

**COUNTRYSIDE PROPRIETARY**  
GROUNDS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
October 16, 2024

1) CALL TO ORDER

- a) Meeting was called to order by 2<sup>nd</sup> Chair, Pamela McGraw, at 7:02 p.m. via remote attendance.
- b) Attendees: Terri Hess (Foxfield), James Krips (Rokeby), Ron McNulty (Morven), Tim Shamble (Oatlands), Pamela McGraw (Oakridge)  
Tim Pope (PMP), Matt O'Donnell (Advantage Landscape) Penny Francke
- c) Absent: Diane Blunt (Welborne), Kumar Sangaran (Chair)

2) COMMITTEE ADMINISTRATION

- a) Terri moved to approve the October 16, 2024 agenda as revised (to include "Update on Invasives Grant"); seconded by Ron; approved unanimously
- b) Jim moved to approve the September 18, 2024 Minutes as submitted; seconded by Terri; Tim abstained, all others present approved.

3) RESIDENT & GUEST PARTICIPATION

- a) Renise LeReche, a resident in Rokeby, expressed her interest in the removal of the pear trees on CS Blvd. She also encouraged the GC to consider adding perennials at the main entries so recurring cost of annuals could be avoided each year.
- b) Josh Fetch, a resident of Welborne, addressed the GC to request that funding previously approved for restoration of the retaining wall/bench on Hopton Ct be deferred in favor of consideration of the addition of "an A frame with swing" addition in the area. Josh was referred to his Welborne rep, Diane Blunt, to offer input and to discern neighborhood interest. Determination will need to be made as to whether the request should be routed through Facilities or Grounds, as well submitted for budget consideration next year.

4) ADVANTAGE ITEMS

Matt reviewed Advantage's monthly report for Sept 18-Oct 11, 2024.

Ron asked Matt to look at a location at CS Blvd/Algonkian Pkwy intersection where it appeared that the reseeding/turf repair work which was recently completed had missed. Matt asked that any other areas noted should be provided to Tim for follow-up. Jim commented that the CS entry on Algonkian Pkwy across from Foxfield look great, better than ever. Matt was also asked to check on several drains in Belmont.

5) POND

Report on the pond was reviewed; all is in order and the pond enters Fall in good condition. Cattail removal will occur around the end of October. At the November meeting, Tim anticipates having the scope for the pond management contract ready for review.

6) PMP REPORT

- a) Monthly Financial, Major Projects list, and Invoice Tracking reports were reviewed. Tim reported that the paving project has gone well, outstanding items addressed, and the work satisfactorily completed. Jim asked Tim what was the process for reviewing repair/replacement of walking trails.
- b) Expected Expenditures: The committee noted that overages in several line items would be offset by underspending in others. Tim advised that beginning in January he would track outstanding expenses so it would be possible to make adjustments in approval of grounds' work earlier in the year.
- c) PMP Contract Scope was delayed inasmuch as Kumar, who was unable to attend, requested it be on the agenda; deferred as needed to November.

7) OLD BUSINESS

Reminder to the committee that the on-site gathering to site locations for the new trees on CS Blvd is scheduled for Tuesday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 12 noon. Actual installation is scheduled for the day after, October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

8) NEW BUSINESS

- a) Aeration and Overseeding in Common Areas: To determine what interior common areas may need to be addressed, each committee member was asked to survey their neighborhood and mark on maps provided the specific areas to be addressed. Pamela asked that consideration be given to any larger, less used areas that might possibly be allowed to grow naturally in the center with a grassed border, similar to what has been done in Algonkian Park; members were encouraged to drive through the park and take a look at these areas. Terri suggested consideration of seeding wildflowers in those areas. Mapping of these areas should be provided to Tim by year's end.
- b) Final 2024 Meeting Date: Pamela asked whether committee members would be receptive to a final, early date, meeting in December, the 11<sup>th</sup>, to ensure all Fall installations, costs, Spring annual selections, winter pruning tasks, pond contract etc. are in order. Determination will be made at the November meeting, depending on what/how much remains unknown or outstanding.

9) INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- a) LIRA/Invasives Grant (through Loudoun County Water & Soil Conservation District): Tim updated the committee on the recent application process and our efforts to meet the very short deadline to apply for a grant that would assist in addressing invasives, primarily bamboo, in CS. After discussion of details and addressing questions, Pamela motioned to approve submittal of a grant application NTE \$50,000; seconded by Jim; vote was unanimous. Tim, Penny and Pamela will meet to finalize the application on Oct 17<sup>th</sup>.

- b) Oatlands Stream Sedge Update: Tim Shamble advised that he trekked to Berryville to pick up an order of sedge, 11 plants, to install at the Oatlands stream banks; he personally completed the work. Assuming they help stabilize the small areas on opposite banks near the bridge, consideration will be given to adding more in 2025. Tim was applauded for his efforts.
- c) Lantern Fly Information: Recent flyer providing more information on this dreaded insect was provided to the committee. Apparently, sitings have now been made in CountrySide. Pamela advised that best action was to squish them upon siting. Maple trees are particularly susceptible.

10) ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.

The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held remotely at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 13, 2024.