

Tollgate Association Meeting Minutes – September 11, 1998

President Edie Smolinski called the Tollgate Association board meeting to order at 4:35 p.m. on September 11, 1998, at the home of Tony D'Erme. Also present was Marge Zitzmann, thereby constituting a quorum. Absent: Mary Klappa and Jack Johnson.

There was no Secretary's report available from Mary Klappa.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Tony D'Erme reported that everyone is current with their assessments. Total income minus expenses equaled \$13,856.29. Although \$5001.00 remains in the Trees/Shrubs account, about \$4000.00 is committed for landscaping upkeep/treatment/improvements with Living Colour. (See attached Treasurer's Report.)

Edie mentioned that she is trying to reach Joe Romer to ask him to meet with Nasiatka's regarding the damage to their gate when the apple tree came down on common ground beyond their patio. Travelers insurance suggested, in a letter to the Nasiatka's that it was "not their fault."

Landscaping Report – Tony reported that Beth Lawless met with him about parts of some shrubs that are dying, at Bond's, Frady's, Nasiatka's and Smolinski's. She checked all shrubs and said they are dying from the draught, leaf scorch, lace bug and/or mites. Treatment is very difficult, but being attempted.

Next week Wednesday, Stewart Bunn will meet with Tony to check the tree that is splitting (#14, Ann Hedges). Also, Towell/Cohagen have two pines leaning toward their house with shallow root systems. Economy Tree estimated a \$500.00 charge for removing the two. If we don't give the business to Guardian Tree, Stewart Bunn is asking \$110.00 for an hour consultation, but the Board agreed that this is fair. Tony will ask that he subtract that fee when he gets our business (such as wiring a tree to save it.)

Marge Zitzmann suggested that Bunn look at the tree behind Bretts and Powells, which she believes is splitting. Tony will prepare a special report for residents.

Marge suggested a General Fund of several thousand dollars in next year's budget, so that we have money for a small emergency that isn't earmarked for something else.

Both Nasiatka's and Zawacki's are interested in having some pines cut down or at least "limbed up." If they are not in danger of coming down in a storm, they could be given permission to have the work done and paid for by the individual homeowner. We did not decide any action on this subject.

Edie reported that Jack Johnson reported to her that Kahn's expressed an interest in fixing their steps, sidewalk and driveway. Only the driveway cost would be split with the Association and perhaps a patching will suffice because the driveway is mostly intact.

A discussion ensued about the fact that five houses are on the market (possibly more than ever before.) Tony suggested that a Tollgate H.A. brochure with well-done pictures, highlighting the unique enclave could help sales. Marge felt it wouldn't make a difference. Edie felt Terry Parsons could share his ideas. No action was suggested at this time.

Tony shared the attached article, Washington Post, 9/7/98, about the Ashburn Village Community Association, making rules without giving homeowners a chance for input, and reminded board members of their responsibilities of not acting independently.

Edie mentioned the upcoming picnic on Saturday, September 27, beginning at 4 p.m. She will contact Edna about the flyer. Also, the Board asked that we not furnish meat, as we did in May. The funds for the social committee have been spent, and it was felt that hors d'ouvres, salads and desserts would be plenty. Edie will let Edna know of the Board's decision.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m. The next meeting will be Thursday, October 8, at 7:30 p.m. at Edie's house at 135 Tollgate Way.

Respectfully submitted,

Edie Smolinski, for Mary Klappa