

Minutes of the Walnut Grove Homes Association November 2019 Board Meeting
12/11/19, 6:30 p.m.
Start Company Realtors, 702 N High Point Rd, Madison, WI 53717

Attendees: Katherine Bidwell, Susan Ames, Hayden McCann, Liz Fenster, Pam Conrad, Elizabeth Albano, Doug Hyant, Molly Hyant, and Davie Phillips.

Excused: Katherine Bidwell, Birgitta Larson-Gamez.

Meeting called to order at 6:34pm.

November Meeting Minutes:

- November meeting minutes taken by E. Albano distributed.
- D. Phillips moves to approval meeting minutes. M. Hyant seconds motion. Minutes approved unanimously by all present.

Treasury Report:

- D. Phillips called city to see what they would spend for pathways through greenway. City said high end \$60 per foot for 8 foot wide path. Measured all of our pathways early last spring. Will cost about \$320,000 for 8 foot wide pathway. Save on maintenance if widen pathway.
- Talking to person from DNR who works on pathways in some of their parks.
- City said whether path will be 8 feet wide or more narrow, will cost about the same since will require a lot of hand-work (ie. Wheelbarrows).
- We might have to sacrifice a little and then repair.
- P. Conrad- if we use 6 foot paths, can use them all the paths except in the woods. Will have to be all handwork on pathway D.
- Previously got a quote for everything except for D to replace. No one would give a bid for the woods pathway.
 - o How many feet of greenway we have is woods vs non-woods?
 - 1426 wooded that would take a special effort.
 - Total is 5,369 feet total paths. About 1500 wooded and 1400 not wooded.
- Get quote for the non-wooded.
- 10,000 would be a good figure per year to budget for arborist. . Adding in some of invasive control? They can only do the big stuff. Volunteers have to do the little stuff. Total \$10,000-\$12,000 a year for arborist. Last year spent about \$10,000-\$8,000.
- Replanting- need to replace in cul-de-sacs. Rescue pruning is expensive. Can put into budget 1 a year for circle replanting.
- Grants- idea to have x dollars per year budgeted for grants to each cul-de-sac. Fewer grants for more money going forward. Board will keep track who is receiving the grants to one circle is not given it each year.
- Pathway idea- use another material other than asphalt.
 - o Ice Age trail- sustainable and does not erode, just built with dirt.

2020 Board Changes and openings:

- Potential new members who moved to Colony Drive. Liz is meeting with them to discuss further.
- Only positions required- President, VP, Secretary, and Treasury. Need to have 9 people on the Board.
- Social- idea someone can officially lead it, but can split events among Board members. One or two people assigned to each event.
- Open vote of positions once new board situated.
- Board meetings at the Library going forward.
- Liz proposing Board meeting every other month, 1.5-2 hours each.
- 1st meeting in February, new and old people. Will vote on new roles.

- Doug asking with Lawyer about dues increase and bylaws. Call into the city, didn't hear back from anything.
- Need a full board, fully complimented, properly elected. Need at least 9 members and people elected at annual meeting.
- Need Board unanimously approved at meeting.
- 5 to elect this year. M. Hyant and D. Hyant count as one because share a household.
- D. Phillips up for reelection, D. Hyant and M. Hyant up for initial election.

Subdivision Dues Sheet:

- List of West Madison subdivisions and dues
- Will sort from highest to lowest dues and add column which have greenways comparable to size of ours.
- D. Hyant will email associations to find out if subdivisions have greenways or comparable.

Annual Meeting:

- No response from Alderman Skidmore about annual meeting.
- Keeping cookies and coffee for annual meeting. Budget set at \$100.

Block Captains

- In effort to get people to email vs. paper, found 2 people who want no communication with anyone.
- Liz will update documents regarding communication.

Communications

- Annual meeting flyer should be received no sooner than 3 weeks prior to the meeting. Needs to be mailed out around January 10th.
- Last year went to printer, preaddressed. B. Larson Gamez needs to provide list because needs to go to owners address.
- M. Hyant has last years' design.
- Flyer needs to include a proxy area to mail back in or give to someone who is attending the annual meeting.
- M. Hyant will determine cost of newsletters.
- Send one to every home in the neighborhood to make sure everyone gets them. Make sure everyone who lives in the neighborhood gets it, including renters and owners.
- H. McCann going away January and February. Will not be present in January or Feb, but will be in March.
- P. Conrad will be absent for January Board meeting

Greenways:

- Greenway committee are going to propose for Spring newsletter about organizing plan for adopt a plot. Going to focus on removing invasives (with training).
- Greenway committee is supporting doing home composting course.
- Volunteer workdays will continue in spring/summer. Great way to get to know neighbors. Overall very successful.

Next Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 8th at 6:30pm at Stark Company Realtors.