

Minutes of Meeting of Board of Directors
of
Fox Chase Boulevard Median Foundation, INC
September 8, 2017

The board of directors of Fox Chase Boulevard Median Foundation, INC held an annual meeting on September 8, 2017, at 10:30AM at 2014 Bridle Court.

The following directors, constituting a quorum of the full board, were present at the meeting:

Robert Walters

Chris Naese

Todd Henning

The following directors were absent:

None

The following Chairpersons were present:

Lynne Hepler – Communications

Approval of Minutes

Todd provided a copy via email to the Board members of the Minutes from prior meeting for review.

Todd asked Board if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes.

No corrections were noted, Board approved Minutes by unanimous consent.

Treasurer Report

Todd presented a financial review and reports. Highlights:

- Foundation cash is \$11218.31
- Cash is lower than previous years as fundraising efforts have started later in the year.

- Chris noted that the Donation from Aintree HOA (\$2000) will be processed and sent soon.
- Expenses on pace with budget. With latest dry spell it was anticipated we would spend the budgeted \$1000 on extra watering expenses.
- It was noted that the tree fund reserve (\$6000) was most likely adequate to fund future tree grove replacement given the commitment by the city to pay for 50% of the new tree cost. No additional funds will be allocated to the tree fund.

Fundraising Status

Bob presented update on fundraising. Highlights:

- Fundraising began later this year than in past years.
- Bob noted there were 80 donors in the first week with a total of \$2765. 13 of these donors are online.
- Bob mentioned that other charitable organizations get a higher percentage of donors online. It seems our donor base is comfortable with donating via mail with checks.
- Bob will send additional solicitation letters to Aintree HOA, Townes of Fox Chase, and Manor Homes of Whittington Course.
- Our fundraising goal is to match last year's donations.
- Chris mentioned that we should consider increasing our education efforts in future mailings. There has been significant turnover in homeowners who are unaware of the Foundations role in the median and the state of disrepair previous to our involvement. These new homeowners may not be inclined to donate if they do not understand how and why the Foundation exists.

Ongoing Business

Review meeting with City administrators on 3/20/2017:

- Bob reviewed some of the takeaways of a meeting with the City to discuss Foundation issues. The City point of contact was Jeremy Craft.
- The new city administrators were not aware of the Foundations role or the license we have with the city. Despite this they were receptive to offering us help in our charitable purpose.
 - We discussed improving the plantings at the entrance of the boulevard at Dunham road outside the gate. The City has followed through with this and has even watered the area.
 - We reviewed our tree grove replacement program. The City committed to support our efforts by allowing us to purchase trees using the Parkway 50/50 program. This will lower our costs when replacement is required.
 - The City supplied the oak tree that was requested via a directed donation.

- The City will supply wood chips for no charge that we are using in mulched areas.
- The City has supported efforts to enforce brush dumping ordinances.

Brush Dumping:

- Progress has been made on occurrences of brush dumping. Efforts are continuing.
- City has been responsive.
- They have picked up dumped brush in the past although they seem to have stopped lately.

Directed Donation:

- The Oak planted this Spring has died. The City will replace at no charge.
- Bob will call to ask if they can remove the dead tree.

Additional Donor request:

- Owner on Chasse Circle has Crabtrees on the parkway behind his house that backs up to Fox Chase Boulevard.
- Owner approached Foundation to see if we could maintain these trees.
- Bob told him it was not within the scope of our purpose but pointed him to the City.

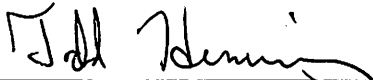
Landscaping Issues:

- Sitarz has been responsive to requests.
- Chris mentioned that small growths on trees (suckers) may be a visibility issue and pruning may be required.
- It has been noted a potential visibility issue at the intersection of Highgate Course and Fox Chase Boulevard when turning left out of Highgate Course to eastbound Fox Chase Boulevard. This is due to 3 medium grasses on the island west of the intersection that partially block view of oncoming traffic. Chris will coordinate with Sitarz to move these grasses.
- Chris also noted that the Chasse Circle intersection has poor visibility when accomplishing a left turn to Fox Chase. This is not due to plantings but only the geometry of the curve at Fox Chase Boulevard in this area.
- The plantings bed on the hill east of the intersection of Aintree Road and Fox Chase Boulevard has a problem holding on the large wood chips used for mulch. They tend to fall off the hill and out of the bed. It was agreed that we would purchase standard mulch for this area as it will stay in the bed better and accentuate this focal point of the median.
- Bob noted the grass area on the parkway north side of Fox Chase Boulevard is prone to dandelion weeds.
 - The weeds are unsightly and take away from the overall appeal of the median and detract from the foundations efforts.

- The City is responsible for this area and will only cut the grass.
- We are considering a once a year pre-emergent weeding for this area to limit the dandelions.
- The park district uses a similar strategy to limit weeds.
- Bob will contact Jeremy at the City to get approval to do this next spring.
- Chris mentioned that we should consider doing some proactive tree maintenance and pruning for the medium and large trees. The trees will benefit from being shaped or cleaned up more than the city is doing. Chris will get quotes from Kramer Tree or McLoughlin Arboricultural Services.
- Other than issues above, the Median is in maintenance mode.

There being no further business, upon a motion made and carried, the meeting was adjourned.

Dated: 3/13/18



Signature

Todd Henning, Treasurer / Secretary