

Stratford Gardens Board Meeting Minutes

August 5, 2014

Board members present:

Maggie Shine, Greg Koehler, Mary Martin, Brenda Lubeck, Phyllis Wilson

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Maggie Shine as members met in the home of Mary Martin.

Mary Martin made a motion to approve minutes from previous meeting, Phyllis Wilson seconded.

Treasurer's Report - Greg Koehler stated that in April we had \$97,000 and as of June 30 we had roughly \$92,000. Maggie stated that dues letters have been sent out to members and threatening letters have been sent to members not paying. Greg shared reports of Constant Care, John with Constant Care billed us for gas charges, some for \$4.50 for driving around the neighborhood. Questions were raised if this is appropriate and we are looking at getting other bids this winter. Out contract ends with them May 1. We need a way to validate what they do and how they do it.

Old Business: Patty Green, who was previously on the board, spent over \$725 and \$673 totaling \$1,398 on plants, mulch, hydrangeas, labor for the planting and was not authorized to spend the money. The board members discussed how this should be handled for reimbursement, partial reimbursement. No decision was made about what portion should be reimbursed. Mary stated that this is a volunteer organization and paid labor was not to be included, nor should the mulch since that is what Constant Care provides. Greg will call Patty to find out where the plants are, why she did not show up for meetings with Constant Care and where she got authorization to spend all this money.

New Business: Maggie brought up the issue with overgrown bushes on the Scanlon property at the corner of 61st St. and State Line. Brenda will call the realtor of the property and ask if they can get the bushes trimmed down to prevent a car wreck from happening.

Maggie rehired the snow removal company that we used last year.

Phyllis has 3 new people in the neighborhood to take cookies and welcome package.

Neighborhood Garage Sale is going to take place sometime in September, it will be in the next newsletter, and we will ask members of the association who is interested in hosting this year's Christmas Party.

Masonry & Islands:

Robert Flynn submitted bids to the board members via e-mail before the meeting. Without him present we did not go over the many e-mails that were sent.

Mary asked why we keep so much money in reserve when we have all these walls and islands that need attention. It was agreed that we need masonry work on several walls and one urn that has been knocked of the wall needs to be replaced at 64th St. and Ward Parkway. Replacing both urns seems to make more sense than trying to match the remaining one that is very old.

Mary is getting a bid for masonry work needed at 63rd Terr. and Ward Parkway.

Phyllis will call Ivan the stone mason for a bid.

Mary reported that the sprinkler valve was working at 63rd & State Line on the giant island. The bid to get water and electricity to the island on 61st/State Line is \$10,000 - \$15,000. This

sprinkler will not be run on batter, set for electricity. A master plumber must be involved for the city of Kansas City to approve. The 2 Crab Apple trees on the big island are old and ugly. They need to be replaced. It was suggested they be replaced with Red Buds or White Buds. Mary said Constant Care had been working without a contract for 3 months, so that contract was signed. Apparently, Patty Green had missed meetings set up with them to sign the contract.

Mary made a motion to adjourn and Greg seconded.