

**Tollgate Association
April 2014 Board Meeting**

Date and Time: April 5th, 2014 at 9am

Location: 127Tollgate Way (Hahn residence)

Attending: Chuck Connor, Ed Hahn, Rob Ochsendorf, Joe Romer, Terry Zawacki, Bob Donaldson, Marie Murray

1. Approval of the March Meeting Minutes

2. Financial Report

http://tollgateway.org/budget/2014_expenses.pdfhttp://tollgateway.org/budget/2014_net_worth.pdf

http://tollgateway.org/budget/2014_budget.pdf

3. Committee Reports: Committee Chairs

- Social (Joe Romer) – A date has been tentatively set (July 20th) for a social outing to see a National's game. The Board will put out a neighborhood survey to gauge interest and how much people are willing to pay for the event. Chuck suggested renting a meeting room at the stadium for everyone to gather ahead of the game for something to eat. Joe agreed to look into the cost of a meeting room and seating options.

The spring social is scheduled for May 18th. Rob will follow up with the Social committee to ensure they have everything they need. Terry suggested placing signs ahead of time next to the parking pad where the social will be held to remind folks not to park there during the event.

- Landscaping – The Committee continued working with the Ramiro Group. Ramiro made two visits to Tollgate this past week to make up for a day lost in March due to weather. The crew removed several dead bushes at Marie's request, along with routine landscaping work. Greenhawk performed their first treatment of the year.

A Merrifield representative is coming to do a walk around on April 16th. Marie did an initial walk about of the neighborhood, but due to weather, new growth is delayed so a damage assessment must wait. We may have damage that will need to be addressed.

Marie took a sample of boxwoods from #114 (Sauner) to Merrifield for examination. It appears the boxwood suffered damage due to this winter's inclement weather.

The committee received requests from #104 (Lynch), and expects a request from #105 (Beyer) due to concern over front shrubs.

- Trees – Bob walked around with the Greenery arborist. The arborist estimated it would cost \$2,800 to remove fiveleyland cypress and 6 stumps next to #124 (Murray). It will cost an additional \$675 to perform the following: prune the trees behind #135 (Smolinski); remove the foster holly behind #118 (Donaldson) that was uprooted by snow; prune the nelliestevens tree at #123 (Kahn); prune the oak in front of #113 (Zawacki); prune the cherry at #101 (Vlahos). The arborist will also hand prune the foster holly's along Broad Street. Total estimate: \$3,475. The final cost will be discounted at 10% if we proceed with all of the work.

Rob asked about the red maple in front of #116 (Romer) and red oak in front of #105 (Beyer). These trees have been on the watchlist for five years, and we are taking a wait and see approach for now.

- Architecture – On March 22nd Tollgate residents were delivered a Board approved flyer, reminding them to give adequate advance notice and obtain Architecture or Landscape Committee prior approval before hiring contractors for exterior home changes or pruning/plantings (Appendix I). This action prompted the homeowners at #115 on March 25th (who had previously arranged for brick repointing work to be done) to submit two requests for exterior work to be performed on April 3rd; namely: 1) remove the front window shutters and 2) replace the dryer & bathroom vent covers on the front façade with new closure devices. The vent covers are located to the right of the garage beneath a ground floor window. The Committee met on April 1st, after deliberations the requests were not approved, and the homeowners were notified on April 2nd, with Garry Sauner offering to phone or explain in person the rationale for the disapprovals. That evening Garry received a lengthy e-mail from the homeowners, which provided further context and requested Committee reconsideration and a response within 30 days. The Architecture Committee will meet in the coming days to review this additional information and determine how best to respond. The Board will be kept

apprised. Interested homeowners are always welcome to join or attend any Architecture Committee meeting.

- Maintenance – On March 12th, during high winds, the streetlight between #115 and #117 was blown off the post. In the fall, it sustained damage and glass was broken. Thanks to Bob for repairing and re-installing the light. Marie suggested that the Board re-assess the current lifespan for streetlights in the Association's Capital Asset Management plan. The useful life of the streetlights is currently estimated to be 18 years. The lights were installed in 2005.

4. New Business

- a. Continued Discussion of Tollgate Branding – Chuck will work on how to best craft our brand as a precursor to revamping our website. Joe also agreed to work with Chuck on the issue.

5. The next meeting will be on May 17th, 2014 at #133 (Connor residence). The Board meeting concluded at 10:15 a.m.

APPENDIX I

Neighborly Reminder - Exterior Home Changes and Pruning/Plantings

Spring is officially here and this season usually represents the time when homeowners have painting or other outside home improvements done or, request pruning or replacement shrubs for their property. If you are considering any of the above, please remember that all exterior work to your home (including decks and storage sheds in your courtyard) requires review and approval by either the Architectural Committee or the Landscape Committee.

Homeowners can contact our Association's committee chairpersons early on for assistance -- Garry Sauner (garry.g.sauner.civ@mail.mil) for Architecture and Marie Murray (chasmurr@aol.com) for Landscape matters. Keep in mind that sufficient advance notice is necessary to allow the Committees to review the request and to give the needed approval when contractor work is involved -- either someone you plan to hire for exterior home changes or pruning/plantings. Simply contact Garry and Marie; they will be glad to help. Your cooperation is appreciated.