

## AGENDA

### Walnut Grove Homes Association Board of Directors Meeting (Regular)

Tuesday, June 25, 2013  
7:00 p.m.

Lussier Center  
Madison, WI 53717

- I. Welcome
- II. Quorum
- III. Review & Approval of May 28, 2013 Meeting Minutes
- IV. Committee Reports
  - Treasurer (T. Wall)
  - Greenways (G. Anibas)
  - Communications/Block Captains (M. Battaglia  
w/E. Goode's notes in absentia)
  - Social (K. McComb)
    - Garage Sale
    - July 4<sup>th</sup> Activities
    - Late Summer/Fall Events
  - ACC (D. Clearwood)
    - Fences
    - ACC Guidelines Review Process
- V. Old Business
  - West Side Dog Park Update (E. Healy)
  - Bylaws Subcommittee Update (E. Healy)
  - Insurance Update (E. Lewandowski)
- VI. New Business
  - Safety/Security Update (E. Lewandowski)
  - Next Meeting
- VII. Adjourn

WALNUT GROVE HOMES ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
MINUTES

JUNE 25, 2013

PRESENT: Eric Lewandowski, Erica Healey, Mary Kay Battaglia, Denise Clearwood,  
Gabe Anibas, Mary Nellis, Kathy McComb

NOT PRESENT: Tom Wall, Eileen Goode

The minutes of the May 28<sup>th</sup> meeting were reviewed and approved with corrections.

TREASURERS REPORT: Dues are still coming in.

GREENWAYS: Gabe reported that Andrew McComb surveyed our greenways and found 19 Ash trees. Greenway D trees are not large and could be eliminated. Greenway B trees are larger. Gabe spoke to Jeff Olson, an arborist, and he thought that since many Ashes are on the terraces (city owned) we could cut own smaller trees and then wait to see how the city proceeds. The treatment is costly.

Greenhaven Circle Improvement: The neighbors submitted a proposal that has been approved. This brings up the issue of having the proper language in our circle improvement policy for those circles needing to do phased-in work that could mean multiple proposals over the course of two-three years. The greenways committee will draft a re-write of the present circle policy to include multiple year projects. It was suggested that we might want to have neighbors pay some costs up front and then have matching funds from WGHA.

Naming Greenways:

Would it be less confusing if the greenways had names instead of letters?

Electrical bids:

Gabe has done a walk through the greenways with Travis from Design Electric but does not have that bid for our bulbs and new fixtures. There are 2 bids with one quoting \$109 per fixture. The board recommends selecting a fixture and doing a test on one of the posts.

ACC:

There has been a request for a neighbor to put up a shed but has been told that it cannot be approved. Any structure must be attached to the house.

A condo owner was parking a boat in the driveway .

The committee will do a fencing inventory of the neighborhood. Mary Kay will scan the neighborhood map and several people can each take a section. We will need the following information:

Address

Picture of the fence or description (height, condition, type)

Then enforcement policy will need to be decided.

DOG PARK:

Because dog park is located near homes we feel the Parks Department has not addressed our concerns about the hours of operation, the separate walkway, not allowing dogs in the general park area, additional plantings between the park and the homes adjacent, etc. Eric will follow-up with Paul Skidmore to voice our concerns.

BY-LAWS: Save for September meeting

INSURANCE FOR DIRECTORS: Meeting with insurance agent has not happened.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Not all residents who are not on the list serve are getting information from block captains. How can we make sure we are reaching all of our residents? Should we have a bi-monthly single sheet newsletter? Could we use a modified "Little Library" to also house a paper newsletter?

MISCELLANEOUS:

Yard sale signs need a storage place. Who has these now?

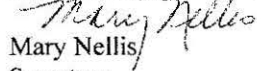
Twenty five people participated in the garage sale.

Fourth of July parade and celebration will be scaled back. Parade at 10:30 followed by popsicles.

Schedule a meeting with local police officer to address neighborhood safety issues.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM

Submitted by:

  
Mary Nellis  
Secretary

# Walnut Grove Neighborhood Greenway Ash Tree Survey

Prepared by Andrew McComb

## Introduction

Emerald ash borer (EAB) is expected to appear in communities throughout Wisconsin. Its impact will likely exceed that of any other forest pest in recent history. Ash trees are common in both rural and urban areas throughout the state, but EAB will continue to strike cities and villages especially hard. Though ash makes up about 7% of trees in Wisconsin's rural forests, it comprises about 20% of trees in our urban forests.

The purpose of this report is to summarize the extent of the Ash tree population in the walnut Grove greenway trail system. My hope is that this information will be used to form the basis for a management strategy to mitigate the effects of EAB and to ensure the long term health of the greenway trail system that are community so values.

## Methods

On the afternoons of May 25<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, 2013, I surveyed the four greenways for members of the genus *Fraxinus*. Because all three species of Ash found in this part of the state *Fraxinus Americana*, *Fraxinus nigra* and *Fraxinus pennsylvannica* (White, Black and Green respectively) are all susceptible to EAB I made no attempt to indentify individual trees to the species level. Once identified, I recorded the relative location of the trees on a map of the neighborhood with a dot. I also marked the trees themselves with a blue photodegradable tape which was wrapped around the trunk at about breast height (4.5').

## **Discussion and Results**

There are 19 Ash trees that I identified across all four greenway trails. The greatest abundance of Ash trees is on the eastern portion of greenway B between Colony CIR and Farmington CT; trees here tended to be larger in diameter and were the most abundant species. By contrast, the ash trees identified in greenway D are generally small sapling sized trees less than 2" in diameter at 4.5'. It should also be noted that Ash trees in this area made up a very small portion of the total number of trees along this particular greenway trail. Also, Ash seedling regeneration is present in the northern portion of greenway D near Oxboro CIR. Greenways A and C both have relatively few Ash trees.

## **Conclusion**

Emerald Ash Borer represents a major issue for communities across the Midwest. Although this pest has not been identified in Walnut Grove its emergence as a source of tree decline in the neighborhood is imminent and therefore plans should be put into motion in order to mitigate these losses where practical. Planting is a common practice that can be taken to avoid drastic changes in urban settings however there are some considerations that must be taken into account in order to create an effective plan. First, it is important to prioritize which sections should require the most attention. Also, as with any planting program, it is important to plant a variety of tree species to protect against the uncertainty of future pest and disease infestations. Finally, it is important to start planting programs early in order to establish the smaller trees before the larger disease infested trees are removed. Another alternative technique used to reduce the impact of EAB may be to inject high value trees

I hope this report has been useful tool for your plans for the Walnut Grove Greenways.

Additional resources about Emerald Ash borer can be found on the Wisconsin DBR website and also on the DATCP website.