

HVHA SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
June 20, 2011
Monuments – Hinton and 74th
4:30 p.m.

Board Members Present

Hollie Hernandez, Gloria Hamilton, Russell Eigenheer, Dawn Williams, Mark Oszman, Dana Frey, David Thiede

Absent: Anne Dwyer, Bill Dwyer

Visitor

Bob LaBrosse – City of Cottage Grove

Note: Tom Patraw was supposed to be in attendance, but called to say he had been in an accident and wouldn't be able to attend.

Also Present at June 20, 2011, Meeting

Sue Stoner, Recorder, Non-Board Member

Purposes for Special Board Meeting:

To discuss what needs to be done with the monuments in order to bring them up to code and avoid being fined by the city of Cottage Grove. Bob LaBrosse indicated that the electrical needs to become compliant or all of it needs to be removed. The small spots that are currently on the lampposts are okay, but the other lights shine in the eyes of drivers as they pass by and are seen as a public safety hazard. No permit was ever pulled for this lighting. If it had, it would have been denied. LaBrosse had driven by and noticed the lighting when it was being installed. He contacted Tom Patraw and David Thiede. Nothing was ever put in writing. During the winter it was originally thought that issues the city was having with the street lights in the area might be related to the work that had been done by Patraw. Once the frost cleared, the city dug up the area and determined that it was not related to that work. That explained the delay in getting anything in writing to Patraw. LaBrosse indicated that the letter to Patraw is written and ready to send. LaBrosse cited the City Ordinances 9.8.5 C-1 Illuminated Signs. David Thiede is going to look into the possibility of getting a variance from the city for the lighting as it now stands.

He also told the Board that it can't leave this area unseeded or unsodded and continue to let the weeds grow. He needs a plan of action from the Board by July 5 indicating what the Board intends to do to rectify these issues.

LaBrosse looked at the electrical service and said that it was not in his area of expertise and we would have to contact the city electrical inspector for his input. At that point the Board will need to get bids on what it would cost to bring the electrical to code as it now exists.

Discussion Related to Lighting

Option One: Take poles out and install commercial lighting spots that would shine from below the monument. Cons: possibility of vandalism, too much light, we might not like them once we get them in, the City might not sign off on the permit if they are too bright.

Option Two: Take the spot that is currently on the light and lower it to see if it will provide enough lighting. Cons: doesn't appear that the spots can be removed, won't withstand the elements

Option Three: Take the poles out and remove all electrical. Cons: how do we remove the electrical and not incur huge expenses if we decide to add it again later.

Mark is going to talk with his electrician and Hollie is going to ask Park Grove Electrical for their input on removing the electrical.

Discussion Related to Final Grade and Landscaping of the Monument Area

Mark Oszman checked with the City and mulch can be brought in for \$8 per yard with a \$50 delivery fee. It was estimated that approximately 8 yards would be needed for each monument.

It was suggested that we mulch and prep the area for planting this year and do the planting next year. Mark Oszman is going to measure the area to determine how many landscaping bricks would be needed.

Then the area needs to have a final grade. Dana Frey is going to check with Fas Cut Landscaping to see what that would cost. Hollie Hernandez will get a quote from Red's Lawn Service.

Monument on North Side of 74th

The Board spent a lot of time discussing how to deal with the remains of the old monument on the north side of 74th Street. There was a unanimous vote to remove the boards from the smaller triangular area to the west and to take the dirt from that area to create a berm. Members of the Board will remove the timbers. The retaining wall will remain, but will be covered with dirt. Liability issues were expressed in regard to leaving the loose boards as they are and the retaining wall uncovered.

Further Dealing with Tom Patraw, Contractor

In view of Patraw's failure to follow through on previous commitments, the Board voted to discontinue working with him and to send him no further payment. Hollie will send him an e-mail to that effect. David Thiede again stated that he would prefer to force Patraw to deal with the electrical.

Mailbox Enclosure Repair

Dana Frey submitted an estimate from Douglas Kropelnicki Construction, Inc. for the mailbox surround repair. The estimate was \$1,298 for the repair of nine mailboxes. The Board is concerned about the use of cedar and the possibility of having to leave it unpainted for a year. Dana will ask Doug about that and the possibility of using maintenance free materials.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.