**Minutes of the Deer Creek Homeowners Association of Livonia Board of Directors**

**Held at Diane Tsaprazis’s house**

**November 3, 2021**

**Approved March 3, 2022**

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

**Minutes:** The minutes of September 8, 2021 were approved with no changes.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Terry wrote several checks to Board members for expense reimbursements. She distributed an income statement and checkbook spreadsheet. Dues of $15,075 have been collected from 153 homes. With an additional $500 in donations and $500 from the grant, revenue totals $16,075 as compared to our $16,000 budget. With our opening balance of $5,444.06 and not including the checks written today, our checkbook balance is $12,911.04. We approved the report after we discussed:

* Dues Reminder Letter: We approved a draft prepared by Denny to distribute to all the unpaid homes. Diane will make copies and return address labels.
* City of Livonia Grant: Denny will submit 3 invoices and 2 color pictures to the City to report how we spent the money to improve our 9 irrigation systems. We have received a grant in 2017, 2019, and 2021.
* Sprinkler Winterization: Denny reported that we paid Rainy Dave’s $225 and he checked on their work. They did a good job and they guarantee their work.
* Island trees and shrubs: Dearborn Tree Service trimmed all the islands and removed a tree on Island #2 for a total of $2,050.
* Seasonal Decorations and Flowers: We are $193.69 over our $500 budget. Flowers have gone up considerably this year. We expect to spend more on winter decorations.

**Landscaping:** Walt reported:

* Tree Trimming: All the islands look very good.
* Gill Entrance: Walt asked Cross Winds for a quote on 5 hydrangeas on the north side, but they did not have time to do the work this year. Walt suggested that we do it ourselves next year, along with transplanting 2 rose bushes to another spot.
* 8 Mile Entrance: Cross Winds is spraying the weeds in front of the signs more frequently, but has not given us a plan to improve the area. The shrubs still need to be removed.
* Budget: We will carry over $500 for Gill and $1,000 for 8 Mile to our 2022 budget. - Fall Clean-up has not yet been done by Cross Winds.

**Fall Decorations:** On September 18th, Marsha and Diane planted 25 yellow mums at the north end of the 8 Mile Island. Along with Denny’s help, we also pulled weeds, cleaned up the day lilies, and trimmed shrubs to make the electrical box more accessible to our electrician. Marsha later planted 5 mums on the south side. We will keep the scarecrows out a while longer. John Findling requested permission to take out the mums at the end of the season to try to keep them over the winter; we agreed. The mums looked good until the frost last night.

**Holiday Decorations:** Denny will fix some of the lights on the deer and will contact us when our help is needed.

**Shabby Landscaping:** The homeowner with unbundled branches will need to call a landscaper to remove them because the City is not picking them up anymore this year, or they can cut them in to 4’ lengths, bundle them and the regular yard waste truck will pick them up through the first week of December. Marsha sent a note to another homeowner. A Pod has been removed from a driveway and the home has no grass but they are cleaning up the leaves. At a home on Ellen, the north side of the house is rotting at the corners, but there is little we can do about it. Denny helped one of his neighbors do clean-up and she is going to hire someone to remove a garden bed and plant grass instead. Another home cut down some big trees and is installing new landscaping.

**Commercial Vehicle:** The signs were taken off a truck that is still there.

**Electrical Work at 8 Mile:** Denny sent us all an email on 10-21-21 to explain that he met with our electrician, Terry O’Callaghan. To stop the frequent tripping of the east sign lights, we need to replace the wires from the island to the sign. The process calls for pulling new wires through the existing underground conduit and installing a new electrical box on the island and replacing the GFI’s. We do not know how long this work will take, so we do not have a cost figure. Via email we all agreed to have the work done, using the two Contingency line items in our 2021 budget. The work will begin tomorrow. Denny did some digging today to reduce our costs. Marsha said we may need bigger lights on the 8 Mile center island to spotlight the trees. Denny said there are some LED lights there, and he will look at it.

**Welcome Committee:** Bob emailed us an updated New Resident Summary. He said he and Ginny each met a new neighbor on Pembroke; he cannot keep a popup camper in the driveway. A new homeowner near Marsha will move in this month. A home recently sold on Bretton.

**Social Gathering:** We discussed getting together at our own expense at a restaurant in December. Marsha will make a reservation.

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, January 5, 2022 at 7 pm at Diane’s house.

**Attachments:** October 21, 2021 email from Denny

New DCHA Welcome Summary Electrical diagram for 8 Mile