



Landscaping Committee

Doverbrook Association

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE LANDSCAPING COMMITTEE

Date: Tuesday, October 10, 2007

A meeting of the Board of Directors Landscaping Committee of The Doverbrook Association, was held on Tuesday, October 10, 2007 at 6:00 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:

Bob Clary, Trustee; Liaison to the Landscaping Committee

Call to Order:

Chairman Ken White called the meeting to order at 6:00 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 noted that Lori Reynolds had resigned as liaison from the Doverbrook Trustees to the Landscaping Committee. Ken White welcomed Bob Clary as the new liaison appointed by the Doverbrook Trustees. Ken White reviewed the agenda and welcomed everyone to the meeting and then discussed the current status of the Landscape Committee and its progress. A number of questions were asked and extensive discussion ensued.

Discussion:

Initial discussion centered on budget items. It was noted that there was some questions as to what the budget items were and how much monies were still in each account.

Bob Clary stated that the line item was called Fertilization, which included a sub account for Lime. The budget for fertilization breaks down as follows:

Line Item: Fertilization: \$35,000 Total per Year Budget 2007 including Lime
Lime: \$12,000 per year (Two \$6,000 applications)

Bob Clearly noted that to date only the first Lime application was completed in the spring of 2007 for an expenditure of \$6,000. To date, no expenditure was made for Fertilization.

It was noted that this would leave \$29,000 still in the budget for fiscal year 2007. Bob Clearly noted that some expenditures were made from the Fertilization budget that was not elaborated upon.

Bob Clary noted to the Committee that the second application of Lime for \$6,000 was pending before the end of the 2007 fiscal year. Discussion ensued as to the previous recommendation made by Ken White to delay the second Lime application pending a review of the planned recommendations to the Board of Trustees from the Landscaping committee.

Bob Clary asked the committee if in fact the first Lime for 2007 was applied as he noted that no one noticed Lime applied to the ground. Jessie Reid noted that she monitored the first Lime for 2007, and it was applied in a liquid form, as she monitor the application so that the Landscaping Committee was able to confirm in fact that the Lime was applied.

Phil initiated discussion in regards to the feeling that the Board of Trustees was not responding and/or taking the recommendations of the Landscaping Committee seriously. Bob Clearly responded that the Board of Trustees takes the Landscaping Committee seriously, however to date, other than informal discussions, there has been no written report with specifics submitted to the Board of Trustees. General discussion followed whereby it was discussed that has been two delays for meeting with the Board because of the inability of having the Tree Report as requested by the Board of Trustees. The Committee will present the Interim Report of the Landscaping Committee with or without the Tree Report to the Board of Trustees at the next scheduled meeting.

Discussion: Crabapple

The crabapple blight was discussed as to the severity. Bob Clary noted his opinion that the crabapple blight was serious and may in fact cause a lot of the crabapple to die. Douglas Lyman noted that Melissa from Trees New England stated that this was not the case. Melissa suggested that in fact the

crabapple blight was not serious and did not require immediate treatment. Douglas Lyman noted that the spread of the blight has been halted due to a dry summer and dry early fall. A hard frost will kill the blight. Discussion followed that pruning after a hard frost is suggested.

Pruning could be done in the late fall or early winter, or early spring, if at all. Pruning at this point is aesthetic only.

Reoccurrence of the crabapple blight is dependant upon weather conditions in the spring. If there is a long protracted rainy spring above 60 degrees, the chances increase for another blight. If in fact this occurs, a topical application of copper sulfate could prevent another serious outbreak.

Discussion noted that while the crabapple had blight, it seems that Doverbrook residents have confused the blight with the appearance of the crabapple in general. While the crabapple trees may appear scraggly and rough, this in no way will determine the tree survival as they will live very long. Other residents noted that they did not like the fruit it produced.

Bob Clary noted the possibility of the fact that the crabapple trees were planted in threes in honor of the servicemen serving at Westover Air Force Base, and if so this tradition should continue.

Discussion: Soil Samples

It was noted that the Committee has recommended soil sample testing at Doverbrook. Bob Clary noted that soil sample testing has been conducted in the past. Ken White noted that the soil sample test results were requested by the Committee, they have not been made available. Ken has requested Bob Clary to see if the soil sample records could be located. It is the intention of the Committee to map the maple and crabapple trees on a land use map, as well as mapping soil types and areas.

Bob Clearly noted that Ken White had requested the fall Lime not be applied, and he requested the reasons behind the request. Ken noted that without soil testing, a general application of Lime across Doverbrook would not be useful. It was recommended that the Lime should be spread with regards to soil areas that have been identified as needing it. In addition it was noted that this money allocated in the Fertilization Budget could best be used to offset the cost of fertilization that the Committee is suggesting for the fall.

Two of the priorities is the treatment and prevention of maple decline and to manage the turf at Doverbrook. This can be done simultaneously with fertilization. Fertilization as discussed by the Committee is specifically the application of composted organic material applied directly on the soil in identified areas according to the land map.

Currently, it appears that there is a high correlation of maple decline and poor turf in areas where there is very little organic content in the soil. Much

of the concentration is along the roadsides where sand and gravel mixed with salt is contributing to the problem. Increased content of organic material in the soil can be accomplished by fertilization and with organic compost. This compost will in turn will provide nutrients and will increase the organic content in the soil. The increased organic material will hold water better, and provide more water to both the trees and turf. Aeration of the soil will increase as a result.

Discussion: Presentation of Interim Report of the Landscaping Committee

Ken White requested that Bob Clary schedule an agenda item for the Board of Trustees meeting scheduled for Wednesday, October 24, 2007 at 5:PM, to present the Landscaping Committee Report. At this point Bob Clearly excused himself from the meeting.

Ken White then scheduled a meeting of the Landscaping Committee for Wednesday, October 17, at 6:PM.

Old Business:

Douglas Lyman discussed 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. It was noted that at the last Board of Trustees meeting the Website Proposal was tabled for the October 24, 2007 meeting of the Board of Trustees.

Douglas Lyman suggested that a donation of a computer for the Community Room might be a possibility for Doverbrook residents who do not have a computer.

New Business: Tree Petition

Douglas Lyman noted that the Board of Trustees had in hand at the last Board of Trustees meeting, a petition from Greenwood residents a request for tree plantings. The Committee noted that it had not received such a petition. And was only aware of passing conversation.

It was suggested that Ken White request the petition so that the Committee could make suggestions, as it is pertinent to the Committee.

New Business: Tree Report from Trees New England

Douglas Lyman noted that at the last Board of Trustees meeting, Mike (Doverbrook Manager) had not yet paid the fee for the Tree Report from Trees New England. Mike stated that he had not received a required W-9 form from Trees New England and could not make payment.

Bob Clary suggested that the report must be received first before payment could be made. Bob also suggested that if the Trustees did not receive the report there would be no payment. Bob Clearly then suggested that the Landscaping Committee be prepared to present their report to the Board of Trustees without the Tree Report from Trees New England. Bob also requested that the Ken White report back to the Board of Trustees within 5 days, as to why the Lime should not be applied. It was not clear if payment would be made or not.

After discussion on the topic, and meeting with Bob Clearly, it seems that payment will be made for the Tree Report. Never the less, the Landscaping Committee will proceed with the Committee Report with or without the Tree Report.

Approval of Minutes

None.

Next Schedule Meeting:

The next schedule meeting of the Landscaping Committee will be Wednesday, October 17, 2007

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the meeting, the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Ken White at 8:30 PM
Respectfully submitted,

Ken White, Chairman