

AGENDA

Walnut Grove Homes Association Board of Directors Meeting (Regular)

Monday, April 4, 2016
7:00 p.m.

Alicia Ashman Library
733 North High Point Road
Madison, WI 53717

- I. Welcome (E. Lewandowski)
- II. Quorum (M. Nellis)
- III. Review & Approval of February 22, 2016 Regular Board Meeting Minutes
(M. Nellis)
- IV. Board Reports
 - Architectural Control Committee (D. Clearwood)
 - ACC Review Process/7106 Farmington Way Fencing Request
(General Discussion)
 - Area Safety & Security (E. Lewandowski)
 - N. Westfield Bicycle Harassment & BB Gun Drive-by Incidents
 - Possible Drug/Inappropriate Behavior Issues in Walnut Grove Park
 - Urban Forestry Special Charges Update (E. Lewandowski)
 - 3/3/16 Lussier Center Meeting with P. Terranova/A.B. Orlik
 - Archiving Project (M. Schmitt)
 - Treasurer's Report (K. Kollath)
 - Greenways Report (G. Anibas)
 - Springwood Circle Renovation Proposal (M. Schmitt)
 - Social Report (K. McComb)
- V. New Business
 - Review of Communications/Block Captains Roles
(General Discussion)
- VI. Next Meeting
- VII. Adjourn

MINUTES

WALNUT GROVE HOMES ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING (REGULAR) APRIL 4, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM at the Alicia Ashman Public Library and a quorum was established.

Present: Eric Lewandowski, Mark Schmitt, Denise Clearwood, Gabe Anibas, Kathy McComb and Mary Nellis

Excused: Karen Kollath

Guests: Patrick Delaney and Derek Pavelec (members of the ACC committee)

Minutes of the February 22, 2016 meeting were approved. Motion made by DC and seconded by KMc. Unanimous without corrections.

ACC Committee:

Discussion of a new fence that has been installed without prior approval at 7106 Farmington Way. The owner of the house is living out of state and a renter had the 4 ft. fence installed after asking the rental agent if it was OK. The rental agent gave permission before contacting the owner who knew the covenants and said it shouldn't be done. By that time a chain link fence was already up. The covenants accept fences no taller than 3 feet and do not state what kind of material can be used.

The renter claims she needs a fence for her child with special needs. The owner has asked the board to allow the current fence to remain because of this special circumstance and promises to have the fence removed when the renter leaves. At the present time the renter has a 1 year lease but could potentially live there for up to 3 years when she is able to purchase a home.

It is apparent to neighbors that the renter is running a day care business from the house but she has not acknowledged this to the owner, rental agent or anyone from the board. There are no covenants for this address prohibiting the use of the house for a business. If the day care is a licensed program then there are mandated rules for fencing that would supersede our covenants.

Denise will write a letter to the owner stating the conditions under which the board will consider approving the current fence. This letter will be attached to the minutes.

ACC other business:

1. At the next committee meeting the issue of rental property and regular maintenance will be discussed, A letter could be sent to owners with property that is not being properly maintained and an eyesore to neighbors. Kathy Mc Comb

has a list of current rental properties that she knows of. There is also a foreclosure and an empty house on Walnut Grove Drive.

2. Denise noted that the covenants do not allow service vehicles owned by residents to be parked in the driveways, the city allows them to be parked on our streets. This is a nuisance on Westfield Road or if parked in front of someone's house other than the owner.
3. Woodshed on the side of the house on Colony (7229) was discussed but no action taken.

Greenways:

1. Walnut Grove Park trees that have been tagged for removal due to EAB are not going to be replaced by the city. Eric spoke to Ald. Skidmore about this issue and he offered to have a community meeting to discuss possible programs that could be instituted to replace the trees. The number of trees is significant and will alter the present beauty of the park. There will also be no shade especially in the playground area.
2. A proposal was submitted by the Springwood Circle residents to significantly upgrade their circle landscaping. (Attached) The budget does not have a line item for this, however, the board felt that this was worthy of funds and considered the use of the general greenways budget to support this. KMc motioned to fund the project from the general greenways budget. Seconded by MN and DC. Gabe A., the greenways chair also supported this project. Passed unanimously.
3. Eric reported that a light sensor on light 21 is not working due to some damage.
4. Possible issues arising from homeowners who plant on extensions of their property that are technically part of the greenways or walkways. While this helps to beautify the space, we are sometimes asked to take responsibility for treating problems that are caused by the resident's actions (trees or bushes that resident planted but which are now dead and need to be removed).

Social:

There are 20 people signed up for the progressive dinner. KMc will purchase meat and soda for the event. All other food will be provided by people attending.

Treasurer:

There are 60 households that have not paid dues on time and will be sent a second notice with a reminder that the late fee is \$10.

Block Captains:

Eric gave the board copies of information about the duties of block captains. This material could be used to recruit a chair person who would also become a member of the board.

Next Meeting to be determined on Doodle.

Respectfully submitted:

Mary M. Nellis

March 30, 2016

Dear Springwood Circle neighbors,

As you know, our Walnut Grove neighborhood is exceptional among Madison neighborhoods in that our neighborhood association owns our greenway system and has the responsibility for its upkeep and improvement. In addition, WGHA also owns the land (circles) at the end of a number of the neighborhood streets, and has largely delegated their upkeep (mowing, etc.) to the neighbors living on the respective streets.

Because of age and decline over the years, our circle has lost the large oak and smaller crabapple that were the principal elements of the circle's landscape. Several homeowners have made an effort to develop some interest by adding a number of plants (*Iris*, tree peony, *Spirea*, *Monarda*, etc.) to the circle, but frankly, at present, the circle's landscaping looks rather sad.

Our homeowners' association offers a grant program that provides grants of up to \$500 for circle improvements. The program requires a design, a budget, and buy-in (agreement/approval, and commitment to maintain) by the street's households. I have approached a trusted landscaper (Steve Lesch, Landscape Designs Inc.) — whom Gail and I have worked with for a number of years for plant advice, landscaping suggestions, and obtaining appropriate, well adapted plants — to develop a proposal for improving the circle landscape. I have prepared this packet of information to share ideas with you and to ask for your comments, suggestions, and recommendations so that the proposal can be submitted to the WGHA Board of Directors for consideration.

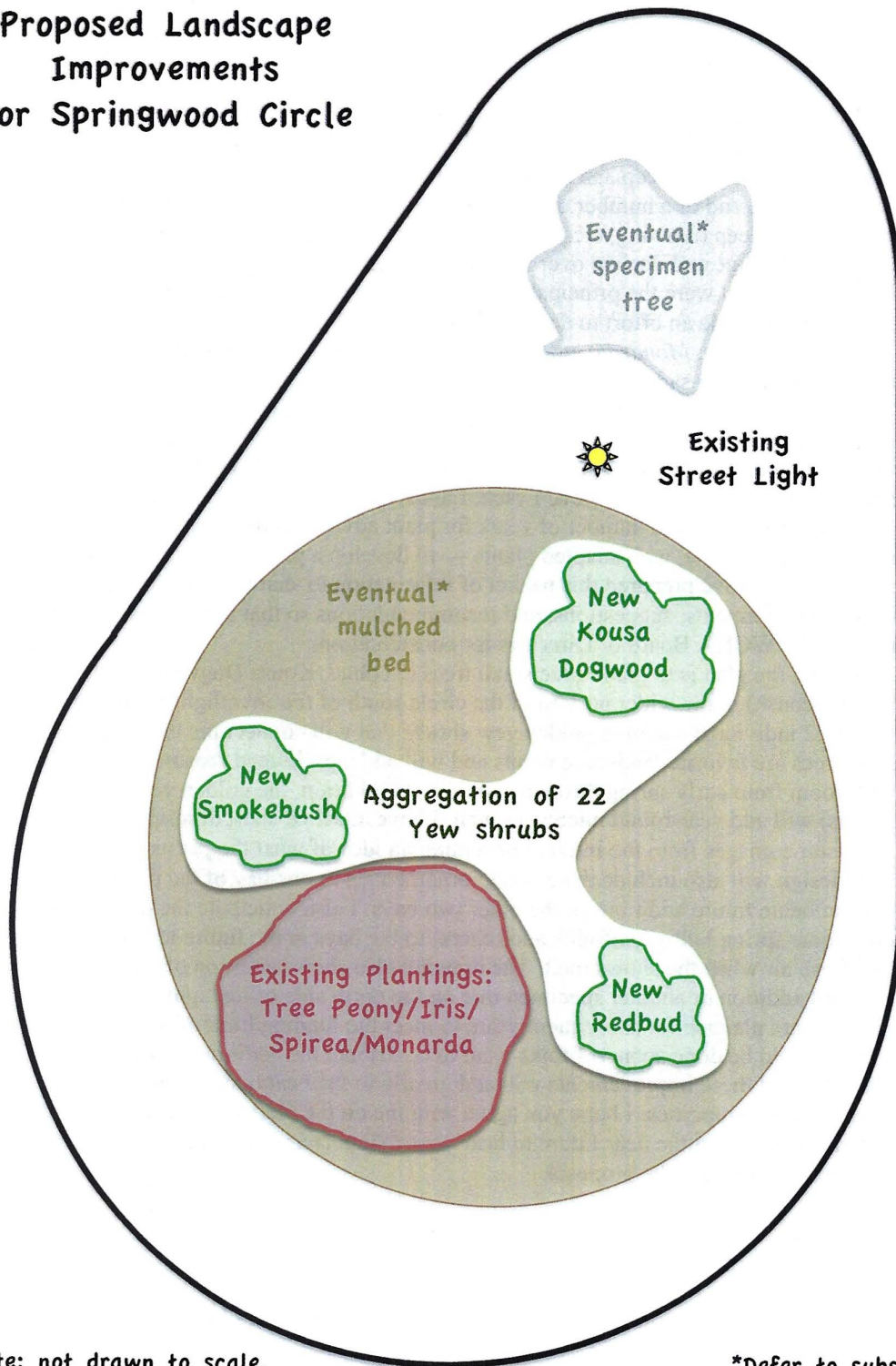
Briefly, the plan is to plant three small trees (Redbud, Kousa Dogwood, and Purple Smokebush) in the wider portion of the circle south of the streetlight, along with a massing of 22 individual sunburst golden yew shrubs that will connect the three new trees. The trees are favorite landscape plants and will add a prolonged seasonal interest as the trees bloom from early spring through summer. In addition, the golden yews (evergreens) will add year-round interest as well. I have attached short descriptions of the plants and some images from the Internet providing an idea of what the plants will look like. The design will also include the existing ornamentals in one bay of the planting and will accommodate future additions in the other two bays. I also anticipate the possibility of adding some spring bulbs (daffodils and others) to the bays in the future to bring a breath of fresh air when the snows melt. The drawing also shows addition of mulch to the main bed and addition of another specimen tree on the north side of the light. Both of these projects are planned for subsequent years to meet the funding limit of the grant program but could be done sooner if folks want to contribute the additional costs.

I think that these improvements will add greatly to the beauty of our street and to the value of all our properties. I hope you agree with me on the merits of this project and will be contacting you in the near future to hear your thoughts and hopefully gain your agreement and support for the proposal.

Thanks in advance,

Mark Schmitt, 21 Springwood Circle, 215-4971 (cell), 831-0506 (landline)

Proposed Landscape Improvements for Springwood Circle



Note: not drawn to scale,
size and location approximate

*Defer to subsequent
years due to budget

Eastern Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*)

“A treasure in the March-April landscape, when its clustered magenta buds unfold a blanket of rosy pink. No equal, no competitor, can be found among flowering landscape trees — the stage is reserved for this species. The flowers appear on leafless branches and are followed by waxy, bronzy to reddish purple new leaves that soon turn dark, almost bluish green and may assume yellow tints in the fall. The 3- to 5-in.-long and –wide leaves are a unique heart shape. This is a small, dapper, low-branching tree with a spreading, flat-topped to rounded crown” (Description from Dirr’s Encyclopedia of Trees and Shrubs, 2011)

The redbud planned for the circle is a “volunteer” (self-seeded) multistem tree from our backyard garden and has already survived several winters here.



Kousa dogwood (*Cornus kousa*), var. *chinensis*

“A most elegant dogwood, but often lost in the landscape shadow of *Cornus florida*. For many parts of the country (*including Madison*), however, *C. kousa* is probably a better choice. In youth the habit is stiffly upright, almost vase-shaped, but with age it becomes rounded to broad-spreading, with distinct horizontal branches. Multicolored mosaics of ray, tan, and rich brown develop on older trunks, and the jigsaw-puzzle-like pattern becomes graphically evident when the bark is wet. The dark green, 2- to 4-in-long leaves are slightly smaller than those of *C. florida* and may develop respectable deep red fall color. The creamy white 2- to 4-in-wide flowers, which are composed of four long-pointed bracts, open two to three weeks later than those of *C. florida*. Raspberry-shaped, ½- to 1in.-wide, red fruit appear in September and October.” (Description from Dirr’s Encyclopedia of Trees and Shrubs, 2011)



Common smoketree (*Cotinus coggygria*), “Royal Purple”

“One of the more common shrubs in the Midwest and East into zone 7 in the Southeast. This species has tremendous visual appeal in May and June (and sometimes July; later in the North) when plummy, pink, smoke-like panicles are at their peak. The “smoke” effect is provided by the silk-like hairs that develop on the inflorescences. Actual flowers are $\frac{1}{3}$ in. in diameter, yellowish green, and five-petaled. The bluish-green leaves $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. long and wide, turn rich yellows, reds, and purples in autumn. The habit of this immense, rounded shrub is often unkempt, and hard pruning results in long, buggy-whip branch extensions. Several major gardens cut the plants, particularly the purple leaf cultivars, to within 6 to 12 in. of the ground to promote colorful, long shoot extensions... Royal Purple... (is a) cultivar with maroon to reddish purple leaves.” (Description from Dirr’s Encyclopedia of Trees and Shrubs, 2011)



English-Japanese yew (*Taxus x media*), sun-burst

Plants included in this group, hybrids between the English and Japanese species, are better choices for modern landscapes. In Midwest and Northeast landscapes *Taxus x media* selections predominate. Many selections have been made; most are shrubby.

(Description from Dirr's encyclopedia of trees and shrubs, 2011)

Sunburst:

An exciting new variety with brilliant gold new foliage in spring that fades to a soft yellow-green over the summer, contrasts well against the normal green older needles, spreading habit, takes pruning well and tolerates shade; use for a splash of color. Sunburst Yew has attractive chartreuse foliage which emerges gold in spring. The ferny leaves are ornamentally significant but remain chartreuse through the winter. Neither the flowers nor the fruit are ornamentally significant. The smooth brown bark is not particularly outstanding. It is a dense multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with a ground-hugging habit of growth. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other landscape plants with less refined foliage. This is a relatively low maintenance shrub, and can be pruned at anytime. It has no significant negative characteristics.

From http://plants.connon.ca/11100004/Plant/4124/Sunburst_Yew





LANDSCAPE DESIGNS, INC.

5434 Dahlen Dr.

Madison WI 53705-1340

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Quotation

Quote Number:
m1803

Quote Date:
Mar 23, 2016

Page:

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Quoted to:

Schmitt, Gail & Mark *
21 Springwood Circle
Madison, WI 53717

Phone number
1-608-233-4215
Fax number
1-608-233-4657

For our guarantees and quotation terms, please see
our web site and click on either GUARANTEES and
TERMS just below our title bar.

Revision Information	Good Thru	Payment Terms	Customer Phone Number
	4/22/16	50% down payment at start Remainder net 10 days from invoicing	215-4971

Quantity	Item	Description	Unit Price	Extension
	NOTE NO INSTALL	Labor costs for any necessary bed preparations, delivery and installation are NOT included at this time.		
	La-LAYOUT WOODY-OS	Steve Lesch will flag the locations of the proposed woody ornamentals at no additional charge.		
	NOTE GROMAX	Gromax slow release fertilizer tabs are for listed woody ornamentals. Further info. & rates: www.landscapedesigns.bz		
50.00	C-GROMAX	Installation & Care of Woody Ornamentals each 21 gram biological slow release 2 year bio-degradable fertilizer tablets.	0.23	11.50
1.00	W-COTI-RP#3	Cotinus coggygria 'Royal Purple' Smokebush #3	55.13	55.13
1.00	W-COR-K-CH3M	Cornus kousa var. chinensis	127.05	127.05
22.00	W-TAX-SB#3	Kousa Dogwood Clump form 3-4' B&B Taxus x media 'Sun-Burst' BARE	11.50	253.00

The above is a quotation for landscape materials and services as per your request.
This quote is valid for a period of 30, thirty, days from the above Quote Date.
Please sign and date as to your acceptance of this quote.

Subtotal	Continued
Sales Tax	Continued
Total	Continued

Schmitt, Gail & Mark *

Date



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Quantity	Item	Description	Unit Price	Extension
		ROOT and must be taken and planted by April 9, 2016 SPECIAL PRICING. REG. \$29.98 each .		
	NOTE PROVIDE ONLY	Provide only the following Netafim Drip Irrigation supplies with Mark Schmitt aiding Steve Lesch in its installation.		
150.00	A-N-TUBE MAIN	Feet of Blank Netafim TLCV or Hunter PLDBLNK caramel to dark caramel colored water tubing.	0.24	36.00
31.00	A-N-EMITER-1G-RB	1 GPH (4 liters/hour) Pressure compensated dripper x nipple Rain Bird XB10PC black	0.43	13.33
2.00	A-N-FIGURE 8	Netafim figure '8' end clips TLFIG8	0.19	0.38
1.00	A-N-ADAPT	Male adapter 3/4" MPT x insert into Netafim IFOR techline TL075MA	0.56	0.56
1.00	A-B-ADAPT-12-1602	3/4" FPT x 1/2" FHT brass swivel connecting the polypipe or Netafim to a standard hose thread #91Z-2	3.76	3.76
0.10	A-TAPE TEFLON	inches of TEFLON water-tight tape for threaded joints	0.01	

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	4/22/16	50% down payment at start. Remainder net 10 days from invoicing	215-4971

Quantity	Item	Description	Unit Price	Extension
6.00	A-N-TEE	Netafim Insert tee coupling TLTEE	0.54	3.24

The above is a quotation for landscape materials and services as per your request. This quote is valid for a period of 30, thirty, days from the above Quote Date. Please sign and date as to your acceptance of this quote.

Subtotal	503.95
Sales Tax	27.72
Total	531.67

Schmitt, Gail & Mark *

Date _____