## Tollgate Association September 12, 2009 Board Meeting

**Date and Time:** September 12, 2009 at 9:00 am

**Location:** 123 Tollgate Way (Casteuble residence)

**Attending:** Eric Kirschner, Philippe Casteuble, Garry Sauner

1. June 2009 Board minutes approved with minor edits.

- 2. <u>Treasurer's Report (Bob D.)</u> -- Net cash flow for the period June 1 through September 8 was (\$7,484.91). Current net worth is \$25,088. Garry S. raised a question regarding the remaining liability on the landscape contract which he will forward to Bob D.
- 3. <u>Landscape</u> Marie M. could not be present but provided this written report of tasks undertaken and/or completed this summer:
  - a. "Taming" of the ivy in areas behind courtyard walls in conjunction with Ramiro Landscaping was begun;
  - b. Bob and Marie marked enlarged mulch beds in several areas and Ramiro was instructed to complete that work;
  - c. The Melhem's (#102) request that the area adjacent to their front walk be raised and the edging bricks repositioned was completed;
  - d. A third spraying of the photinia bushes at the end of Tollgate to continue the battle with leaf spot was requested from Ramiro;
  - e. New shrubs were planted in front of #103 (D'Ermes). The existing shrubs from #103 were moved to other Tollgate locations. One bush was transplanted to the side of #117 (Ochsendorf) and three other bushes were transplanted to an area at the front of the Kahn's yard.
  - f. Marie began pruning the shrubs in front of #111 (Jim Guyette). More significant pruning will be done next spring, along with the removal of some bushes and the planting of some new shrubs. Marie met with Jim G.and discussed his wishes and what the committee envisions for his yard.
  - g. Marie met with Janet Powell (#109) to discuss her plantings and what should be done as far as pruning. She then worked with Ramiro's crew to do a limited pruning according to Janet's instructions.
  - h. Marie met with Amy Strunk from Merrifield to discuss Tom and Edie's front yard (#135) and to get suggestions for new plants. Marie will meet with Tom and Edie to make final choices which will be presented to the Committee for approval.
  - i. Marie hand pruned the laurels in front of #110 and will do additional pruning in the spring if it is warranted.
  - j. The large evergreen in front of #115/#117 was removed.
  - k. The laurel in front of #108 was moved to an area in the front of Julie McNamara's (#122) garage. A dying bush was removed from Julie's yard to make room for the laurel.
  - 1. A bush in the front of #100 has died and the Committee will need to discuss how this will be replaced.

- m. Mark Kaye (#106) recently forwarded his suggestions to Garry S. for the alley behind his house. The Landscape Committee will review these suggestions at their next meeting and vote on a course of action.
- n. "Gator" bags for the new tree in front of #127/#129, as well as a number of other trees, were installed.
- 4. <u>Tree Committee (Bob D.)</u> -- Bob D. not present. Landscape Report includes mention of new gator bags.
- 5. Architecture Committee (Garry S.) Julie M. (#122) has requested approval of a new garage door (wood door with 24 panels) which was approved. Tony D. (#103) did not submit a request to have his home repainted, but he circulated an e-mail to some individuals. The e-mail was forwarded to Garry S. and Garry S. checked that the color matched some of the pre-approved exterior colors. Garry S. would like to list the committee chairpersons in the Tollgate Directory in order to facilitate homeowner communication with the committees.
- 6. <u>Social Committee (Garry S.)</u> -- Garry S. expressed his thanks for organizing the summer solstice event. The dine-around will be on September 20 from 5 pm to 8 pm.
- 7. Maintenance Committee (Bob D./Tom S.) -- No report.
- 8. Old Business Garry S. contacted the owner of Masonry Specialists regarding the brick wall along Broad St. The owner inspected the wall with Garry S. in July and gave Garry S. the option of caulk or concrete repairs. Garry requested concrete repairs that were done to Garry's satisfaction ("99% perfect").

After the Tollgate repaving, MS utility did some work that was patched up poorly (in front of the Smolinski's/Connor's at the end of the street). Garry S. has followed up with the city on the issue.

The City did the street striping in July. The City will replace three sidewalk panels on the southeast side of Broad St. and address the deterioration on the northwest side of the Broad St. sidewalk. The latter project is scheduled to be done by October 15.

On August 10, Garry S. walked Tollgate with a Verizon representative (Reggie) and a Verizon FIOS manager (Mark Higdon). Higdon did the following: removed tape from the sub-station and replaced with a lock, removed the temporary line from the sub-station, filled in a hole by the sub-station handhold, removed the extra line by #110 (Stephenson's), closed an open FIOS box, and agreed to run the cable to #133 through a vent in the wall. Garry S. also trimmed the extraneous TV wires behind #106 and tucked in the wires behind the Donaldson's.

9. New Business -- Philippe asked about the damaged SUV on Tollgate (MD tags). Marie circulated an e-mail asking about the SUV, but nobody has claimed ownership. Garry S. believes that the vehicle may belong to a workman, but it appears to be abandoned. Marie contacted the City and the Police Dept. position is that the parking spaces at the end of the street are the property of Tollgate. The Police Dept. recommended that Tollgate have the abandoned car towed. Garry S. will put a sign on the vehicle asking if anyone is aware of

whose vehicle it is, otherwise the vehicle will be towed. If the vehicle is not claimed, then Garry S. will arrange to have it towed. Garry will also contact MD DMV to see if the owner can be ascertained.

In 2004, the HOA had the parking pads washed, stained and repaired (Snyder's Contracting). They recommended that in five years, the parking pads should be rewashed and resealed. Garry S. reached Todd Schneider who recommended Gene Stein for the work b/c he may have the original driveway stamps. Garry S. met with Gene S. and reviewed the work involved. Mr. Stein recommended Hunt Valley Contractors (of Hunt Valley, MD) and they believed that they had the necessary stamps. They have not followed-up and Garry S. will recontact. Todd Schneider also indicated that he may be able to do the work. Garry S. will follow-up and get estimates for this work. This issue will be discussed at the annual HOA.

The light fixtures by the Romers and Kirschners have burned out lightbulbs that need replacement. Neither Tom S. nor Ed B. have the replacement CFLs. Ed B. will attempt to secure some replacements. The fixtures by the Donaldsons, Sauners and the gazebo have broken sockets and cannot receive a CFL bulb. Garry S. will schedule an electrician to repair the fixtures. The fixtures will also need cleaning.

The next board meeting will be October 3, 2009 at #108 (Kirschner's).

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 am.

Submitted by: Eric Kirschner, Secretary