

WEATHERSFIELD SERVICE GROUP VI

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL ZOOM MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, JANUARY 9, 2021.

The purpose of the meeting was to conduct a final discussion of the scheduled Weathersfield Landscaping Rejuvenation Project set to begin on Tuesday, January 12, 2021, and review and consider the Formal Appeals to the Board and Special Requests by homeowners.

1. The meeting began at 1:05 pm with President Jo Bolig, Directors David Piet, David Spencer, Bob Sydell, and Bill Kearney, Treasurer Hoyt Taylor, and MHP Community Manager Peggy Akers in attendance. Secretary Nancy Peterson joined the call 10 minutes later. This group constituted all of the members of the Board of Directors and, therefore, a quorum was present.
2. After the quorum was established, in response to a request from President Bolig, a motion was made, seconded, and approved to waive the WSG Bylaw requirement (Article VIII, Section 2) that stipulates that no less than 3-days-notice must be given to all Board members in order to hold a Special Meeting of the Board. The previous day (January 8), a request to meet had been made and all Board members agreed to attend this special Zoom meeting.
3. Director Piet, Landscaping Committee Chair, led the review of the rejuvenation project and ensuing discussion yielded the feedback that unlike simple pruning, rejuvenation is required for the long-term health of the plantings as well as to temporarily reduce root invasion into foundations, water pipes, and sewer lines which has occurred and may occur in the future. Water pipes and sewer lines are the HOA's responsibility to maintain. Rejuvenation is also needed to help maintain the integrity of the structures (townhomes and garages) whose exterior is the responsibility of the HOA. With that goal in mind, vegetation should be pruned and trimmed so as not to overhang roofs or come too close to siding, porch railings, brick work, shutters, or windows where it might contribute to deterioration.
4. Peggy Akers cited two previous rejuvenations, but all present agreed that to their knowledge a "true" rejuvenation of the type we foresee had not been undertaken for quite some time.
5. The Board considered whether Davey Tree might be an alternative for rejuvenating holly trees. Peggy Akers informed the Board that their involvement in the past has been to focus on branches that hang over houses, not landscape trees like holly trees and not rejuvenations. More recently, they have been asked to evaluate tree health and take out trees that may threaten houses.
6. At this point, board members agreed unanimously to proceed with the current plan for HOA-planted bushes, shrubs, and trees with exceptions only to be considered for appeals by owners regarding their own plantings or specific holly trees.
7. The discussion then turned again to holly trees and the concern that, while aesthetically pleasing, their root intrusion could cause future damage. In addition to root intrusion, another concern regards the maximum height that Ruppert can operate up to. Ruppert has said that they cannot get insurance to cut higher than 12 feet above the ground and the contract Ruppert has with WSG (a three year contract from January 2021 through December 2023) specifies that they work no more than 10 feet above the ground. As planned, the holly trees will initially be cut straight across, and as they and other bushes, shrubs, and trees naturally grow, that growth will be maintained and shaped over time, up to a 10 feet maximum height. Some will be base-cut at ground level and growth will be monitored afterwards.
8. Ruppert Landscape, working with Director Piet, has marked the bushes, shrubs, and trees to be pruned or lopped off with white paint or tape. Director Piet will accompany the Ruppert crew

throughout the project, to ensure the plan, as the Board understands it, is carried out, and will make adjustments to the cut lines, if warranted.

9 President Bolig then specifically discussed each of the formal letters of appeal from three (3) homeowners and three (3) special requests. Once completed, to ensure fair and consistent guidelines and best rejuvenation practices, the Board decided that rejuvenation of the yards of these homeowners would go forward as planned. An exception will be made for holly trees. If a request was made, they will not be pruned or removed at this time as long as certain provisions are agreed upon by the homeowners. President Bolig will send letters to those residents who made formal appeals, to inform them of the Board's decisions.

10. The following Motion was accepted and unanimously approved which will appear on the WSG website, along with additional information and links regarding the technical aspects of rejuvenation to help residents gain a greater understanding of the rejuvenation, why it is needed, and what to expect once it is complete: "All shrubs, bushes, and trees having been marked with tape (pink or orange) or white paint will be rejuvenated as planned by WSG contractor, Ruppert Landscape, or as adjusted by the WSG Landscaping committee acting on behalf of the WSG Board of Directors. Exemptions may be granted only to those who have formally appealed to the Board of Directors and received approval for these exemptions beforehand."

11. In closing remarks, the Board continues to believe, after careful consideration, that rejuvenation is in the best interests of the total community and should go forward as planned. The Board has confidence that Ruppert Landscape, working in conjunction with the Landscaping committee, is competent and has a plan that was carefully developed. Regarding the formal appeals and requests, the Board thoroughly considered each of them and made decisions consistently, based on fairness, consistency, and best practices.

12. There being no further business to come before the Board, upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 3:25pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Peterson
Secretary
January 24, 2021