August 12/2024

**Members in attendance:** Tom and Theresa Edwards, George DeHart, Glenda and Jim Nicholson, Barbara Eanes, Skip and Pam Folks, Becky Mills, Barbara Hassell

Homeowners in attendance: Gerri Wade, Catherine Lindstrom, Carolyn Sloan

Meeting was called to order at 1 PM.

## LANDSCAPE / POND / PARK

## **Old News:**

Request submitted to TJS Enterprises to add rip rap at the one pond where the intake is located has been approved. TJ plans to start this project in August.

Work was started on August 12.

Request approved to purchase laser lights for the ponds. Jim Nicholson will purchase 2 laser lights to deter geese and will be reimbursed by Hall Associates. \$90.00 for each laser light. Unfortunately, after the BOD approved the laser lights went up significantly in price. We have ordered the laser lights and sent a request to the BOD on approving the cost and reimbursing Skip Folks. Committee has sent to the BOD letter outlining the geese issue. Not only has the pond area been destroyed by the geese but a homeowners yard has been completely destroyed. Still pending on for the overcharge to be approved or denied by the BOD.

Lights were moved today in hopes that it will deter the geese. Lights to the fountains were turned off for the time being in order for the laser lights to be more effective.

Request submitted to Hall associates to add fencing around the utility box on the corner of Old York and Cardiff. Quote provided by Rich Chavez. We have spoken with Gerri Wade on the enclosures and will move forward with plans using mulch and plants around the utility boxes instead of enclosures. We will provide a sketch and pics of vision going forward.

Thank you to Lynn and Marvin Croner for taking it upon themselves to remove the litter along Plantation Road. This is greatly appreciated!

Thank you to Gerri Wade and Valinda Edwards for notifying homeowners on South Battery to place their trash receptacles in front of the pod to allow trash pick up as we welcome our new homeowner on South Battery.

We've notified VDOT about a speed limit sign for Flora Farm Road and we are still waiting to hear back from VDOT.

Thanks to Lynne Yates and Barbara Hassell for contacting us regarding the dead "Christmas tree" behind the clubhouse. At this point no plans are made to replace it.

A homeowner on Cardiff has submitted a request to have a generator installed. Request submitted to Hall 8/6/24 Approved 8/8/24

Park Committee Catherine Lindstrom is working on motivating Norm to begin reconstruction of the park. We did have one request from Glenda Nicholson to purchase a bench to place near the creek. We will fill out a landscape request once the committee settles on a bench to purchase. Catherine Lindstrom spoke with Sam Camp and per Sam they will put in a firepit like the one located on Walhalla, she also asked if they would go ahead and use the backhoe to dig out the area for the firepit. We are looking at the grills located in the park for revamping, possibly removing the build up of dirt and ash and repainting. Any suggestions on what homeowners would like to see added to the park should be sent to the landscape committee. We've asked TJ to keep the park mowed back and his crew have mowed several times once equipment was moved to allow mowers to access the park.

The landscape committee is soliciting ideas to create a useful and beautiful park for all homeowners.

**Landscape Committee** Glo Fiber has patched the road on South Battery. Will check with Caroline if "beauty strips" were repaired. We have several homes on Swansea where the grass is not growing. The developer planted grass and laid hay which it appears the homeowners may not have watered consistently. The first of September until mid-October is best for planting grass. It must be watered by the homeowner. We can check into this further. Barbara Hassell and Theresa Edwards will work on Old York with mulch, shrubs, and flowers planted at the large utility boxes in that area. Pics sent to TJ Enterprises on areas that need cleaning up with his crew. Specifically, the pond area. Clean up was completed 8/12/24

The homeowners are responsible to keep their front yards nice looking.

Pond Committee TJS will start the pond project filling the one pond end at the intake area with rip rap in August. We'd like to get pictures of the project of the rip rap as it begins to share with the community, any photographers willing to volunteer taking pics to share on our VATC Facebook page?? We are extremely pleased to see some "beautification" around the pond suggested by the pond and landscape committees! The Landscape committee will look into planting flowers around the top of the rip rap to give an appealing look. The Pond committee has asked their contact with the Wildlife department to test a goose that has been left behind and appears very sickly. We sent out a letter to the HOA and asked for 75% approval from homeowners as required by the Wildlife contact since this is needed before they can proceed. We have received feedback from homeowners. However, we still need at least 35% more homeowners to sign off. We will double check if any costs will be incurred. A neighbor suggested we contact Southwest VA Wildlife also as they do take in injured and sick animals.

The committee members will follow up with neighbors that have not responded yet.

**Reminders:** We still have the following areas that Norm will need to complete before he leaves the community. Catherine Lindstrom is working on these issues and will keep us updated.

1. Remove wooden sign at entrance to community

- 2. Remove gravel and plant sod behind townhomes leading to Norm Masons office at the townhomes
- 3. Replace fire pit, clear up access road to park, put in gravel parking lot at park. Clean up his construction debris.
- 4. Road to the club house paved.

## Goals:

- 1. Work more with Old York, Cardiff & Swansea to make it more appealing.
- 2. Keeping geese away from pond and grass areas
- 3. Work with Catherine Lindstrom to have Norm start on our park
- 4. Start planning for flowers and shrubs to place around the ponds. All suggestions are welcomed, we will plan in September or October to start this project. Choose as many low maintenance plants as possible.
- 5. Improve the corner at Walhalla and Flora Farm. Replace rocks and add black tubing to prevent mulch from overflowing and plant the irises that will be removed from the Club house.
  Homeowner has agreed to allow landscape committee to remove rocks and plant new flowers/shrubs. Theresa Edwards will cover this cost.
- 6. Plan a clean-up day around the clubhouse and ask social committee to join us.
- 7. Plan a "pick up sticks" day at the park area.

Next landscaping meeting to be determined

## **OPEN DISCUSSION**

New Business: The transition team is looking at the contracts that are in place at this time.

One committee member would like to have TJS clarify the weed and fertilization contracts. Theresa will contact TJ about the weed issues in the village. Information was sent to to committee member 8/13/24

The transition team will ask the various committees to track expenses, what are the tasks of the committee, what are the protocols the committee follows, what are the policies of each committee, etc. These items need to be submitted in writing.

The transition team will ask each committee to have input in the new budgets.

Landscape will need to define its responsibilities and how it plans to achieve those responsibilities. Completed and turned in to Catherine Lindstrom 8/14/24

Barbara Eanes suggested that the various committees post the expectations to the neighborhood. The committee decided that these things could be addressed in the newsletter.

Meeting was adjourned at 2 PM.