

MINUTES - Landscape and External Aesthetics Committee

March 21, 2014 2:30 p.m., Telephone Conference

Committee Members Present: Chris Vall-Spinosa, Pete Vall-Spinosa, Lynda Ward-Pierce. Guest: Andrew Sackheim

Again, a special thank you to Andrew for his contribution in drawing up an Aspen Grove Parking Policy.

Towing/Parking Policy - Andrew presented a well written and clearly stated draft of the "Aspen Grove Parking Policy" to the committee. After a short discussion and a few minor changes, the committee agreed to send the revised proposal to the Board for approval. Andrew also came up with a sample of what the parking permit would look like. Lynda was able to format the permit and with a few minor changes, the proposed permit was accepted by the committee.

ACTION: Andrew will make the corrections to the proposal and send a copy to all members of the committee. One copy will show (in red) the corrections that were agreed upon and the second copy will represent the final proposal with corrections. Lynda will make the corrections on the parking permit and resend to Andrew and the committee members. Once the proposed and corrected parking and permit proposals are sent, then Chris will send them to the Board to be placed on the agenda for the April 11th meeting.

Charging Station Draft Proposal - Nathan was unable to attend the meeting and will continue to work on a proposal for charging stations.

ACTION: This item will remain on the agenda for our next committee meeting. Chris will reach out to Nathan to determine if there is a convenient time frame that Nathan would be able to share his drafted proposal/summary on charging stations.

Driving off road - Lynda suggested that there could be a few simple guidelines and/or restrictions stating where vehicles could and could not drive in Aspen Grove.

ACTION: Lynda will submit a simple plan to the committee. The guidelines will include areas where vehicles are allowed to drive and where they are restricted. A list of exceptions will also be submitted. Once all members have received the guidelines, Chris will send the proposal to the Board for consideration.

Decks - What is and is not allowed - The list of items that are allowed and not allowed on individual decks was presented for a second time. The original Landscape Committee approved the guidelines and then sent to the Board for approval. When the present L&EA Committee was formed, it was again put on our agenda. The committee finally decided to send the proposal back to the Board as an agenda item.

ACTION: Chris will send a copy of the proposal to the Board for discussion and possible approval at the Board Meeting on April 11th.

Maintenance Beautification - Chris reported that she was in contact with Peter Miller who simply said that "MB" had been put on hold due to the ongoing litigation. He would surely entertain suggestions from our committee and/or the Board on ways Camco could spruce up the Aspen Grove/Silver Strike grounds. Lynda said that some homeowners have shared their willingness to be assessed in order for the buildings and the grounds to look better. It was agreed that we would send Peter Miller a wish list with the expectation that he could put a cost figure for each specific wish item. This list with cost figures could then be sent to the Board to determine which projects should begin immediately. Chris mentioned that there are other homeowners who have shared a willingness and interest in being a part of a volunteer work party to spruce up the grounds. In order to capture a significant number of willing workers, planning a work party during the time of the Annual Board Meeting would be a good idea.

Projects listed during the meeting were: exterior painting, trim work, planting trees, planting wildflowers, foundation treatment and discarding of old wood/limbs/brush around the exterior of all buildings.

ACTION: All committee members will share additional items/projects that could be considered by Camco to help our grounds look better. Chris will send a list to Peter Miller by the middle of this week so that he might estimate cost of items to be considered for beautification. This list would then be sent to the Board for discussion.

Walk Through - We do not have a date for our walk through of the grounds. Chris sent an email to Dick Bjur and Peter Miller to see if a date had been determined. Joe Barron, Maria Mircheva (Executive Director Sugar Pine Foundation) and Kathy Welch (NNIP, contact) are also interested in participating in the walk through.

ACTION: Once a date has been determined, Pete will contact Joe, Maria and Kathy of the date.

Planting Trees - Pete spoke at length with Joe Barron concerning the planting of Jeffrey Pines and/or Aspen saplings. Joe continues to be interested in our plan to plant trees within our community. He did share a bit of a concern about beginning in the spring due to lack of water. He said the ground is very dry right now and he thinks we might be better to consider planting in the fall. His bottom line, however is - "What do we want?" Maria has expressed as well her interest in our plan and continues to work on getting us trees for free.

Kathy Welch, who is involved in getting volunteers to participate in our first Northstar Day to help stop non-native invasive plants, contacted me and others to see how we might be involved for a couple hours on one of the following days - May 3, 4, 10, 17 or 18th.

ACTION: Chris will contact Kathy to tell her we have shared her information with the committee.

Sign/Flag Policy - This Policy was adopted and approved by the Board on January 16, 2014. Prior to its' adoption the committee discussed allowing decorative flags as well as the American flag, but for some reason, decorative flags had been forgotten and the policy was adopted as is. The committee decided to reconsider adding decorative flags to our policy with the guidelines already set forth by Bob Thornton on size and placement. Chris volunteered to open up a discussion on LinkedIn to see if there was any interest for or against decorative flags. The recommendation was that the decorative flags be in good taste, homeowners be at Northstar when the flag is hung and that only one flag be shown at any one time.

ACTION: Chris will open a discussion on LinkedIn to see if there is any interest for or against including decorative flags in our policy. Chris will send the amended version of the policy to the Board for discussion at the April 11th Board meeting.