

Land Stewardship Committee

Minutes of March 12, 2013 Pat White Residence

Meeting was called to order at 7pm. Present: Hayden McCann (presiding), Pat Gillette, Cappy Harahan (guest), Suzy Buenger, Pat White (note-taker).

Minutes of the February 6th meeting were approved as submitted.

Mark Silberman will submit the LSC Green Project List at the next LSC meeting.

The HW BOD will be asked to approve a one-time expenditure of \$5100. from the Reserve fund for 2013 green projects. It's been noted that with the prioritization of the OMS project(s), no further funds will be available for any other green projects this year.

Bids are being obtained for stump removal in the GHR hollow area.

Frank Hassler of Good Oak (HW woodland manager) will be presenting at our Spring Education Forum, scheduled for April. We expect the topic to be either "Gardening for Pollinators" or "Edible Natural Plants." The LSC will publish the time and place for the forum when the date has been confirmed.

Concern remains for drought damage and storm damage that is not yet apparent. This will be evaluated further at the Spring Walk-Around, scheduled for Wednesday, April 3rd starting at 6pm. The LSC committee will meet at Suzy Buengers' condo with the usual committee meeting to follow at 7pm.

Volunteer work days have been set: Saturday, April 20th (rain date April 27th.) and Saturday May 4th (rain date May 11th.)

Revised Resident Notification Forms (created by Cathy Kennedy) have been approved and sent to Prima.

Volunteers who watered last year have once again agreed to water designated areas this year. We are most grateful for this assistance.

There are 2 finalists for the OMS project, Good Oak and Ganshert. Both have submitted plans and bids. Both companies will do a site visit with the LSC committee with the final decision on the contract to follow.

Ash Bore Update: Hayden contacted the UW Extension and received considerable advice and information. UW is assuming the ash bore is in Dane county, but the insect has not yet been seen. The LSC has formed a subcommittee (Hayden and Suzy) to study the existing information and propose a plan. HW has approximately 30 Ash trees. It is noted they are some of our larger, more mature trees. It is hoped some may be saved with

the appropriate intervention. The HW arborist, Michael Roark will be advising and leading the effort.

A motion was made by Hayden to replace “buckthorn grass” areas with mulch after poisoning the buckthorn roots. The motion was seconded by Pat Gillette and the motion carried by voice vote.

Considerable discussion ensued regarding the revised LSC Policy Statement put forth by John Rothschild prior to the most recent BOD meeting. The revised statement changes the wording of the original policy to amend as follows:

“phased removal of invasive species” “replacement with trees, shrubs and plantings to maintain privacy and screening” the stipulation that ALL projects MUST include funding for “removal, planting and ongoing maintenance.” It stipulates that the LSC committee can do only “hand weeding” and remove only “buckthorn shoots.” The primary concern was the constraints this would put on our efforts to eradicate invasive species, since our budget is severely limited.

Pat White revised the “revised” Policy Statement. This was sent along with a list of LSC concerns that Hayden presented at the BOD meeting Thursday March 14th. More discussion on this topic will occur at the next LSC meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

The next LSC committee meeting will be April 3rd at Suzy Buengers’ (315 GTC) following the Spring Walk-Around