

Landscape Walkthrough with Acres Group May 3, 2011

Present: Mahmood Pervais, Linda Gannon, Cathy Snyder from Acres, Katie Steckervelt from Foster Premier, and Jamie Mang (our new property manager at Foster Premier)

We spent approximately 1.5 hours inspecting the property. According to Cathy from Acres, we have been working with "premium specs." She suggested that once we are ready, that we go to "basic specs" to save a significant amount of money. Acres is more than willing to work with us; Cathy would like to talk to the Board and homeowners about a proposal for saving money. Up to now, Turnberry has been on "auto renew;" that will not be the case going forward.

The pots in front of the building cost \$75 per season per pot. That's a total of \$600 a year simply on that item. It has been suggested that we get a bench, which some homeowners have been willing to pay for themselves, and remove at least one pot. Dese Smet offered to investigate that idea.

The major landscaping cost is for the flower beds at the entrance. We have been using 40-80 flats per season for three seasons a year at a cost of \$3000 per season. **That totals \$9,000 a year for the entrance alone!** Cathy said the beds have grown in size threefold since they were first planted. The previous Board already ordered the summer flowers, and we must honor that order because the flowers are grown specifically for us. However, beginning this fall, that will change. Cathy said we can grow grass or plant perennials which will drastically reduce the cost.

Of course, in order to maintain the health of the plantings and to maintain the beauty of the property, there are certain things we must continue doing. For example:

- Ponds are treated with chemicals for 5 months to retard algae growth.
- The apple trees receive 3 treatments for fungi.
- Grub treatment occurs yearly in June as a preventative measure.
- Mulching is done once a year.
- Plantings are fertilized 3 times a year (1 has already been completed).
- Pine tree treatments are done to prevent pine moths.

The flowers and trees nearest the sidewalks, day lilies and Austrian pines, are salt-resistant when sidewalks are salted.

When certain plants die, Acres can transplant others which are closest to the building; we have our own little nursery right here.

Acres now takes care of pond aerators, so we asked Cathy to include that in her proposal.

If trees contract ash bores and die, and if they are relatively young trees, they can be replaced with maple trees which are resistant to the ash bore. If we do not replace the tree at all, we may have to have the Village's approval. Cathy said we do not need to worry immediately about having an ash bore treatment; we can wait until next year. A sure sign of a tree's pending demise from ash bore is that it starts to die from the top down - something to look for.

One of the projects which the previous Board considered was the planting of buffalo grass around the pond in the back. As you know, the pond in front has rocks surrounding it which help to deter erosion and the landing of geese. Adding rocks to the perimeter of the back pond is too expensive. The buffalo grass has deeper roots which stem erosion and provide flight control of the geese. We told Cathy not to do anything until the Board decides.

Acres is not responsible for the area from the lamp posts in the front to the end of property by BP Auto; that belongs to the builder.