

**LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE**  
**Minutes – October 11, 2004**

**Attending:**

Bob Donaldson  
Terry Zawacki  
Kathy Doherty

**Water erosion problem behind 106 to 116**

The city says the storm drains are clear and the underground pipe is ours. It is only 8" in diameter rather than recommended 12". As Tollgate has the responsibility for any work done to the pipes or catch drains and as Merrifield is the only bidder for a landscape solution (with a price tag of \$7,488), the Committee decided to investigate firms that could install catch drains behind the Sauners' home and behind Edna Frady's former home. Tom Smolinski has agreed to ask the city for recommended contractors and the Committee will solicit bids from those firms.

**Recommendation: The Committee decided to investigate pricing for surface drains and submit for Board consideration before the end of the year, with work to be performed in the early spring.**

***Next Step – report from Tom on contractors***

**Watering at Tollgate:**

A new willow oak has died for lack of water, the beds at entrance suffered some this summer and grass is bare in spots for lack of water. The Committee is aware that watering the common grounds is essential and also that some residents will not take on this responsibility. The Committee recommends that, short term, residents be asked to put a hose at their front outdoor faucet and the Committee will ask for volunteers – including the Committee – to take on "zones" to water fragile areas. The long-term solution is a sprinkler system. Bob Donaldson has investigated cost for systems – which range up to \$45,000 to cover all front and side yards in the common property.

**Recommendation: Bob will refine his price check on sprinkler systems to see if we can get the cost down by having fewer sprinkler heads and also by excluding side yards from the bid. He will report to the Committee when he gets these prices and we will then make a proposal to the Board.**

**Meanwhile, he is putting a rubber soaking hose around the new tree that was installed to replace the dead one. And, the Committee will ask Ella Lyons to include an item in the newsletter.**

***Next step – ask Ella to add to newsletter, install soaker hose and get more information on sprinkler system costs***

**Grading where trees have been removed:**

There are two areas considered uneven because of tree removal some years back. Merrifield has walked these areas and proposed prices for grading, adding topsoil and sod as follows:

~~///~~ Between 125 and 127 = \$1,080 (Merrifield)

~~///~~ Between 119 and 121 = \$985 (Merrifield)

**Recommendation: The Committee feels there are too many pressures on the budget to do this work and the Board already has authorized Garry Sauner to even out the “mound” between 119 and 121 and put sod in. The Committee decided the Board’s decision is the best solution for the time being.**

***Next step – Garry to do the sodding***

**Other business:**

~~///~~ Bed in front of Helga and Karen – needs a plan. **Recommendation:** Kathy will ask Merrifield for advice on what to plant around a silver maple that is soaking up all available water.

~~///~~ Flores contract. **The contract is up and prices will rise by 7%, with an option of only a 3% hike in 2005 if we sign a multi-year contract. Bob has also talked to them about aerating and seeding the entire property once a year (rather than only in problem areas) and doing a better job of weeding. They are sending Bob the contracts and the Committee will review and sign them.**

~~///~~ Dead bush in front of Edna Frady’s former home. **The Committee will replace this in the spring.**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.