

**LAKES OF BLISS WOODS
HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION
JULY 7, 2014**

Attendees: Bonnie Johnson, Janet Lamberton, Chris Steenwyk

Meeting called to order by Chris Steenwyk.

Motion to approve minutes made by Bonnie and seconded by Janet.

Treasurer's Report

\$54,834.02	Checking
<u>41,777.93</u>	Savings
\$96,611.95	Total

Motion to approve treasurer's report made by Janet and seconded by Chris.

Architectural Review

619 Cherry – Swimming pool, fence, patio
916 Elm – Fence, landscaping
905 Elm – Landscaping
902 Spruce – Patio & pergola proposal
615 Pine – Exterior modification
613 Hickory – Exterior modification
615 Cherry - Exterior modification
620 Hickory - Exterior modification
615 Hickory - Exterior modification
900 Elm - Exterior modification
1011 Oak - Exterior modification
617 Cherry - Exterior modification

Landscape & Maintenance

Pond maps were passed around at our last meeting. We will have to do another mapping before we dredge the ponds which we are planning for 2020. The cost could range from \$40,000-\$120,000. We will look at all possibilities before making a final decision.

The channel leading to the waterfall needs to be dredged. When the channel is dry then the waterfall has to be shut down. We have received one quote for \$35,000. We will be getting more quotes before making a decision. We are looking to use reserve funds to cover this cost.

The storm grate by the waterfall has been damaged and will need to be repaired. We are working on getting quotes for this and are looking to use reserve funds for this expense.

Rollins Aquatic will be spraying the cattails in the ponds. This is not to get rid of them but to get them under control. We are hoping this will be done sometime this month. There are many factors to consider before spraying.

The sprinkler system pumps have not been working properly so we will have them looked at to determine if they can be repaired or if we need to replace. We are looking to add this to the 2015 budget.

We have lots of dead trees and bushes throughout the subdivision. We will be walking around to take an inventory of what needs to be removed and replaced. In the current proposal we have it appears that the kinds of trees we will put in to replace the Ash trees are Maples and White Oaks. In this proposal it will cost \$175 to cut down one tree and stump grind it.

New Business

Trees in the parkways belong to the Village of Sugar Grove and it is our understanding that they will do a 50/50 split with the homeowner if a tree needs to be replaced.

There have been complaints about all of the solicitors that have been in our neighborhood. We do have a sign that indicates "No Soliciting" at the front entrance. The Village is supposed to do background checks on all solicitors, however we do not know how thorough they are. Jeff Steenwyk will be attending Village meetings to hopefully get information on how we can get a handle on the solicitors.

We do have vacant homes in our neighborhood and we understand that the yards are not being kept up. We have been trying to get the Village to mow them when the grass gets to long but unfortunately we have not been 100% successful.

We have sent notices to the banks/owners of vacant/rented homes regarding hail damage. It is up to them if they choose to do anything.

We have had a lot of people who are not homeowners fishing in our ponds. We have signs around the ponds to indicate "No Fishing" but have not been able to keep it under control. We do call the police at times to have them ask them to leave. The rules state that no swimming, fishing, skating, or boating is allowed in the Association's ponds.

Homeowner Questions/Concerns

Is it necessary to dredge the ponds? *The algae that collects creates problems with the sprinkler system. We are trying to save for these repairs so that we do not have to do a special assessment.*

I've noticed that the waterfall is brought up constantly at board meetings. Why don't we get rid of it? *The waterfall and ponds are significant to the name of our subdivision. There would also be a cost to fill in the ponds. We will consider all options before making a final decision on the dredging.*

Are any homeowners getting water in their basements because of the ponds? *Not that we are aware of.*

It seems that there has been a lot of money spent on the cattails in previous years. Why don't we just get rid of them? *There is no way to completely get rid of the cattails, therefore we are working to keep them under control.*

Can we fine homeowners who blow grass into the street? The grass gets into the storm drains and then into the ponds. *We can look into this, as well as educating homeowners on what happens when they do this.*

How do you control homeowners who live on the ponds from fertilizing? *You can't.*

What happened to the flag on Elm? *We decided not to replace it. The only flags are currently at the main entrance.*

Just wanted to let you know that there were kids climbing on the waterfall about a week ago.

The police are getting upset about being called constantly about strangers fishing in our ponds. To clarify is it okay for residents to fish? *Yes, unless it gets out of hand.*

Elm Street looks like a war zone with all the signs in everyone's yards. I do not like that we have all these signs advertising for the contractors. *There is nothing in the covenants that states we cannot put these signs in our yard when someone is doing work. The Board is encouraging homeowners to remove them after two weeks but it cannot be enforced.*

Have we ever been stiffed by a bank for the association dues when a home sells? *No. Why don't we just mow the lawns of vacant homes and then add the fee to the association dues. We would get our money back this way. We are working on a plan for this.*

How many vacant homes do we have? *At least two, maybe more.*

Motion to adjourn made by Bonnie and seconded by Janet.

