsen, Bob Moore, Walt Gerstner, Marsha McLean and Diane Tsaprazis (5).

Minutes: The minutes of 8-21-19 were approved with no changes.

Treasurer's Report: In Terry Millis's absence, she provided a spreadsheet of our checkbook and an income statement. We reviewed the reports. Comments:

- The \$100 check written on 8-21-19 to Davey for tree fertilization still has not cleared. Did Terry mail it?
- Metro Grounds is now being paid with a check prepared by the bank after our instruction. It takes about 3 days for Steve Griffith to get paid.
- Walt needs to be reimbursed for the \$375 he paid to Dearborn Tree for a tree removal at 8 Mile.
- Dave Wood is due \$63 for an irrigation part.
- Revenue increased \$1,720 since our last meeting, with \$500 from a City of Livonia Grant for our refreshed signs at Gill Road. Denny reported he has one dues payment not yet posted.
- Our checkbook balance is \$9,286.96.

Landscape Maintenance:

- 2 dead pines on west side of Ellen at 8 Mile. This homeowner does not usually pay dues. Perhaps we will remove trees, but not replace them.
- Island #7: Walt talked to Steve Griffith who will put on an extra weed killer. The grass is about 50% weeds, and may need new sod if the treatment does not work. Also, there are 5 dead cranberry bush shrubs that died due to insects. They may come back in the spring, so we can decide then what to do.
- Denny shut off our irrigation systems for a while, but will turn them back on again. Denny said the water meters will be taken out after the City's leaf pickup, before snow.

Website: Denny received 2 emails from residents via the website under "Contact Us." One was to inform us of someone who passed away, and the other was regarding an event.

Welcome Committee: Bob is our Liaison with 4 others as new members. We discussed 2 homes with new residents.

Landscape Projects:

- 1) 8 Mile Island and Signs: Marsha gave Sara at Saxton's Landscaping a list of items to address. Water is a problem, with some over and under watering.

- Day Lilies: Saxton's can separate them by digging them out, dividing, and re-planting them. Marsha recommends putting them in the 8 Mile sign areas and perhaps on islands. Day lilies did not do well this year. Day lilies could be expensive to separate. Usually they are cut down in the fall and separated in the spring.

- Euonymus bushes are getting too much water; we can examine at Fall cleanup.

- Black eyed Susans were planted by Saxtons, with 5 on each south side area to replace the ones that died using our credit balance.

- White Spruce trees are needed on the east side, per Walt. Marsha will ask Saxton's for a price; perhaps it can be done before Fall cleanup.

- Weeds: Bob has been removing tall grass weeds on the east side of the 8 Mile sign beds. Weeds are also in the grass. We currently have mulch around the signs. Marsha recommends a weed barrier and rock to reduce weed pulling. Maybe we can do this project next year.

- 2) Gill Road Sign Areas: Marsha had pictures of small and tall hydrangeas planted behind the signs. Walt recommends 5 dwarf ones (he has them at his house) on the south side and 3 on the north side. The homeowners could still add their own annuals. We could rearrange the existing groundcover rock and mulch, and Denny has some rocks he can donate. Walt cut down the existing euonymus plants in front of the signs, but they are already growing back. We will visit the adjacent homeowners to discuss the plans. Perhaps we can use Denny's contact to fix the retaining walls in the spring depending on our funds. Denny explained the pavers were not installed on a base and sand; ours is on dirt, but it has lasted about 15 years.

Decorations:

- 1) Fall: We discussed the 25 8" yellow mums we planted last year on the 8 Mile Island and decided to do the same again. We decided to use cornstalks and scarecrows at both entrances, and not to re-furbish the wreaths that were difficult to see against the rock sign backgrounds.
- 2) Winter: We will use what we have from last year, which looked good.

Complaints: Marsha had a neighbor ask about maintenance along a property line that was planted with arborvitae. We will call the City to ask if drainage has been compromised and if it is a problem that it is on the property line.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 16, 2019 at 7 pm at Diane's house.

Minutes prepared by Diane Tsaprazis