

**Land Management Committee for Lone Tree Hill  
Wednesday, December 2, 2020  
5:00 PM Exclusively by Zoom**

DATE: April 20, 2021  
TIME: 9:17 AM

The meeting convened at 5:08 pm.

Members attending: Jeff North, Andy Healy, Steve Kidder, Tom Grimble, Carl Solander, Radha Iyengar,  
Ellen O'Brien Cushman,

Members not attending: Michele Gougeon

Others attending: Philip Thomas and John Dieckman

**Invoices Presented for Payment**

- On motion made to pay the following invoices, the committee members voted unanimously, by roll call in favor:  
Yes- Solander, Healy, Kidder, Grimble, North, Iyengar and Cushman  
No – 0; Abstain - 0
  - Heritage Fields invoice \$2415 for mowing completed week of 11/15
  - Belmont DPW \$655.10 for DPW personnel to provide overnight security on 11/19/20 after the break in at the McLean Barn

**Request by Woodlands Condominium Association to allow overhanging/hazardous tree branch removals**

- Andy Healy met with Cindy Talbort and Andy Rojas of the Woodlands Condominium Association to review their request to trim branches from LTH trees that are overhanging the property line. The Association will pay all costs and access will be exclusively over private property, not over McLean Hospital property or LTH. Andy distributed before photos. The work will be overseen by qualified landscape and tree professionals.
- On motion made to allow the Woodlands Condo Association to trim the trees, no access across LTH or McLean property, supervised by tree/landscape professional, and photos taken and submitted to the LTH after the work is complete, the committee members voted unanimously, by roll call in favor:  
Yes- Solander, Healy, Kidder, Grimble, North, Iyengar and Cushman  
No – 0; Abstain – 0
- Ellen will email the association with requirements

**Invasive Plant Management in Area A1 update (Parterre)**

- Jeff North provided an update on the Parterre Invasives work in A1. First week of November, worked for 2 days clearing vines, multiflora rose, etc. They have red flagged native trees. They will return to continue on the next phase scheduled for December 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Jeff told the committee that Parterre will prepare a proposal for the next phase of work in A1. He has written a piece to appear in the Belmont Citizens Forum newsletter describing the work and stirring up interest via NextDoor, Belmont Citizen Herald and Belmontonian.

**McLean Barn vandalism, actions and next steps**

- Ellen described the break in of the front door of the McLean Barn, how it was discovered, the Police report and the video surveillance. The front door was wedged open and removed from the rails; a significant amount of force was required to open the door. Video surveillance 24 hours, viewing and recording in real time. Event is still under investigation.
- Tom recommended that two 10X7 inch sign informing people that the premises are under video surveillance be installed. He purchased them and gave them as a gift; he'll install. The Committee extended its appreciation to Tom and accepted his work and the signs.

#### Signage and mapping update

- Tom provided an update – the two kiosks have been built and are ready to install, wants to get into the ground before the hard frost. Also recommends that instead of the temporary Map and Rules document, costing \$30 each on high pressure polyethelene, now he recommends paying \$100 each for two signs with the map and rules referring to the Bylaw on plastic that will last for 2 years. He asked for a grant for the signs from NEMBA (New England Mountain Bike Association) and they have agreed to fund. The committee asked to extend our thanks to NEMBA .

#### Western Greenway – New Signage Project

- John Dieckman asked to speak about a new project being undertaken by the Western Greenway to upgrade their signage, show distances to next landmarks, etc. A \$55K grant was given by an anonymous donor and Selbert Perkins of Belmont is helping with the design. They hope to integrate across all of the host properties.
- Tom remarked that there are ways to integrate however LTH needs to have its own identity as expressed by our signage.
- John Dieckman said that they are just at the starting stages and want two representatives from LMC . Jeff North said that he is one of the reps for the Conservation Commission and will of course watch out for LMC but cannot/should not do both. Tom Grimbale and Radha Iyengar volunteered to serve in this capacity.

#### Grant Available from the National Environment Education Foundation

- Lauren Meier informed the committee that the new round of small grants has been announced for 2021 for Restoration and Resilience, COVID Recovery Fund
  - Purposes : increased use of open spaces and fostering volunteerism
  - Rolling \$2500 online applications with deadlines.
  - Must use the money within 6 months. February 1 deadline.
- Radha asked if the money could be used for the Coal Road erosion? Doesn't seem to qualify
- Tom suggested Trail widening due to the increase in usage from the bottom of the Pine Allee to rehab the section we attempted to improve by installing water bars, that was unsuccessful years ago. Also installation of more pine trees there. Lauren thinks this would be a great project and volunteered to work with Tom to develop a scope of work for submission on behalf of LMC.

#### Rock Meadow parking lot update

Jeff said the project drawing has won an award and is moving ahead, hoping for funding in the FY23 budget from Office of Community Development. A small MAPC grant was not accepted.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Ellen O'Brien Cushman