

**Minutes of the Deer Creek Homeowners Association of Livonia  
Board of Directors  
Held at Diane Tsaprazis's house  
September 8, 2021**

**Approved November 3, 2021**

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

**Minutes:** The minutes of 8-11-21 were approved with a few changes.

**Treasurer's Report:** Terry distributed an income statement and a spreadsheet of the checkbook. We had one more resident pay dues since our last meeting, resulting in 152 paid homes as compared to our budget of 160. On expenses, only the \$500 budget for seasonal flowers and decorations has gone over budget, by \$4; however, we do expect that it will exceed our expectation even more as we decorate for fall and winter. The cost of flowers has gone up considerably this year. All other expense categories are as planned. In the Project area, we have only spent \$32.94 to date on our website. Our current checkbook balance is \$16,854.64. We accepted the report.

**Landscaping:** Walt explained:

- Tree Trimming: By email, we previously approved \$2,050 to have Dearborn Tree trim all our island trees: deciduous tree trimming on 8 islands, 5 Austrian pines on the West side of 8 Mile entrance, and removal of 1 pine from Island 2. The cost will be allocated to our Operating expenses on the Entrance and interior island maintenance line item. The work will be done soon.
- Island #2: Dearborn Tree will also remove a tree, included in the cost above. A nearby homeowner recommends that we not plant another tree, but he will get the opinion of the other surrounding neighbors.
- Gill Entrance: Walt asked CrossWinds for a quote to plant 5 dwarf bobo hydrangeas on the north side so it will match the south side. We also want them to remove 2 small rose bushes and transplant them to another island, add mulch, and trim the euonymus bushes.
- Island #7: There are 6 dead shrubs to be removed. There are 3 hostas, and we will add 3 daylilies, add another burning bush on the other side of the Colorado Spruce and more mulch.
- 8 Mile Entrance: The weeds in front of the signs are a problem. We discussed putting down weed barrier fabric and rocks, but that may not be effective. CrossWinds will spray the area more often, every 2 to 3 weeks. We will ask Rob Kania of CrossWinds if he has a better long-term idea.

**Fall Decorations:** The red petunias at 8 Mile were planted too late to flourish (July 21<sup>st</sup>). We will need at least 25 fall 8" mums. Currently the plants are \$5.98 each at Home Depot, which is higher than in the past.

**Shed Problems:** There is no new information to discuss right now.

**Shabby Landscaping:** We discussed 7 homes. Denny and Marsha will talk to these homeowners. Denny offered to call and offer help to a homeowner. Another owner explained that the contractor he hired to put in artificial turf went bankrupt and kept his deposit. This same owner has had a Pod storage unit on his driveway for about 3 months and recently suffered an accident. Another homeowner has had a lot of cut branches needing pickup for quite some time. The City's policy can be confusing because during the 1st half of the summer they drive by looking for such branches, but in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the summer the owner must call for service. The exterior of 1 home on Ellen is in rough shape. Four other homes have very overgrown landscaping. We continually try to talk to these homeowners to find out if they are unable to do maintenance. We often recommend removing time-consuming garden beds and replacing the areas with grass that can be more easily mowed.

**Commercial Vehicles:** We think the City talked with one homeowner which resulted in the removal of signs on his truck.

**Upgraded Electrical at 8 Mile:** Our system goes out every time it rains. Denny contracted the electrician we used previously. He is retired and hurt his back recently. Denny will follow-up.

**Welcome Committee:** Bob reported that he greeted a young couple on Pembroke that just got married. We discussed 3 other homes that will soon have new residents, one of whom emailed Denny to ask about our deed restrictions.

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7 pm at Diane's house. In the meantime, we will keep each other updated via email.

**Attachments:** August 30, 2021 email from Walt about Tree trimming/removal