

WALNUT GROVE HOMES ASSOCIATION
MAY 28, 2014
MINUTES – BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
LUSSIER CENTER, MADISON WI

Present: Eric Lewandowski, Kathy McComb, Gabe Anibas, Tom Wall, Kathy Raab
Excused: Denise Clearwood, Mary Kay Battaglia, Eileen Goode
Guests: Mark and Gail Schmidt

Eric welcomed the directors and guests and determined a quorum was present.

The minutes of March 18, 2014 will be reviewed at the next meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report: The board reviewed the budget update and unpaid dues report. Liens have been filed with lots 38, 60 and 112. Tom will keep the board updated on progress.

Greenways: Eric reported that the greenways meeting in early May was well attended. Gabe and Jeff Olson of Arbor Systems, graded 19 trees. 9 were eliminated through pruning, 8 are recommended for injections and 2 for removal (cost = \$1850 and within budget). They provide a 2 year guarantee that trees will survive and that the Emerald Ash Bore will never overtake the tree. Mark Schmidt reported that tree #10 appears to be one on the list for injection, but the second trunk of the tree needs work. Trees #8 and #9 on Greenway B are not worth injecting (additional money may be requested to remove the tree). Oliver Perry had offered to plant new trees for any destroyed and the committee will follow up with him. Board reviewed information from City Parks showing solid evidence of EAB in Tenney Park, which is outside of the 10 mile cell where trees are vulnerable. Board voted unanimously to treat half of the trees this year and plan to treat the remaining ones next year. Bunders Lawn Care is once again mowing the lawns for Greenways B and C. Jeff Olson took care of the downed tree on Greenway D; there was no property damage. Board discussed liability if greenway tree would damage property. Research by Tom after the meeting provided assurance that the homeowner, not the association, would most likely be responsible under their policy. The lighting repairs on Greenways D and B are completed. One light on Greenway D (between Schmidt and Raab house) is fixable for about \$300 and volunteer labor to dig a 100 foot trench (light 15). Raabs and Schmidts will discuss options to possibly reposition the light while still maintaining the system's safety and security. Kathy Raab will follow up with Gabe. Greenway Clean Up is scheduled for June 7 with Dianne Littman leading the efforts. Gabe will be sure the information appears on the list serve.

Communications/Block Captains: No report

Social: Summer social is Sunday June 1 at Craftsman from 4-8pm. The July 4th picnic is canceled for this year due to construction in the park.

ACC: Committee held a meeting on 4/2 with 13 people present. Eric reported for Denise that the committee is reviewing the covenants and bylaws as they appear to be out of date. Board discussed that the initial guidelines are now 40 years old and were representative of the developer's interests. The committee will seek input from homeowners to ensure the covenants reflect current homeowner and neighborhood wishes. Old guidelines are not consistently being followed. After review, we will

work to educate homeowners on our legal authority to enforce (1995 document from Bob Foss confirms authority).

OLD BUSINESS:

Gammon Road Resurfacing: No update.

Walnut Grove Dog Park: No update – completion expected by end of summer. Recommendations were made to the Parks Department, but no response was received.

Bylaws, Policies & Procedures Review Process: Discussion tabled

NEW BUSINESS:

ACC Policy and Procedures Review Process: see committee report

Vice President Selection Process: Board reviewed the bylaws to ensure compliance in filling the vice president position vacated by Erica Healy. After lengthy discussion, a motion was made and seconded to appoint Mark Schmidt, without portfolio, to the vacant vice president position until the next annual meeting (January 2015). Other candidates are encouraged to run for any open board position at the annual meeting. Motion carried with one abstention.

Communication: Board discussed options to increase communication with members (list serve, directory, newsletter, block captains, welcome wagon, etc.). At next meeting, we will discuss ways to get new members involved (on the list serve) and ways to increase communication flow. Kathy Raab will get more information on costs for a brief printed newsletter.

Note: Mark Schmidt will be acting president, if needed, while Eric is traveling June 17 – July 31.

Next Meeting will be scheduled via Doodle for early August – (August 4, 5, 6) by Kathy Raab.

Submitted by Kathy Raab