



Landscaping Committee

Doverbrook Association

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LANDSCAPING COMMITTEE

Date: Tuesday, September 25, 2007

A meeting of the Board of Directors Landscaping Committee of The Doverbrook Association, was held on September 25, 2007 at 6:30 PM at the Offices of Doverbrook.

Committee Members Present:

1. Ken White - Chairman
2. Jessie Reid
3. Paul Rodgers
4. Phil
5. Douglas Lyman

Also Present Were:

N/A

Call to Order:

Chairman Ken White called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM, and Douglas Lyman recorded the minutes. A quorum of members were present, and the meeting, having been duly convened, was ready to proceed with business.

Report

Ken White reviewed the agenda and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Ken White discussed the current status of the Landscape Committee and its progress. A number of questions were asked and extensive discussion ensued.

Agenda 1: Meeting Change

Discussion:

It was noted by Ken White that the Board of Trustees changed their meeting from Wednesday September 26, 2007 at 6:00 PM to Thursday, September 27, 2007, with the intention of meeting at 5:00 PM to present the Board of Trustees with a written proposal from the Landscaping Committee. This was to allow more member of the Board of Trustees to attend.

Discussion:

Ken White noted that the Landscaping Committee had not yet received the report by Melissa LeVagie from New England Trees, as to her observations and recommendations for Doverbrook. It was anticipated that the report would be made available, however that was not the case. The Landscaping Committee has not yet received the Tree Report for review.

It appears that the Landscaping Committee is not aware of the details made by the Board of Trustees as to the payment arrangements with Melissa LeVagie from New England Trees.

Discussion followed whereby Pill was asked to contact Melissa LeVagie and follow up on what arrangements that were made with the Board of Trustees and to pursue a possible solution.

Douglas Lyman was asked to contact Lori, Liaison to the Committee from the Board of Trustees, as to the specifics of the arrangement made with Melissa LeVagie , and ask when the Landscaping Committee could reasonably expect the report.

It was noted by Ken White that without the report, it would be unreasonable to meet with the Board of Trustees on September 26, 2007 at 5:00 PM to present the recommendations from the Landscaping Committee.

As such Ken White said that he would contact the Board of Trustees and reschedule the meeting to a future date when the Landscaping Committee would have access to the report from Melissa LeVangie.

Discussion:

The Committee discussed at length the priorities for Doverbrook at this time. The Priorities in order are:

1. The Maple Decline
2. The Crabapple Blight
3. Turf management
4. Tree replacement

Maple Trees

The Committee reviewed a Land Use Map made by Douglas Lyman where various tree species and their locations were noted. On the map was also noted various soil mappings showing sandy soil conditions.

It was noted that there was a high correlation of maples that are in decline, are in a proximal area where the maples are near the street curb, and where salt accumulations are very high due to continuous piling of the snow and salt in the same location. This has resulted in a high percentage of sand and gravel with a possible high concentration of salt. These areas are low in organic material, causing a further compaction of the soil where the soil does not retain water for the trees and turf.

Discussion:

Currently there are only a few options as follows:

1. Reduce salt and sanding of the roads if feasible.
2. Relocate snow piles to different location(s), if feasible.
3. Water high concentration salt areas to remove and flush salt from top soil.

It would seem that these options are not feasible or are too expensive.

Priority: Fertilization

Previous discussion on fertilization incorporated organic material from compost. In addition it was noted that this option would take 3-4 years and many of the maple trees would further decline in that time period, and die.

It was noted that for maple trees that would die with 3-4 years, would die before they would benefit from increased organic material. One possibility would be to use a high nitrogen fertilizer for maple trees that could be saved, and use organic composting material as well.

Priority: Crabapple Trees

Discussion:

It was noted that through late summer and early fall, the weather was very dry, thus suppressing the spread of the crabapple blight. Discussing ensued noting that the blight is killed by a hard frost, and that pruning should not be conducted before there are a few hard frosts to kill the blight. Pruning after a freeze will prevent the spread of the blight from the pruning tools. This can be accomplished in late fall or early spring.

Discussion:

Ken White noted that the budget allowed approximately \$17,000 this fall for fertilization and Lime.

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

None.

The next scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for Thursday, September 27, 2007 at 6:00 PM.

Douglas Lyman reviewed a proposal submitted to the Board of Directors to develop a Doverbrook website, to be used initially for the Landscaping Committee to publish its finding to the Doverbrook Community at large. The proposal was for a hosted website at a total cost of \$10.00 per month.

Approval of Minutes

None.

Next Schedule Meeting:

To be scheduled

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the meeting, the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Ken White at 8:00 PM
Respectfully submitted,

Ken White, Chairman