**FAIRLINGTON MEADOWS COUNCIL OF CO-OWNERS**

**BUILDING & GROUNDS COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Wednesday, October 6, 2021**

**7:30 pm**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT** **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Charles Monfort Frona Adelson

Claudia Rector Joe Spytek

Margaret Rhodes Donald Spamer

Joanne S

Cynthia F

Shirin W

Carolyn G

Gavin H

Patrick

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Dolly Sharma, Recording Secretary, Minutes Services

**CALL TO ORDER**

**MOTION:** Mr. Monfort **CALLED** the meeting to order at 7:30 pm as the quorum was met with all members present.

**COURT REJUVENATION PROJECTS**

The landscaping rejuvenation has begun with Court 2 and should move to Court 5 next week. The playground landscaping will follow, then Courts 6, 9, and 14 will begin November 1. **T**he process is going well, although we have already noticed ways we should change the program for next year. For example, the design process can begin earlier and we need to have final drawings in place, with all adopted changes, before we begin planting in next year’s courts. We also need to pay more attention to splash blocks and drain extensions, and think more about how to treat existing small plants such as hosta. Finally, it is clear that at least one Committee member needs to be on-site for each project should any questions arise.

**GENERAL LANDSCAPING PROJECTS**

Drainage issues continue behind 3449 South Stafford; Mr. Monfort will meet with Lancaster to review the problem and ask for a proposal.

The Board is ordering new court entrance signs. Some of the current signs are in places where trees are proposed for court entrances and the new signs will have to be placed elsewhere. The signs will be here in 4-6 weeks. Mr Monfort and Ricky will walk the courts to select which signs need new locations.

Mr. Monfort is compiling a list of all the buildings with ivy around them, as Cynthia has already started this around Court 8. Lancaster will bid this separately from the landscaping rejuvenation as it is very labor intensive. Claudia suggested this work should be done off season to avoid competing needs.

In the meantime, B&G needs to proactively inquire on the number of working spigots. In Courts 2 and 14, there are not many working spigots. Checking the valve in the residents’ utility closets can be helpful. But also checking to see if and why the spigots are leaking will help.

Ricky has been authorized to buy hose materials for Court 2 and other priority courts; residents may retain these items as needed for future watering, but excess material should be returned to Ricky.

A new pest, spotted lantern fly, has come to local attention and they are damaging agricultural areas. If you see one, destroy it. You can collect and freeze them as a more humane way of removal.

**COMMITTEE ISSUES**

Mr. Spamer is the new board liaison. Ms. Rhodes is a new Committee member; she works for the County and will serve as a great asset for the Committee with her contacts there.

There needs to be a volunteer for the Vice-Chair role. There is a proposed Vice-Chair to Chair rotation pipeline. After serving as Vice-Chair, the person will have the opportunity to serve as Chair, the next year, with a new Vice-Chair.

**OPEN FORUM**

There was a general discussion about sidewalk lights and some community members felt the process of selection and installation was not sufficiently publicized. Mr. Adelson noted the lights were originally selected as pool lights and were discussed at length in last year’s meetings. The Board approved the light projects during open meetings.

Adrian H. mentioned there needs to be some waterproofing done at the front of her unit, which would entail digging through her front garden. Mr. Monfort informed her that he Courts slated for renovation in 2022 are 4, 8, 11, 13, and 15, so replacement of permanent plants should be done then. Adrian H. mentioned having a bug infestation on her crape myrtle tree. Claudia informed Adrian that a quick solution of soapy water with Dawn dish detergent will take off the honeydew and get rid of the bugs.

Sharon brought up fake spider webs used for Halloween decorations, which can be harmful to birds and insects.

Cynthia mentioned that County arborists do not check the health of street trees, and also asked for the scheduled for fall lawn seeding and fertilizing. Mr. Monfort said he would check.

Claudia left the meeting at 8:26 pm.

**ACTION ITEMS**

* Claudia will do an article on the spotted lantern fly.
* Sharon will do an article on the Halloween webbing.
* Ms. Rhodes is going to speak with her colleagues about Arlington County about the arborists.
* Ms. Adelson will speak with other association presidents about how to deal with the street trees.

Mr. Monfort recommended changing the meeting time to 7:00 pm instead of 7:30 pm; Committee members agreed to the change..

**ESTABLISHMENT OF NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING:** Wednesday November 3rd at 7pm**.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Hearing no further business, the meeting was **adjourned** at 8:39 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by: Dolly Sharma, Recording Secretary

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