



ReView

Golf Course View Cluster Association

August 2006

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Upper Playground Renewal

Last week Phase I of the renovation of the upper playground was completed. The old swings were removed and the first piece of new equipment was installed. If you wonder about the height of the mulch that was installed around the new double-slide, the contractor says that it will settle before long.

The board agreed this week to schedule Phase II of the playground work to begin as early in 2007 as possible.

Board News

In July Susan Mockenhaupt submitted her resignation to the cluster board of directors citing other volunteer activities that are claiming more and more of her time. Thank you, Susan, for your many contributions to the cluster over the past three years.

Susan's departure leaves a vacancy on the board. Anyone interested in joining the board is encouraged to contact us at gcvca@golfcourseview.org or to call Sandy Dresser. It would be great if someone from Courtyard B or C would volunteer!

Mosquito Problem Continues

The problem of the mosquitoes is still with us. A resident suggested that the board undertake to treat the various water catchment basins in the cluster with a mosquito larvacide. The board considered the request, but decided it didn't have the financial and time resources regular larvacide applications would require.

At the same time, we strongly encourage everyone to be responsible for emptying all standing water around your own home and making sure that the water in bird-baths is changed every couple of days.

Small Trees And Shrubs In Serious Trouble

In spite of the rain in the past week, some of our smaller ornamental trees and shrubs are suffering severely this summer. They need to be watered.

If there is a dogwood or little maple, azalea, nandina or hydrangea that is visibly wilting within the range of your garden hose, please water it well once a week or so. The board will reimburse you for any noticeable increase in your water bill.

New 5-Year Plan For Landscape And Trees Completed

The cluster's Landscape/Tree Committee met in June to prepare a new 5-year plan for managing our common areas. The previous 5-year plan (2002-2006) focused our attention on the common areas along the Reston pathway, the primary entrance to the cluster, new signs and the completion of a comprehensive survey of the cluster's more than 300 common trees.

The new 2007-2011 plan, reviewed by the board at its August meeting, focuses primarily on the renewal or re-landscaping of the entrances to the six courtyards along Golf Course Drive, maintenance of our common trees as recommended by the professional arborists who conducted the tree survey and some smaller projects designed to repair the damages of time in specific corners of our cluster. As with any long-term plan, the 5-year landscape/trees plan is subject to some adjustments over time if unforeseen events occur, such as major damage caused by storms.

The specific details of the renovations that will be made to the courtyard entrances have not yet been worked out. However, the overriding goal of the 5-year plan is to dramatically enhance the "curb appeal" of the cluster by removing tired old shrubs, adding ornamental stone walls and/or boulders and installing plant material that will provide year-round color, texture and interest—taking our cues from the new entrance garden, the river garden and the island in Courtyard C.

According to the plan, the entrance to Courtyard C will be re-landscaped in 2007. The remaining courtyards are currently scheduled for renewal as follows: Courtyard B in 2008, Courtyard E and the area around the new sign in Courtyard A in 2009, Courtyard F in 2010 and Courtyard D and the area opposite the entrance (behind 2167-2169) in 2011. Planned smaller projects will be scheduled each year based on the funding available once the major project has been finalized and the costs known.

The 5-year plan assumes that there will be no increase in the landscape and trees budget. In addition to the funds allocated to major landscape and tree projects, the plan includes some money earmarked each year to support volunteer projects requested by residents.

September Board Meeting

The September board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 12 at 7:30 pm at 2206.

Interested residents are invited to attend.