

Minutes from Fox Meadows West HOA Meeting

June 22, 2021

1801 Blue Stone Drive

IN ATTENDANCE

Barry Hines

Alan Murphy

Pat Regan

Amanda & Gary Neubauer

Peter Levan

Steve Washko

Charles Gramlich

Bill Bentivegna

Lynda Kerstein

Mary & Ken Sommer

Deborah & Harry Berman

Rama Poola

FMW ORGANIZATION

Barry Hines gave an overview of the FMW organization structure. The three current directors are Barry Hines, Alan Murphy and Herb Dennis. Directors are to be elected by a quorum of the HOA. Past meetings have not yielded a quorum. Offices can be appointed by the directors. Current officers are Pat Regan, liaison to the Silverstone HOA, Amanda Neubauer Treasurer and Susan Mason, Secretary. Susan has not responded to recent emails, texts or phone calls regarding her interest in remaining as secretary. The organization is in need of a President and Vice President. No one in attendance expressed interest in either office.

DUES

Dues were raised by \$25.00 this year. All dues were paid in full.

DRAINAGE

Barry Hines discussed the potential problem with black drainage tiles that are disintegrating and could potentially cause basement flooding. Preliminary estimates indicate these tiles could cost several thousand dollars per backyard to repair and could become a major future expense for the association.

BUDGET PROPOSAL

Gary Neubauer stated FMW has not had a formal budget since Amanda took over the Treasurer position. Three main categories in the budget that are more discretionary are entrance decorations, landscaping and lawn care (mowing). Common areas on Interlacken are mowed. Homeowners around the pond do their own mowing. Concern was raised for establishing a reserve fund for future drainage expenses. Barry indicated the HOA has had a fairly large reserve of around \$60,000 in the past but the current balance in the reserve account is \$5920.84.

LANDSCAPING AND MOWING

Alan Murphy stated bids for landscaping and mowing are obtained every 3-4 years. The variance on the bids in the past were less than 5%. We currently use LandDesign Landscaping. Prior companies have done a poor job with maintaining the lights, mulching was poor and mowing was done inconsistently.

ENTRANCE FLOWERS

Discussion ensued about the artificial flowers on the entrances. Costs have risen in the last year. Consensus was this is an unnecessary expense that does not enhance the look of the neighborhood. Amanda will call Flower Connection and suspend this service.

POND

Discussion was held regarding whether the presence of a fountain was a necessity. It is cosmetic only and has to be put in and taken out at the beginning and end of the season then stored offsite over the winter. Aerators, which are separate from the fountain, run all winter to keep the pond from freezing. Pat Regan maintains the chemicals that control algae for approximately \$70.00 per year.

UNIFORMITY

Explanation was given regarding the need to keep the neighborhood looking uniform. The mailbox project was done to keep all the mailboxes uniform in style and color. Discussion ensued regarding whether residents can stain or paint fences.

HOA LISTING IN CITY OF SPRINGFIELD

Bill Bentivegna and Steve Washko attended the last meeting of Ward 7 led by alderman Joe McMenemy on June 14, 2021. Fox Meadows West is not listed as a HOA in the City of Springfield. Amanda will contact Joe McMenemy for inclusion on Ward 7 HOA list.

SENSE OF COMMUNITY

Bill Bentivegna requested working on activities to foster a sense of community within our HOA. Amanda will work with Bill to develop plans.