

LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes, April 5, 2005, 8 p.m.

The meeting was held at Kathy Doherty's house (125) and attended by Kathy Doherty, Bob Donaldson, Terry Parsons, Terry Zawacki and also by Tollgate Board President, Garry Sauner.

The committee first took up five items of Old Business:

1. Erosion in the alley behind 110 and 112. The solution put in place in November 2004 is only partially working. Weather permitting, on the weekend of April 9, Garry and Bob are planning to put in additional pavers and brick, add fill dirt to ensure the slope goes toward the catch drain and also amend the concrete border around the catch drain so that it directs water into the drain, not back onto the grass.

Decision: Kathy will email the four affected homeowners to let them know of this work. The committee will give these enhancements a chance to work. If they do not solve the problem, the committee will look at other possible solutions.

2. Kathy reported that Flores has fertilized and aerated all common areas and overseeded. They have weeded and mulched beds at the entrance and on the odd-numbered side of the street and will soon get to the even-numbered side.

Action Taken: The committee asked that Flores give us a price for filling in the swales between 125 and 127 as well as between 117 and 121. Kathy will get a price estimate.

3. The committee then took up discussion of the vacant bed in front of 110 and 112. A large silver maple there is sucking up all available water and neither the homeowners nor the association has succeeded in getting anything to grow there. The homeowners have used their own resources to plant and the association also has spent money on the area. Kathy has talked to Flores, which recommends adding soil and amendments and planning lirioppe and mondo grass. The committee discussed the risk of putting more money into the bed without assurance that the homeowners will do all that is necessary to ensure that it survives. The committee did not want to insist that the homeowners be required to pay for improvements to this common area but it did seek and receive oral assurances that the two homeowners will devote the necessary effort to water and tend to anything planted there.

Action Taken: The committee voted to get a price from Flores for 5"- 6" of topsoil and fertilizer, edging and labor to plant mondo and lirioppe. Terry and Kathy will work on a design for the planting and ask Flores to

provide a price on purchasing necessary plants. If the price is acceptable, we'll authorize the work. If the work is approved and the planting does not survive, the committee agreed it will mulch the area and leave it that way.

4. The committee took up the issue of watering common properties throughout the street and revisited its discussion last fall of a sprinkler system, which Bob reported would be too costly and too disruptive to a number of trees in the neighborhood. The committee then agreed that homeowners should be reminded about the importance of watering.

Action Taken: Kathy will send an email to homeowners with watering tips and also include a request that they make a hose available at their front faucet and make sure it is turned on from inside the house. If the committee members see any area that is suffering, they are authorized to connect the homeowners' hose and water the area.

5. The dead bush at 102 has been removed and Terry Zawacki asked that we not replace it. She has planted a rose bush there that she is taking care of.

Action Taken: The committee agreed.

In new business, the committee discussed:

- ? Cleaning gutter downspouts as part of the next gutter cleaning and fixing those homes where the downspout does not have a hose leading to the street. The committee is undecided whether the association should take the responsibility for fixing this problem wherever it exists.
 - o **Bob will get a price estimate and we will discuss at the next meeting**
- ? What bylaws govern plantings in common properties
 - o **Bob reports the guidelines are on the web site. Kathy will check to see if any need clarification**
- ? Kathy removed a large holly at her front door (125) and sought committee approval after the fact – although Bob approved it when the workers arrived.
 - o **The committee agreed.**

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned.