

Bentana Woods West Cluster Board
Meeting Minutes
November 5, 2013

In Attendance:

All Board members were present.

Also attending for Resident's Forum: Amy Bossie (SC), Andy and Michelle Creemer (FC), and Gerry Koster (PG).

Residents Forum. Amy Bossie brought up a recurring problem: The trash bin by the tot lot. Because of the weight of the bin, it is being assumed that people are dumping items in it rather than using it for trash, it's intended purpose. Once again, we will need to place something in the next newsletter; one is to ask for a volunteer to help with getting it out at trash time, and the other notice is that only trash and no house hold items should be placed in these bins.

The Creemers brought photos to the Board on a broken pipe and tree root because of a blocked and broken drainage pipe. There was a similar occurrence in 2009. Mr. Creemer offered to send more photos to the Board President; it would have been best for the Board members to see the area, however the pipe fix and dirt had already been replaced.

The Board will look into the matter, speaking with contractors as needed for a December meeting result. Director Henck offered to contact Dominion, who replaced the curbs in the area of the large oak, and President DuBose was going to check with an attorney.

Landscape Committee. Before Chair LeGros read the landscape report, the Board heard from Gerry Koster, who submitted the appropriate paperwork to allow a revised planting on the cluster area by his home on PG Court. Also submitted to the Board was a completed form from David "Shep" Baker. This was also approved by the Board. Chair LeGros stated that both proposals were reviewed by the Committee members and they were voted the 'go ahead'. Both projects are using site suitable shrubs and perennials that will be cared for by the home owners, who understand that the installations become the property of the Cluster.

There were no requests for funds this month. Note: Meadows completed the planting by 1532 Scandia except for one cherry tree which was not in stock and will be planted later.

Minutes of Previous Meeting. The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed. One change was noted and the minutes were approved with this change to be made.

Treasurer's Report. The report was given and approved.

Communications Committee Report. Director Reed stated that there were additional responses to the Committee's survey, finding roughly 50 responses to date. The committee will hold a meeting soon to discuss improvements to the website and newsletter. We were reminded that the next meeting will be preceded by a social at the home of Director Reed.

New Business.

~Pres. DuBose told the Board that a thank you card was received from Deb Spears.

~A car was towed from the SC II parking lot.

~ Deck stain on Park Glen. Much discussion about a deck stain color that is not approved; the only approved color is listed as 'brown to match the house trim'. Decision at next month's meeting. Will request that owner's resubmit an application with a timeline in compliance.

~ Newsletter: A newsletter was just distributed with some date and phone number errors. Corrections were given to Director Henck to ensure accuracy in future newsletters.

~ There is a new communications tool "RestonNow". Members were asked to check it out.

~ Disturbances on Scandia III. Discussion on how to handle the variety of loud sounds: music, overly loud car and truck motors, power washer, etc., as the sounds are an issue with a number of families on the street. Board agreed a letter would be sent to the family but did not agree on who would send it. Board will revisit next month.

Other. Deck Staining: Owners to resubmit application with a timeline in compliance.

Old Business. ~Striping of end space on Scandia III. We have received a lowered bid from Dominion Paving to commence the stripes painting on the space at the far end of Scandia Circle, which has proven to not be designed to be used as a parking space.

Farsta tree/drainage pipe discussion:

Director Henck offered to contact Dominion, and insurance company, a plumber and Fairfax Water. Director Wagner offered to contact TWC for the name of an independent arborist who has not been used by the cluster in the past to avoid any possible complications. This will be on the agenda for December.

The next meeting will be held at the home of Director Reed: 1532 Scandia Circle at 7:00pm with a Board social.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jane LeGros, Board Secretary