

Coleson Cluster Board of Directors Meeting  
April 6, 2015  
Lake Anne Elementary School

Board attendees: Vern Wyly, Lee De Cola, Casey Deccio, Laura Dalton, Barbara Larsen  
Treasurer: Marion Greene  
Cluster Resident: Kerri Bundy

Vern opened meeting at 9:08 p.m. and welcomed Casey Deccio as new Board member, and thanked Lee De Cola for a renewed term.

***Budget***

Marion referred to the financial summary she just made at the annual meeting. There was nothing new to add except that she made the final transfer of reserves to savings for FY 2015.

Vern stated that Harry Lowe, cluster attorney, advised that his office mailed a check to the Cluster Board which satisfied a large past due cluster bill. Marion would notify the Board when the check was received.

***Spring Clean-up Day and Ice Cream Social***

- The Spring Cleanup Day was set for Saturday, May 16, from 9-noon
- The Ice Cream Social was set for Saturday, May 16, from noon – 1:00 p.m.
- Barbara Larsen agreed to chair the Spring Clean-up Day
- Marion Greene agreed to chair the Ice Cream Social
- Kerri Bundy agreed to obtain the dumpster for Spring Clean-up Day

***Construction Dumpsters in the Cluster***

Vern shared that the new owner of 1602 approached him for permission to allow his contractor to put a construction dumpster in the cluster during upcoming renovations. Vern requested the resident to ask the contractor to park the dumpster on Wainwright. The Board agreed to discuss the matter in greater detail should the contractor ask to park the dumpster in a parking spot closer to 1602. It was recommended that the owner of 1600 be notified of the upcoming renovation and of the placement of dumpster. There was agreement that a Cluster Handbook should include guidelines for this scenario since the Cluster Bylaws are silent on this matter.

***Tree Spar behind 1624***

The issue of an unsightly and potentially dangerous tree spar behind the Cahoun residence (1624) was brought to the attention of the Board at the March 23, 2015, Special Meeting. The Board received an estimate to remove the tree spar from JL Tree Service for \$300.

**Lee moved that the Board approve the \$300 proposal regardless of log removal provisions in the estimate. *Laura seconded.* The motion passed unanimously.**

Discussion: If JL Tree Service did not haul away the logs, the Board had other options for log removal at no cost.

### **Welcome Committee**

*A resident volunteered to start up a welcoming committee for the Cluster.*

- Laura would draft a list of the top five items of interest to include on a welcome letter and would circulate for Board review; Marion had a welcome letter she would share as well.

### **Cluster Directory**

*Will Fraize gathered updates for the cluster directory at the annual meeting.*

- Consensus of the Board was to circulate the directory via email when available.
- Hard copies would be delivered to families that do not use email.

### **Raccoon Sightings in the Cluster**

*Residents discussed Raccoon activity in the cluster at the annual meeting and cited health and safety concerns.*

- General Discussion: Kerri shared that the County did not allow trapping and relocation of raccoons. Casey hired a company last year to trap and remove a raccoon near his home, which was an expensive endeavor. It was noted that residents could minimize the incidences of raccoons in the Cluster by ensuring all trash cans had secured lids to eliminate any possible food source for the raccoons. It was also noted the cluster residents should identify and close up any openings around the homes and decks which provided a safe haven for the raccoons.
- Vern would call the Wildlife Nuisance Health line for advice and forward that to the Board for review and consideration as they plan next steps.

### **Pesticides – Can Families Opt Out?**

*The idea of allowing households to opt out of broad spectrum weed spray application by Shenandoah Landscape contractor was brought up at the annual meeting.*

- General Discussion: In 2008, the Board stopped turf care, weeding, and feeding to save cluster funds. In 2014, the Cluster Board was advised that we have weeds, not turf. The goal was to give turf a chance to grow, and so the post emergent broad leaf spray was applied by Shenandoah Landscape & Design last spring as part of an effort to kill the weeds and allow grass to grow. Other factors that affected growth were irrigation, sun, and foot traffic.
- Suggestions among the Board members included to spray for weeds in the sunny areas only, not the entire cluster; to not spray at all spring 2015; to leave things as they were in order to allow time for Board deliberation
- Vern polled the Board and discovered unanimous support to allow households to opt out of spraying around a particular home.

Note: Laura Dalton had to leave @ 9:45 p.m.

- Casey offered an alternative path – to hold a special interest meeting to allow Cluster residents to discuss this issue further.
- Vern suggested that spring cleanup day would be a good date to hold this special interest meeting; Kerri affirmed that May would not be too late to spray the weeds should the residents and Board come to a decision to move forward with herbicide sprays.
- Kerri would discuss Board concerns Shenandoah and notify the Board at the May meeting.
- Vern noted that if the Board was not able to reach a decision for next steps at the May Board meeting, he would introduce a motion to cancel the weed spray for FY 2015-2016.
- Casey offered to set up a meeting or other mechanism to gather feedback from the residents if the Board decided to continue with the spraying,

***Board officer elections and selection of Treasurer***

- Vern moved to approve Marion Greene as Board Treasurer for FY 2015-2016. Lee Seconded. Marion was elected unanimously.
- The Board unanimously approved Vern as President; Laura Dalton as Vice President; and Barbara Larsen as Secretary for FY 2015-2016.
- General Discussion: The Board discussed that the Secretary assisted with cluster communications and resident Beth Anne James updated the Cluster website and posted minutes. Casey would be willing to take on that task, as one of his strengths was in technology. Casey further offered his expertise to enhance the functionality and level of technology used on our website. Vern would add a discussion of enhancing technology on our Cluster website at the May Board meeting.
- Vern noted that the Board still needed a recording secretary. Barbara agreed to take minutes until a recording secretary was in place.

***Meeting Dates***

- The Board agreed that the monthly Board meetings would be held the first Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m.
- The meetings would be held at 1682 (Larsen/Gems household) unless otherwise notified.

*The meeting adjourned at 10:17 p.m.*