

Date July 15, 2016

To Firethorn Lane Residents

From Thom Wright
Executive Director

Re Minutes from Lane Meeting

Thank you for participating in Lathrop's monthly Lane meeting! It was highly informative and enjoyable and we appreciate your feedback and wise counsel. The following are minutes from the meeting held on June 15, 2016 at 1:00pm (to the best of my recollection and short-hand ability!)

1. The meeting began with a moment of silence.
2. Praise for Spring Valley's work trimming trees and bushes.
3. A resident queried about the use of the first floor apartment at 696 Bridge Rd. T. Wright indicated that it was being held for potential use by Kendal at Home. C. Neubert shared that a resident weaver had her loom set up there and that there is space to be utilized for small groups, as an extension of the Meeting House.
4. Due to the weather and lack of rain, grass will be planted in the fall in areas that are currently without. A suggestion was raised to sue sod rather than seed; Spring Valley has done both in the past and will determine the best course of action.
5. The subject of privacy fencing was raised as several residents have been promised and have submitted work orders. T. Wright indicated that there are at least three (3) fences, some with patios that will be installed at the same time. Residents requested better feedback from Facilities when work orders are submitted.
6. Some outdoor water valves are difficult to maneuver; a waste of water if can't shut off and harder for some folks with arthritis or diminished hand strength. T. Wright stated that an evaluation and cost estimate could be undertaken and considered as part of refurbishing units or as a capital project for the entire campus. If residents would like their valves changed, a work order should be submitted to discuss with Facilities.
7. An issue of water run-off from gutters in between units was raised. It was suggested that residents may purchase rain barrels from the Northampton Department of Public Works (as well as outdoor compost barrels).
8. Comcast issues continue for not only Lathrop residents but Northampton area residents, as well. The issues have been raised by Lathrop and residents are also encouraged to contact the town to voice opinions.

9. A. Neubert contacted Northampton representative to voice concern about the crosswalk and turn lane on Bridge road. He was reassured by a quick response indicating that the DPW has it listed on their summer project list.
10. Residents expressed appreciation for H. Armstrong for removing invasives.
11. A resident asked if others had issues with mice in their homes. Indeed! Some offered suggestions for remedies.
12. Lawn fertilization is scheduled for Tuesday, July 19th and will only be done if it rains; which is essential for activating the chemical compounds and for them to dissipate within 24 hours. Nothing will be applied near the community gardens. A start time will be posted, if known by Spring Valley.
13. A resident requested that Spring Valley be more cognizant of the height of the mowers so as not to destroy grass or create dead spots. To the extent this is feasible given the amount of land that needs to be mowed, it will be passed along to Spring Valley.
14. The broken railing leading down to the lower level outside will be replaced with a real handicapped railing within the next few weeks. It is being fabricated locally and then installed.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 2:00pm.