

Landscape Stewardship Committee Meeting
Minutes of July 1, 2015

Meeting called to order at 6:35 pm at the Pat White residence (311 GTC). Present were: Marc Silberman (note taker), Pat White (presiding and voting member + 1 proxy for Buenger), Bill Olson (voting member, board representative), Pat Gillette (voting member), Bonnie Broderick (voting member, arrived late), John Schimmelman, Dylan Duhr (Prima Mgmt), Susan Sweeney, and Begam / Henderson (left early).

1. Minutes of the June 2, 2015 meeting were unanimously approved as submitted.

2. John Schimmelman gave an update on the Old Middleton Slope: Paul Ganshert has reconsidered the need to sow rye grass after the plantings are completed and instead will apply mulch to the slope; the job is expected to be completed by the end of this week; Prima is lending extra watering hoses and timers to the adjacent residents who are helping with the regular watering (each receiving a \$200 stipend for their costs/effort).

[NOTE: Bonnie arrived a bit later and filled in details about the watering, which she will have Ganshert demonstrate to her, and she will be requesting from him a map of all the plantings that have been installed; if there is room for additional plantings, residents willing to donate specimens for transplanting will be contacted, when the “time is ripe.”]

3. Management report (Dylan):

- Good Oak did some pruning this week, including the sidewalk along OMR;
- Mike Roarke will be doing some necessary tree trimming of identified “dangerous” branches
- the planting project at 212 GHR has now been completed by Mike Roarke
- there is a work order out to Capitol Lakes to patch the asphalt at the GHR entry drain.

4. Dylan distributed a summary of the 3 new bids for removal of invasives behind 113 to 117 GTR and 304 to 312 GTC, all of which were more or less similar. LSC recommended the Roarke bid to the HW Board. There was a discussion with the residents at 308 GTC (Begam/Henderson) about the suggested plan to remove the invasives behind their residence, including a reading of the draft letter by Bill Olson that will be sent to all owners adjacent to the remediation area. This letter was reviewed, and the LSC recommends that it be forwarded to the Board and distributed to the affected homeowners.

5. Pat W. and Dylan discussed the emerald ash borer (EAB) treatment completed by Mike Roarke. Because a number of the identified trees to be treated were less than 14” in diameter, he could not apply the “2-year injection treatment” and instead used a “1-year bark treatment” that is much less expensive. This enabled Mike to treat 111 of the 140 potentially endangered ash trees on the property, including the 50 healthy legacy trees identified by the inventory and the additional 21 “adopted” and whose treatment was subsidized by residents. The remaining untreated ash trees are in such bad shape that they would not survive under any circumstances. Mike’s treatment came in under budget, but the “bark treatment” must be repeated annually

instead of every 2 years, which will cost an additional, unbudgeted \$1500-2000. The LSC will recommend to the Board when it calculates next year's budget to set aside this \$1500 for the second-year "bark treatment" as well as the already anticipated \$2500 / year cost for the 2-year "injection treatment" (costing \$5000 every 2 years, i.e., 2015, 2017...). The LSC will also request that the Board once again ask residents for voluntary contributions to help sustain this effort of resisting the devastation of the EAB.

6. The LSC tabled to the next meeting once again the agenda item for prioritizing future remediation projects and their cost in the common area over the next 5-10 years. A preliminary, non-ranked list of sensitive areas includes:

- west property line to OMR, behind 104 & 106 GTR (infestation of invasives and dead wood)
- east property line between 225 GHR and Highland Abbey (invasives)
- curve at GTR, including the hill down to the train tracks and behind / in-between 120-122 GTR (invasives, dead trees)
- area behind 101-103-105-107 GTR and 321 GTC down to the GTR entry (invasives and dead trees)
- OMR slope between the hollow and the GTR entry (lots of buckthorn and other invasives)

7. The next work date is set for Sat., July 18 (meet at the GTC circle), rain date is one week later on July 25. Hopefully we can put in some transplants at the GTR entrance by then. The next LSC meeting is scheduled for Wedn., Aug. 6, 6:30 pm (at Pat W.'s residence, 311 GTC). BYOB if you like something to sip!

8. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.