

Pond Committee Meeting 8/17/17

Members present: Roger Sense, Cindy Lyon, Rick Harkins, Judy Cheek, Bill Framm, and Darlene Sowell

### **2018 Budget Discussions**

Rick presented information on pond aerator fountains versus bubblers as far as effectiveness and costs. The Committee decided in favor of aerator fountains and will be including this in our 2018 budget. We currently have only 2 ponds with aerators and will request phased installation of fountains in the remaining ponds over a 5-year period.

To establish a proactive approach to algae and weed growth in the siltation ponds and, as previously discussed with the Board, bids have been received and evaluated for a preventative maintenance program. Roger will present a recommendation to the Board that Solitude Lake Management of Saint Charles, Mo., be the contractor.

Since all ponds are in need of rip rap, Marco will be measuring and providing approximate costs to be included in our 2018 budget.

### **Expenditure of 2017 Funds**

With transfer of walking trails from our scope of responsibility to Common Ground Committee, we will request that our 2017 budget dollars be used to purchase one aerator fountain at an approximate cost of \$6,800 for both the fountain and electrical work. Projects being considered for the remaining 2017 funds are: rip rap or landscaping at Admiral Byrd Pond to improve the aesthetics pending consultation with Marco on advice as to what could be done with the current boulder shoreline and related costs; electrical work for one additional fountain; and additional carp for the ponds is also a consideration.

### **Hidden Cove**

The Committee discussed the status of Hidden Cove as a siltation pond. We decided to consider it a siltation pond and include it in our discussions and functions as such. However, Cindy will

seek a final determination from the Board as we were previously under the impression that it was an extension of the lake. The trash issue for Hidden Cove has temporarily been alleviated since the Siltation Committee made a determination to remove the turbidity barrier. Further discussion remains as to permanent solution to trash issues there.

### **Bacterial treatment of ponds**

Darlene gave pros and cons of bacterial treatment of ponds. For the time being, we have decided against this as it is recommended that aerators and pond dye be used in conjunction with bacterial treatment. The MO Dept. of Conservation recommends against this treatment as Raintree has an endless supply of yard fertilizer runoff and the ponds are not isolated but rather flow from one to another.

### **Pond Depth**

Only 3 ponds have been sounded for depth measurement; others have too much vegetation on the bottom to get accurate readings. Blue Valley will be doing additional treatment to alleviate this.

### **Operation of aerators**

If a contract for preventative maintenance is awarded, we will seek professional advice on hours of operation for aerator fountains. We would hope to have all aerators on timers and avoid continuous 24/7 operation to lower electrical costs.

**Next meeting has been moved to Thursday, Sep. 14**

Darlene Sowell 8/17/17

Stocking additional carp will also be a consideration.

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