

Minutes of Meeting of Board of Directors
of
Deerfield Village Property Owner's Association

A meeting of the board of directors of Deerfield Village Property Owners' Association was held on June 4th, 2013, at 43 Blossom View Court, Deerfield Village, Shepherdstown. There were present the directors as follows: Jim Bauer, Clint Chiplinski, Debbie Crouse, Sidney Lewis, Devin McGreery and Paul Wilmoth. Austin Hovermale was late. Mike Bass and J. C. McSwain were absent. Pattie Wilmoth attended in order to take the minutes of the meeting.

Paul called the meeting to order. Pattie presented the minutes for the May meeting that were approved as read.

During the committee reports, Debbie reported that they had installed an invisible fence on their lot for their new dog.

During the officers' report, Devin's treasurer's report (attached) stated that we had \$656.37 in the regular checking account and \$24,516.72 in the money market account at United Bank. The petty cash fund was at \$20.65. He informed the Board that to date the actual expenses had been lower than the budgeted amounts. This is good for our financial picture.

During Old Business, Paul spoke to an experienced orchard owner who informed him that fertilizing the ground would not help to maintain a healthy apple tree and would be a waste of money. Devin received an email (attached) from a plant pathology professor about upkeep for the orchard. He suggested we decide as a community how to deal with the apple trees declining and eventually dying. He recommended a tree planting program that includes diverse beautiful shade trees. It was suggested that this letter be shared with the Village to raise consciousness to plan for the future.

At the next meeting, Mike will share the information he has found on the mirror for the entrance post.. J. C. shared with Paul before going out of town that the annual corporation report had been filed with the Secretary of State that includes the newly elected officers.

Paul shared a memo (attached) from Jimmy Williamson, web site "master" for the Village. The Board agreed that information needs to reach Jimmy in a more timely way in order to keep the web site up-to-date. It was reiterated that the Resolutions and Guidelines should remain a part of the website. No changes have been made to these documents since they were originally written, so they stand as approved. Any future guidelines or changes will be reported to Jimmy to be posted on the website.

Under New Business, the entire board shared positive comments about the community wide yard sale that was held on June 1st. Repeated praise was given to Peachy and Jim Stealey (renters on Rolling Green Court) for organizing and advertising

the sale which turned out to be a super success. Several agreed that hopefully Deerfield Village will continue this sale annually.

Paul reported that he had met the couple with a small daughter, who were the new potential owners of Lot 34. New owners of Lot 44, Don and Pat Barth, now have a home under construction by D. L. Lewis Construction Co., Inc. on the last cul-de-sac.

Under Good and Welfare section, Paul offered to have the next regular meeting at his home which will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 2nd. There being no further business to come before the Board, upon a motion made, seconded, and unanimously carried, it was adjourned.

Immediately after adjournment, Austin arrived. The Board reconvened to hear his report on the recent issue with the placement of a satellite dish on Lot 6. The installing company wanted to put the dish in an obvious spot in the front yard. Terry Bauer spoke with the installer the day of installation and he moved it somewhat to the side. Austin said that an email had been sent to the owner who had refused to allow the dish to be installed on the house. The Board recommended sending a second email asking the owner to find a better location for the dish.

Pattie Wilmoth, Substitute Secretary

ATTACHMENT:

Dear Devin,

Dr. Zimmerman forwarded your email to me with your request for a strategy to keep the apple trees on the larger property in a healthy state. The only way to do this is to spray them. They are in a state of decline due to repeated premature defoliations from apple scab and cedar apple rust. Many of them are also suffering from insect infestations. This year, in about a month, most of the leaves on most of the trees will begin to turn orange due to the rust disease and they will defoliate in July and August (normal is October and November). Repeated premature defoliations (year after year) cause the trees to weaken and they ultimately succumb to other causes (cold injury, insects, root diseases and other pathogens).

Your best plan is to meet as a community and decide 1) how you're going to deal with hundreds of dead apple trees (maybe not all at once but over a period of time and with increasing numbers as the years go by); 2) how you're going to develop a tree planting program so that your community has a healthy diversity of beautiful shade trees (rather than a monoculture of neglected apple trees).

One idea for the apple trees is to have them cut and the wood dried so that it can sold for smoking food. A good contact for getting connected with someone who might be interested in having the wood is Mr. Shepherd Ogden at the Jefferson County

Development Authority (agdev@jcda.net). Also, wood carvers like to use apple because of the tight grain and relatively low amount of fibers in the wood. If you find the right folks to do this, the community may be able to break even on the costs. If any of these "value added" ideas don't work then you all have plenty of free wood for your fire places (assuming you can get it cut, split, and stacked and kept dry (someone might do this for free if you let them have, say, half of the wood (and make sure the tops of the trees get cleaned up, too, otherwise you won't be able to mow))).

When you asked about "hard" pesticides, I'm going to assume that you're asking about lead and arsenic. Those chemicals haven't been used since the 1950's and the orchard on your property was established in the late 1970's and early 1980's. If you mean something else, please let me know.

You also mentioned that the WVU Tree Fruit Research and Education Center staff might be interested in pruning them for you. This is not something we do. Also, pruning does not control diseases and insects, so it would really be of little use in staving off the inevitable. Given that the trees have been neglected for at least a decade now, it is highly unlikely that they could be profitably returned to production.

Good luck!

Alan R. Biggs, Ph.D.
Professor of Plant Pathology
West Virginia University