

Highland Woods Land Stewardship Committee Meeting
6:00pm, Wednesday, July 12, 2017
311 Glen Thistle Court

Members present: Pat White (Chair), Bonnie Broderick, Susan Sweeney, Suzy Buenger

Members absent: Pat Gillette, Kathleen Grant

Owners present: Anita Mukherjee (312), Cappy & Tom Hanrahan (310), Chris Young (120), Nancy McDonald (306), Patrick O'Brien (117)

Representing Prima Management: Dylan Duhr

Owners' Concerns

- Nancy McDonald reported that after the recent large storms, she again has water in her basement, in areas where she has had flooding in the past, but also, for the first time, in her laundry room. The swale has helped cut the flooding in the past, but doesn't seem to handle the volume of water from the past few storms. She has specialists coming to advise her re. possible solutions: sump pump? drain tiles? larger downspouts?
- Chris Young reported erosion near his garage around the storm drain, which has degraded. Half the rainfall goes into the drain, half does not. Dylan said that HW replaced/repared the drain around three years ago, but it's broken down again. HW will repair.
- Anita Mukherjee asked for clarification on the 5-foot rule to understand her responsibility for the landscaping around her unit. Dylan read aloud the 2013 revision to the pertinent by-laws language and Bonnie read aloud the current revision being worked on by the LSC. Further work needs to be done to clarify the language. Pat will see if she can get the issue on the agenda for discussion at the upcoming Board of Directors meeting.
- Cappy Hanrahan reported that the new swales in the area around the recent "117 project" are for the most part working, but one of them near 310 needs re-routing/extension so that water will not be directed toward the steps and deposit silt there. After the recent "117 project" removal/planting she would like to salvage and encourage growth of desirable species, but isn't always sure whether catalpa, silver maple and chestnut saplings are desirable. Dylan suggested encouraging catalpa saplings, but not silver maple or chestnut. Pat said owners in the area of the "117 project" should feel free to put in plants they would like to see, but to first check the approved plantings list found on the HW website.
- Patrick O'Brien reported that the swale on the side of 117 is incorrectly situated and therefore ineffective. Bassett needs to make it right. Continuing concerns about the unkempt yard at 115. Dylan said there is a Good Oak bid to restore the landscaping, but our groundskeeper Shawn will also be submitting a bid.

Committee Business

- Reading and discussion of Kathy Kennedy's letter to the Abbey Condominium Board of Directors, which proposes a collaborative effort to restore the wild area between HW and the

Abbey. The committee felt the letter is excellent and should be sent over Pat White's signature.

- It would be a good project for the LSC to invent language to include on the HW website to more clearly educate new and prospective buyers about the "hybrid" nature of condo ownership in this neighborhood. Discussion to be continued.
- Upcoming workdays: Friday, July 21, 2017 at 8am—goal: weeding curb area of OMR slope
Saturday, August 5 at 9am—goal: TBD
- Next LSC meeting: Wednesday, August 9, 2017 at 6pm at the Brodericks (221 GHR)